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The idea for the Scottsdale-based company, Adventure Trunk, came to owner Rachel Gaunt after years of (unbeknownst) planning. A psychology graduate well-versed in early childhood education, Gaunt spent several years in college and afterwards working as a nanny for families in the Scottsdale area, hired on to plan daily lessons for those she cared for. “Through [school] I discovered ways to turn all of the activities I was doing into educational ones...I was teaching a two-year-old how to read...how to add and subtract, and many other concepts through play and discovery-based activities. This is when I decided that all children should have access to fun, educational activities like the ones I was creating, to give them a head start with their education,” Gaunt says about starting Adventure Trunk.

The monthly educational activity box is geared toward two to four-year-olds, each one with 12 “play- and discovery-based” activities that focus on math, reading and art. Gaunt works closely with an early-childhood education teacher to design each box, receiving a seal of approval before sending them out to subscribing families. The box has a new theme every month, with many of them holiday-related and containing every item needed for the activity including glue, crayons, or a book to be read.

Gaunt feels that Adventure Trunk is perfect for families as the new school year approaches. “It’s a great way to supplement your child’s lessons if they are in preschool, or to give them a head start for preschool and kindergarten. If your child has older siblings who are already in school, it can be a great way to help them feel included in the homework routine.” Gaunt knows that Adventure Trunk not only provides a fun and educational learning activity, but something that kids and parents alike can look forward to in the mail together. One of the great facets of the box is that each one comes with a lesson plan for the activities, including simple instructions to tailor them to a child’s developmental stage and abilities at that point. It’s that kind of versatility that makes Adventure Trunk such an interesting, innovative way for young children to learn and grow. The boxes start at \$38 for a three-month subscription, with the ability to order monthly as well. Gaunt also makes it a point to share important and beneficial information regarding child development on the company’s blog, as well as family activities and easy crafts—all to encourage learning, growth, and family time together.

To learn more about Adventure Trunk, read the blog, or order a box, go to www.adventuretrunk.com.