

Readers' Choice Best of 2009

Best Children's Activity Center: The New Children's Museum

This environmentally sustainable and playful public museum offers a place for children and families to experience art and exhibitions through hands-on activities, performances, educational programs, and camps.

(619/233-8792,
www.thinkplaycreate.org)

The New Children's Museum



Dara B. Green

Best Nanny Service: Seaside Nannies

Readers trust Dara B. Green's outstanding service with the care of their children — her company meets with families to assess individual needs and personalities in order to match the family with the perfect nanny.

(619/384-5505, www.seasidenannies.com)

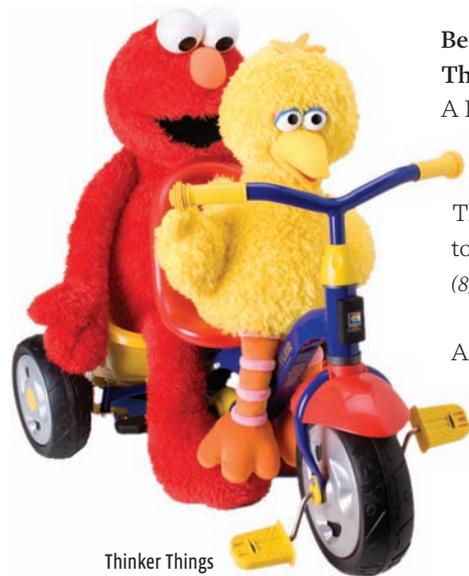
Best Toy Store (Tie):

Thinker Things And Geppetto's

A Flower Hill Promenade staple, this enchanting toy store welcomes parents who came to Thinker Things as children 30 years ago and want to share the magic with their own kids.

(858/755-4488, www.thinkerthings.com)

As a winner for the fourth year in a row, it's clear *Ranch & Coast* readers love Geppetto's expert toy advice and its great selection of domestic and imported toys, figures and dolls, and activities. (800/789-6490, www.geppetostoy.com)



Thinker Things

Best Cleaning Service:

Anna's Housecleaning

Working in both business and residential settings, Anna's Housecleaning will take care of all cleaning needs.

Check out the company's Web site for great introductory deals and coupons. (619/807-1296, www.annahousecleaning.com)



La Costa Glen

Best Retirement Community (Tie):

La Costa Glen And Casa De Mañana

Near La Costa Resort & Spa, this retirement community sits on 55 acres of park-like reserve in a complex that offers extensive recreation and entertainment, healthy and imaginative meals, and access to a nearby assisted living center if ever needed. (760/704-6000, www.lacostaglen.com)

Casa De Mañana, once a hotel, became a luxurious retirement community in 1953 with activity centers, an ocean-view dining room, on-site health clinic, recreational programs, and accommodations overlooking the sea.

(800/959-7010, www.casademanana.org)



Casa De Mañana