

What's Playing on your Tabletop?

A combination of more free time, less social activity, and nostalgia for times gone by has catalyzed the popularity of board games and toys. It's no wonder – a good game can keep kids busy, adults engaged, and foster togetherness in families. Here's a look at what's trending locally.



BUSY HANDS

Popping and glopping toys are flying out the doors of downtown Sarasota's Toy Lab (toylabsarasota.com). "Anything fidgety or tactile for kids is super popular," said store manager and co-owner Crystal Petrik.

Pop Bubble Fidget and Super Nee Doh-The Groovy Glob are fun stress-relievers for kids and adults (\$5-\$30)

WORDS & PLAY

Scrabble remains ever popular – especially with versions to suit any player's lifestyle.

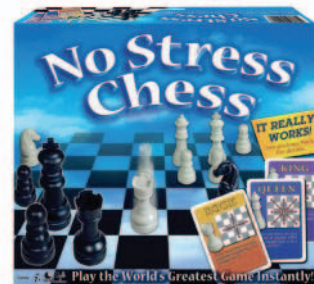
Every letter counts, whether its Tile Lock Scrabble (pictured), Scrabble Slam, or Scrabble To Go (\$17-\$30)



GAMES & GAMBITS

While Netflix's The Queen's Gambit made chess a must-have game, it also made playing look easy. Spoiler alert: it's not!

No Stress Chess is an easy way to learn standard chess (\$12.99)



CHILDHOOD CLASSICS

Board games remembered from childhood spark an emotional connection that parents want to revisit and share with their kids.

Candy Land and Clue are popular with kids – young and old! (\$17-\$28).

