Dinosaur Play and Jurassic Toy Buying Guide for Parents

A free bonus from ZoxDeal — written to go with our review of the Jurassic World Rebirth Tail Thrasher Spinosaurus.

1. Play ideas by age

Ages 4-5: Let the toy lead. Press the button together, name the moves out loud ("head thrash!", "tail swipe!"), and build a simple story around one dinosaur. Keep sessions short and on carpet.

Ages 6-7: Add a mission. The Spinosaurus guards a "nest" (a cushion) while smaller figures try to sneak past. The four-hinged tail makes great "battle" poses for photos.

Ages 8+: Mix physical and digital play. Scan the foot code in the Jurassic World Play App, then re-create the app races with the real figure on the living-room floor.

2. Picking the right dinosaur toy

Question	What to look for
How big is it really?	**Check inches, not photos. A 22.5-inch figure needs a shelf, not a toy box.**
Does it move?	**Button-activated action (like the Tail Thrasher) beats a static figure for repeat play.**
What age is it for?	**Match the age rating to hand strength: stiff buttons frustrate toddlers.**
Batteries?	**Prefer included batteries. LR44 cells are cheap to replace; rechargeables save money long-term.**
Licensed or copy?	**Check the brand (Mattel) and model number on the box before you pay.**

3. Care tips that prevent breakage

Play on carpet or a rug: this figure is top-heavy and tips over, and hard floors cause most breakage reports. Store it standing, not buried under other toys. Wipe the sail with a dry cloth; never soak the figure, because the battery compartment must stay dry.

Battery tip: when the roar sounds weak or the tail slows down, swap all three LR44 cells at once. Mixing old and new cells shortens the life of the new ones.

4. Spotting fake licensed toys

Buy from trusted sellers (Amazon, Target, major toy stores). Check the box for the Mattel logo, the Jurassic World Rebirth branding, and the model number JGB57. Be wary of listings with no brand name, stock photos only, or a price far below every other seller — those are the classic signs of a copy.