



gingerbread house toy store

By Lori Siuta

It was Charles Caleb Colton who once said that “imitation is the sincerest form of flattery” and while he may not have had children in mind, it is what comes to mind for me. Children emulate their parent’s behavior and I don’t think I personally realized the extent until I watched my oldest, Morgan, interact with her baby dolls. She burped the baby, gave her kisses, and scolded the baby for “not listening”. She may have even punctuated the scold with a throw across the room, which I can assure you I have never done to my child. Even though my daughter displayed some violent tendencies I would like to think I do not possess, I did everything I could to ensure Morgan kept on playing “mommy.”

For Morgan’s 3rd birthday Grandma gave Morgan a Bitty Baby and her aunt gave her a diaper bag with baby doll diapers. Morgan was so excited and immediately went to work changing her new baby’s diaper. Every night Morgan would tuck her baby in and between Morgan and Amelia, my youngest, the baby had her diaper changed at least every 10 minutes! Amelia loves the doll so much, she is willing to share her baby and blanket!

As Morgan gets older she is more and more fascinated with clothes and is finally showing an interest in changing her doll’s clothes more than her doll’s diapers. Since I’ve been obsessed with finding cute outfits for my girls before they were even born, I think we’re both finding another connection!

Lucky for us, The Gingerbread House sells Sophia’s doll clothes that fit not only the 15 inch Bitty Babies, but also the larger 18 inch American Girl dolls. It’s so nice to know we can get nice, quality clothes for our Bitty Baby at a reasonable price and so much closer than Chicago! We are even planning special trips to make it more memorable. Morgan and Amelia dress up Bitty Baby in her favorite outfit and we bring her to The Gingerbread House with us, so she can help “pick out” a new outfit. Afterwards, we head over to the mall to get some ice cream and find a coordinating outfits for Morgan and Amelia to wear!

Growing up I had three American Girl dolls and LOVED changing their outfits and setting up their “rooms.” Bitty Baby is our first foray into American Girl for my girls, but I can’t wait until they are older and we can read the stories and pick out dolls together. Then we can plan more trips to The Gingerbread House to pick out clothes and more accessories. I’m envisioning doll bunk beds to match the girl’s own bunk beds. I’m also envisioning afternoons of sharing and no tears, so we’ll see how it all goes!