

ENTER OUR FOURTH ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST! (PAGE 11)

Adoptive Families

JUNE 2009

"What a difference it makes to come home to a child"

Playing House

Multicultural Dolls and Toys That Reflect Our Families

Adoptalk

GEAR All Dolled Up

Readers review dolls that represent different races and ethnicities.



Karito Kids "Ling"
REVIEWER: Becky, mom of Susannah (5, China);
\$59.99 (doll and book); karitokids.com

Culture Club "Inez"
REVIEWER: Mary Ann, mom of
Danielle (5, Guatemala);
\$12; nakase.com



Says Mary Ann: "Danielle has taken this darling doll with her everywhere—to bed each night, and in the car (she tucks Inez into her car seat and tells her she is safe now, so we can go), they have won her heart. I love the doll, too, and think it is a positive representation of a Latina girl." Says Danielle: "I'm so happy to have Inez as my new friend."



Precious Baby Dolls "Katya Irina"

REVIEWER: Joyce, mom of Karina (7, Russia);
\$59.99 (doll and book); preciousbabydolls.com

Says Joyce: "Katya is Karina's current favorite doll, because of her traditional Russian outfit. The book was beautiful and the story was very much on target. It led to a good discussion about her adoption story, which we hadn't had in a while." Says Karina: "Katya is stylish and she reminds me of Russia."



Says Vickie: "Ales is pretty comfortable with her adoption, but I think having a popular, modern doll that looks like her makes it a little easier to be different from her friends. The doll does a good job of representing a multiracial child." Says Ales: "She is pretty and she is like a twin." (Ales named her doll Lexi.)



American Girl "Just Like You"

REVIEWER: Vickie, mom of Ales (8, U.S.);
\$99; americangirl.com



Culture Club "Anu"

REVIEWER: Kathy, mom of Anu and Nina (2 and 5, India);
\$12; nakase.com

Says Kathy: "Both girls knew that Anu was an 'India girl,' as they say, and they were thrilled. The doll is small—a perfect size for us. Anu is a cute version of an Indian girl, but that's fine for a preschool-age doll." Says Nina: "I love her eyes and lips and beautiful clothes, but her skin is not brownish enough."

