

Consider these good ol' games

By Sharon Achatz
special writer

WHETHER THEY roll the dice or pick a card, folks are moving forward in this post-Nintendage to enjoy good ol' games that promote human interaction: no flashing TV screens, no joysticks, no computerized sounds.

Just a few hours of fun between parent and child, siblings or a dinner party of adults.

While classic games such as Monopoly, The Game of Life and Scrabble, and new classics such as Pictionary, Outburst and Scattergories, are family favorites, there are more than a few new worthwhile amusements on the table this holiday season.

TV's Simpson family and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles both are game sakes this season, and kiddie takeoffs of grown-up games and adult guessing contests are two fast-moving categories.

With the selection available, the biggest game in town this season may be deciding which games are right for your family.

A trip to any hobby shop, stationery outlet or bookstore will take you 'round the board of games, but for now, just head to start, roll the dice and follow us on a brief tour of some of the season's blockbusters for every age and situation.

PERHAPS ONE of the hottest categories of games is that for adults.

Get folks into the party spirit with *Enquire!* by Parker Brothers.

Competing teams challenge each other to come up with — and sing — songs from selected categories, such as any song that contains the word "heart." The team with the biggest repertoire wins.

Parker Brothers also offers *Clam to Fame* in which players will talk, draw, pantomime — they'll do anything to get their teammates to say five specific things that made a certain celebrity famous.

Each of the game cards lists a famous person and five clues to fame — such as a rock star's five greatest hits.

Clever *Endeavor* by The Games Gang was invented by people across the United States. Thousands of people submitted clues for this game of hints and guesses. Each card offers six clues about a specific person, place or thing. The clues are read aloud one at a time, and the player who guesses the correct answer first scores. The fewer clues needed, the higher the score.

Gender Bender by The Games Gang is a sort of matching game that challenges players to think like a member of the opposite sex. In a simple round, a male player is asked, "suppose you were a woman" multiple-

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choice question. He attempts to guess how the female players will answer and scores a point for each woman he matches. Topics range from dating and sex to politics and finance.

FROM GOLDEN Games comes a variety of successors to its popular *Outburst*. Look for *Outburst II* with its all new topics to challenge and entertain. Teams work against the clock to shout out the 10 items listed on topical cards such as "things in a taxi cab" and "heavy metal music groups." In *Bible-Outburst*, players shout out guesses to categories such as "10 books of the Old Testament."

Milton Bradley brings glomost to the United States with its *Gorbach* game. Players take a romp through the Soviet Union on a search for things like American blue jeans and Japanese cameras. The player who acquires the most Western-style items wins.

When it's time for family-style play rather than adult dinner party action here are some winning games for kids more than 10 and adults to share.

Bilingual families can pick up Milton Bradley's *Sabado Gincante* based on the popular Hispanic television program that features singing, dancing, special guests, and contests. The board game features six of the games currently played on the show for Spanish-English good times. *Buenos noches!*

Cardinal Industries presents another TV takeoff in its *The Simpsons Mystery of Life Game*. Each player assumes the role of one of the show's characters and has an agenda and he has to complete to win. For example, Marge has to get her hair done, go grocery shopping, etc. In the spirit of the show, players can sabotage each other's accomplishments — for example, Bart can mess up Marge's hair after she has it done. Aye, a nubile blonde!

FOR YOUNGER kids 5 and up, Parker Brothers brings the *Magic Kingdom* board game home with *The Disney Land Game*. Players move their train-shaped tokens around the Disney Land map board, collecting party cards as they visit

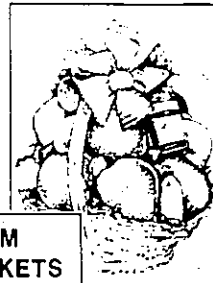
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