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TOY TIME I'm an Irish mum and have saved HUNDREDS by renting my kids toys – they don't get bored and it's perfect for Christmas

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TWO Irish mums have revealed their secret to saving money and ensuring their kids don't "get bored".

Beca and Sophie have been renting toys from Irish company <u>DluluKaloo</u> for months and reckon they've saved hundreds of euro in the process.



Dlulukaloo offers toys for rent and saves parents buying new toys





Mums Beca and Sophie love the service and claim it has helped them save money

This comes as parents have been left in tears after being told children's toys have sold out due to the global shipping crisis with the Christmas season fast approaching.

Mother-of-two Sophie Kelly from Arklow in Co. Wicklow has loved the "smart idea" since she first discovered it during lockdown and said she "often wasted money" buying toys before she discovered renting.

She said: "It came exactly at the perfect time with Covid - kids out of school not socialising with anyone - we need something new, something exciting and something to look forward to each month.

'VARIETY OF TOYS'

"I thought the variety of toys was quite exceptional and many toys were unusual, not the toys you see in the everyday shops.

"I often wasted money before buying expensive toys that my kids would not even look at so I thought it was also such a good idea to be able to try out an expensive toy for a little rental fee for a month before to decide to buy it or not."

The 30-year-old reckons she has saved hundreds of euros by choosing to rent rather than buy.

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She said: "I have saved approximately 600 euros so far since January compared to if I had bought all the toys I have rented new.

"But most importantly, we have something new to look forward to each month, whenever it is delivery day my kids are so excited.

"And also it is teaching them that the toys we are giving back at the end of the month are going to other special little children to play with, they like the idea and are happy to give back the toy then."

<u>Dlulukaloo</u> offers a wide variety of toys for any child's needs including rattles, activity gyms, any wooden toys you can think of, building blocks, vehicles, ride on's, montessori toys, kitchen helpers, balance boards, climbing frames and more.

HOW IT WORKS

Parents can rent any of the toys for a monthly fee plus a fully refundable security deposit.

At the end of the month, they can either return all or some of the items and can hold on to anything that they feel the children really liked.

The rental fee for those items will be refunded to the customer.

The monthly rentals (toy bundles or large items such as pickler triangles etc.) range from €20-€35/month (depending on the items selected).

Beca Smith from Dalkey uses the service for son Finn aged 22 months and "loves the toy rental for a

number of reasons".

She said: "The toys are of such beautiful quality and sustainable with them being wooden.

"It gives variety on the toys Finn plays with and he doesn't get bored. We are also able to see, by

exposure to different types of toys, the things he likes vs isn't that interest in.

"It also allows us to try larger items or more expensive toys that we wouldn't be able to buy. I also love to take recommendations."

The mum is excited at the options she has for Christmas presents in the run up to Christmas.

XMAS PLANS

She explained: "So far we've purchased one rented item as a Christmas gift, this remains one of his favourite toys.

"Most months we change bundles each month as Finn loves the rotation element.

"It is fantastic to have the option to buy something if he were to love something or it was close to a birthday/Christmas."



Dlulukaloo has a wide variety of toys for hire

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