

Top toys and technology for holiday season 2017



Anki Overdrive Fast and Furious
App-enabled driving game
\$170 ▼

Lego BOOST Creative Toolbox
App-enabled, programmable building bricks
\$160 ▼

Amazon Echo Dot
Hands-free, voice-controlled smart home device
\$50 ▼

Apple AirPods
Wireless bluetooth earphones
\$160 ▶

Teach'n Tag Movie
Interactive robot designed to keep children active
\$50 ▶

Sphero Ultimate Lightning McQueen
App-enabled remote controlled car
\$300 ▼

Hatchimals Surprise
Twin interactive pets with unique egg hatching encounter
\$70 ▼

WowWee Fingerlings Baby Monkey
Miniature interactive pet
\$40 ▼

Nintendo Switch
Hybrid home and portable games console
\$300 (Super Mario Odyssey game: \$60) ▲

FurReal Roarin' Tyler, The Playful Tiger
Artificially intelligent pet
\$120 ▼

Iraq plans new oil pipeline network

Baghdad

Iraq plans to build a pipeline network to carry oil products across all its territory as an alternative to expensive and hazardous transport by tanker truck, Oil Minister Jabar al-Luaibi said on Saturday. The network is part of a "strategic" plan for oil transportation that includes pipelines to deliver crude and oil products to neighbouring countries, he said.

The only crude pipeline now in operation in Iraq links the northern, semi-autonomous Kurdish region to Turkey's Mediterranean coast.

All other crude pipelines were shut down or destroyed in the past 35 years as a result of wars and conflicts. Iraq, OPEC's second-largest producer after Saudi Arabia, once had an extensive network of pipelines to export its crude.

One of them carried Iraqi



Iraqi Oil Minister Jabar al-Luaibi (L) shakes hands with Alexander Dyukov, head of Russian oil producer Gazprom Neft during tour at the Badra oilfield in Kut province

oil across Syria to Lebanon's Mediterranean coast, another to Turkey's Mediterranean coast, largely bypassing the Kurdish region, and one to the Red Sea

across Saudi Arabia.

Iraq earlier this month announced plans to build a crude pipeline to fellow OPEC member Iran. (Reuters)

Recycled rocket soars with recycled capsule

SpaceX racked up another first on Friday, launching a recycled rocket with a recycled capsule on a grocery run for NASA.

Second-time flier

Falcon rocket blasted off, taking flight again after a six-month turnaround, with a Dragon supply ship, also a second-time flier. The Dragon reaches the space station Sunday.

Back in 10mins

Within 10 minutes of liftoff, the first-stage booster was back at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, standing upright on the giant X at SpaceX's landing zone.

5000 pounds of goods

This time, the capsule is hauling nearly 5,000 pounds of goods, including 40 mice for a muscle-wasting study, a first-of-its-kind impact sensor for measuring space debris as minuscule as a grain of sand and barley seeds for a germination experiment by Budweiser, already angling to serve the first beer on Mars.

"The reality is, the business of space is dominated by launch costs ... so getting the costs down is important for everyone,"
Kirk Shireman,
NASA's station program manager

The company aims to reuse rockets — and capsules — far more than twice. The only way to get thousands of people into space — the ultimate goal of Musk — is by drastically cutting launch costs,

Jessica Jensen,
a SpaceX manager



Cool Trends