

# Springboard<sup>into</sup> Comprehension 4

Main Idea      Fossil Fuels  
                     A Place in Space

Sequencing    Black Rock  
                     The Best Holiday Ever

## Compare and Contrast

### Your Choice!

From Me to You

Fact and Opinion    Community Views  
                             The Daily News

Cause and Effect    Natural Disasters  
                             The Invaders

Bias and Prejudice    Have Your Say!  
                             Save Our Skate Park

RA 8.5–9.5



# your choice!

In this issue, we review:

- Skateboards
- Game systems
- Hobby magazines
- Schoolbags



Written by  
MO JOHNSON





your  
choice!

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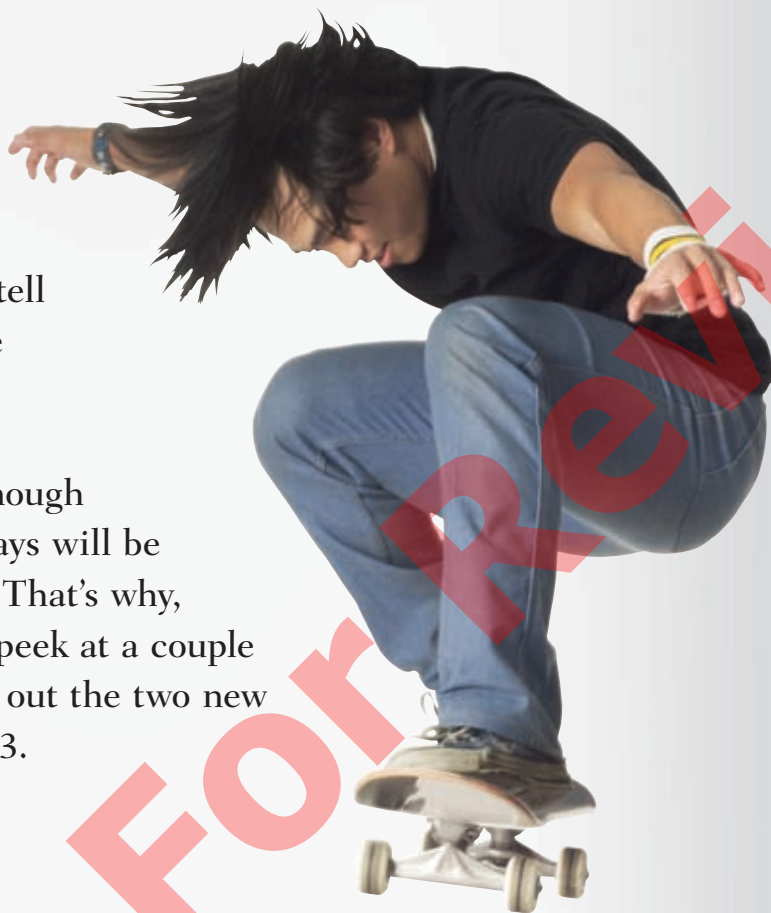


# Dear Readers

Welcome to the third edition of *Your Choice!* Our magazine answers all your questions about the stuff you want to buy. There are plenty of bargains out there. We can help you decide which products are right for you.

In this issue, we take a look at skateboards on pages 4 to 9. We show you the features to look for in a skateboard. Then, we tell you what the shops have to offer.

Don't forget that even though summer is here, rainy days will be back before we know it. That's why, this month, we sneak a peek at a couple of game systems. Check out the two new models on pages 10 to 13.



For those mad collectors out there, we've read some hobby magazines. On pages 14 to 17, we'll have a closer look at three of them.

Of course, school is not too far away. Many of you will be thinking about organizing yourselves for the new term. We know how important it is to choose the perfect schoolbag. We inform you about what to look for. Then, we present some suggestions on pages 18 to 23.

As always, we have used our *Your Choice!* rating key.

 No Way!

 Whatever

 Pretty Cool

 Awesome

Enjoy the rest of your holidays and remember to always consider your choices.

Carly Stevens, Editor





# If You're Bored,



Skateboards have come a long way since they were invented in the United States.

Legend has it that bored surfers first made them in the 1950s. They wanted something to practise with when the waves were flat. Back then, the flat surface on a skateboard, the **deck**, was usually made from hard wood. This often came in the shape of a surfboard. The flexible axles, or **trucks**, were not as strong as they are today. These old skateboards were slower. There were only a few choices of designs and colours.



Originally, a skateboard deck was made of hard wood.



# Skate!



By contrast, skateboards now vary in design. They can be made from a wide range of materials. This affects how fast they can move. It also changes the number and kind of tricks they can do. They range in price from \$30 to \$1,000.

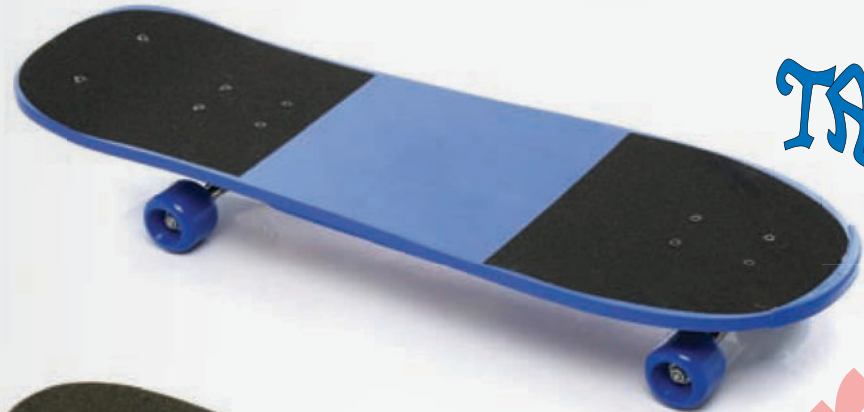
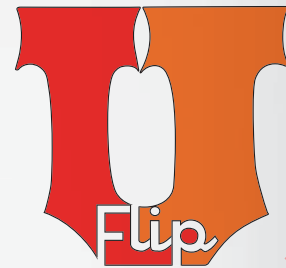


This high-tech skateboard costs around \$500.



We chose the UFlip, the TaleSlyDr, and the NoLeigh, three of the most popular skateboards on the market. We looked closely at –

- appearance
- size of deck
- depth of curve
- kind of wheels
- flexibility of trucks
- price



TALESLYDR



NOLEIGH



Different boards are suitable for different skateboarding tricks.

Before choosing the right skateboard, you have to decide what you want to do with it. Do you do more skating that involves using ramps and other structures specially designed for skateboarding, or **vert skating**? Or are you more into skating on streets, pathways, handrails, and other parts of the city, or **street skating**. Some boards allow you to do both.

To perform cool tricks, select a board with a curved, or concave, deck. However, the curve must be deep in relation to the board's nose and tail. Trucks should be loose and small wheels will keep you close to the ground. A short wooden deck is best for ramp skating. The UFlip is very popular for vert skating, but is hard to use if you are a beginner.

