

The best... garden lights and lanterns



◀ **Wee Willy Winky Lantern** This cheap but elegant cream tealight holder was inspired by an old-fashioned oil-burning lantern, says the Sunday Express. Price: £12.00. Contact: 0871-230 2301; www.lauraashley.com.



▲ **Solar Butterflies** These pretty butterflies are powered by a solar panel and linked together by a 6m cable, which can be hidden in the shrubbery. They change colour in sequence and look best among the flowers, says The Times. Price: £29.92 for four. Contact: 01539-488 100; www.lakeland.co.uk.

▶ **Hamilton Hurricane Stake** Stick a few of these in the ground along a pathway or around a table for a dramatic effect, says The Times. The dark bronze finish and hammered-effect glass give it a solid and expensive appearance. Price: £14.50. Contact: 08456-049 049; www.johnlewis.com.



▶ **Storm Lantern** This paraffin-fuelled hurricane lamp is pretty but sturdy and is perfect for carrying around the garden, says the Daily Mail. It comes in three colours: raspberry, kelly green and dusk blue. Price: £25. Contact: 0844-557 5200; www.toast.



▶ **Bamboo Storm Light** Designed by a Dorset-based online home store that favours a "coastal" style, this white-painted bamboo lantern comes in three sizes, says The Daily Telegraph. Price: £39.50 (small), £49.95 (medium), £74 (large). Contact: www.florestine.com



▲ **Venetian Lanterns** Available in two sizes and a choice of four colours, these glass hanging lanterns cast an unusual light across the garden or patio, says the Daily Mail. Price: £220 (small), £240 (large). Contact: 020-7881 5768; www.marston-and-langer.com.



◀ **Glow Globes** Suitable for both indoor and outdoor use, these wax lanterns give out a warm, subtle glow, says the Daily Mail. Just light a candle inside. Price: £47. Contact: 0141-445 1066; www.shearer-candles.com.

Tips of the week...conserve your laptop's battery

- Having lots of applications open saps the laptop's reserves, so stick to just one application at a time.
- If you're not using the internet, turn the in-built Wi-Fi off. On a PC, there will either be a switch on the side or press the function key (fn) at the same time as the key with a Wi-Fi transmitter icon; on a Mac, this icon is at the top right hand corner of the screen – click "Turn Airport off".
- Dim the brightness of your screen. The key that controls the brightness is usually represented by a cartoon sun.
- Windows has various energy-saving options. You will find these by going to the Start button, then Control Panel, then Performance and Maintenance, then Power Options. To find the Energy Saver Menu on a Mac, go to the Apple icon followed by System Preferences.
- Buy some extra memory as this will speed up your laptop, allowing you to work more efficiently.

SOURCE: DAILY MAIL

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And for those who have everything...



This combined swimming mask, video and still camera works to a depth of five metres. Although the internal memory isn't huge, with a microSD memory card it will still hold thousands of pictures or 52 minutes of video. Available in one size, it fits ages eight to adults.

Price: £70.
Contact: 020-3286 7414;
www.cutebitz.com.

SOURCE: FINANCIAL TIMES

Where to find... galleries with activities for children

The Tate Galleries Tate Liverpool has daily painting sessions and an interactive colour lab; Tate Modern organises riddles, art workshops and a gallery challenge; Tate Britain gives children the chance to write songs, make collages and design gardens daily; and Tate St Ives in Cornwall offers interactive walks and a beach workshop. All activities are free; some need to be booked. Contact: www.tate.org.uk.

The National Portrait Gallery Every third Saturday of the month this London gallery offers activities and storytelling for children aged 5 and over. Free daily activities include puppet-making and T-shirt painting. Contact: 020-7306 0055; www.npg.org.uk.

The National Galleries of Scotland in Edinburgh are running free, drop-in workshops as part of The Discovery of Spain exhibition. Children can construct mini-stage sets, paint and make collages. There is a creative-writing workshop on 31 Aug for children aged 10 and over. Contact: www.nationalgalleries.org.

SOURCE: THE SUNDAY TIMES