## THE DOO-DA HOO-HA – 361 WORDS

SPREAD 1
Julie was the first to get one.
Then Yashmita got a gold one with jewels on it.
Gabe got one that goes super-fast.
Toby got one that lights up.
Suddenly Doo-Das were everywhere!
'What does a Doo-Da do?' asked Dara.
Julie rolled her eyes.
'They come in 20 colours!' exclaimed Yashmita.
'You can swap them!' explained Gabe.
'Everybody's got one!' said Toby.
SPREAD 3
Everybody except Dara.
First it was Padanga Putty.
Padanga Putty was perfect for pinging and plaiting.
Dara saved up all his pocket money for a month to get some.
SPREAD 5
But then King Koozies came along and nobody wanted Padanga Putty any more.
[Dara arrives at school, Padanga Putty in hand only to find everyone is playing with King Koozies. He is exasperated rather than upset. The putty goes in a bin in a corner of the playground with everyone else's putty]
King Koozies were great for keepy-uppy.
Dara kept his bedroom tidy for a fortnight.
[There is a coin jar in Dara's room. Mum and Dad are inspecting the tidiness and adding a coin. The jar has a label with Padanga Putty Fund where Padanga Putty has been crossed out and King Koozies has been added]
But then Julie bought in a Mini Moop and King Koozies were history.
[Once more Dara arrives at school with a King Koozie but finds everyone else is playing with Mini Moops. More exasperated. The King Koozies are added to an increasingly full bin]
Mini Moops were marvellous for mooping.

Dara helped with the washing up for a whole week.

[Fund jar is shown again, this time with Mini Moop written over King Koozies]

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But once Tinker Taps arrived, Mini Moops were so last month.
[Dara has a Mini Moop at last but again he is behind the times. Very exasperated. Bin is overflowing. Rejected toys are gradually filling up the playground. With each craze the children are playing more and more by themselves]
Tinker Taps totally transformed playtime. Which was lucky because there wasn't much room left.
Then Julie brought in the Doo-Da.
'I don't know what I did for fun before this!' said Yashmita, holding the Doo-Da high.
'I am definitely getting a Doo-Da Dock to keep all my Doo-Das in!' squeaked Gabe.
'Dara, you <i>have</i> to get a Doo-Da!' declared Toby.
'Do I?' Dara listened to his friends. They were doo-lally about Doo-Das!
'I don't want a Doo-Da! Even if it's gold or goes super-fast or lights up.'
'I've had enough of saving up and keeping my bedroom tidy and washing up!'
'Doo-Das don't even do anything and the hoo-ha over Doo-das won't last!
'But the Doo-das will! Along with the Padanga Putty, King Koozies, Mini Moops and Tinker Taps!'
[Dara points out the enormous pile of rubbish now filling the playground. The other children look shocked/embarrassed as now they are noticing their surroundings for the first time, except Julie who is put out that Dara has stolen her thunder]
SPREAD 11
Yashmita had an idea.
'The Padanga Putty could be re-cycled to make pots.'
'The King Koozies can be composted,' suggested Gabe.
'Mini Moops can be made into mackintoshes,' noted Toby.
They took the Tinker Taps to give to children with no toys.
'And when you're done with the Doo-Das,' said Dara, 'let's do something different!'
[The playground mess is being sorted into re-use and recycle boxes. Only Julie is not joining in. She is in a huff and playing with her state-of-the-art Doo-Da]
[Finally, the playground is clear and there are cooperative games of tag etc going on. All the children shout]
'Come on Julie! Join in!'
[She does]