

BOOKS

Cookie's first-ever double-size back-to-school books extravaganza! **p. 122**

MUSIC

A standout debut from the Not-Its!; a Coen brothers soundtrack with kid appeal. **p. 124**

SEPTEMBER



REVIEWS

WRITTEN BY CHRISTOPHER HEALY



COOKIEMAG.COM

Get reviews of the latest video games at cookiemag.com/go/videogames.



FIND OF THE MONTH

PUZZLE STACKERS

Once upon a time, if asked to name a toy every baby has, you might have thought of a rattle or a jack-in-the-box. But as our culture has changed, even those former staples are no longer guarantees. (Some find rattles too old-fashioned, jack-in-the-boxes too startling.) There is still one classic toy, though, that shows no sign of going out of fashion: stacking rings. And when treating today's babies to the thrill of dropping big, clunky circles onto a tall, rounded peg, you're not limited to the quintessentially retro Fisher-Price plastic version (a classic we fully endorse, by the way). This gorgeous wooden set adds not only a new artistic sensibility, but a layer of dexterity challenge as well. Each "ring" is actually two interlocking pieces that fit together. But as with any truly good baby toy, experimentation is encouraged: Each ring piece will fit into any other, creating ample opportunity for more-creative stacking methods.

THE INFO \$39, P'kolino

Unless otherwise noted, all products are available from Amazon.com.