

Our favorite smoothie recipes!

Doll MAG

May/June 2014

an interview
with *rebecca
rubin*

Quiz: What's
your role
on stage?

Hair for
SUMMER
FUN

PLUS!
Go around the
world with the
Heart for Heart
girls!





Rebecca is smiling big in this portrait of her done by Robert Hunt in 2009. Read about Rebecca on page 8!

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Contents

May/June 2014

Meet a Reader: Ava and Mia

Each month, we ask our readers to answer a set of questions for their doll for the chance to be featured in the upcoming issue. This month's winner is Ava and her doll, Mia!

DM: What's your favorite frozen treat?

M: Ice cream sundae – and don't forget the hot fudge sauce!

DM: How would you describe your summertime style?

M: Fun, bright, and cheery.

DM: What's your dream destination spot?

M: Alaska

DM: After school, you'll find me...

M: Ice skating or cooking with Caroline

DM: No one would ever guess...

M: That I love being the youngest!

Letter From the

Editors

Doll Mag May/June 2014 Volume 3, Issue 6

Editors: Bella and Lulu
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and Echo for their help
on "The Days of Doll
Bloggers;" Interviewee
Jamie

Want to contribute?
Please contact us
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On the Cover

Ellie plays her favorite
game at recess,
hopscotch, all while
looking adorable in the
Easy Breezy Outfit.

This **GROOVY** summer playlist is from reader
Sharry {and doll Julie}!

- Summer Breeze / Seals & Crofts
- Crocodile Rock / Elton John
- Grazin' In The Grass / Friends Of Distinction
- Rockin' Robin / Michael Jackson
- I Woke Up In Love This Morning / The Partridge Family
- Mr. Big Stuff / Jean Knight

Dear Readers,

We are clearly **lovers of all seasons**, from the coziness of autumn to the excitement of spring, but nothing gets to us more than summer. As soon as school gets out {after weeks of counting down the days}, time seems to slow down, allowing us to spend more time doing the things we love. While it is not summer vacation quite yet, we urge all of our readers **to take a break** in the midst of the end-of-the-year activities. Whether you relax with a good book, try out a new hairstyle on your doll {page 5}, or make smoothies to enjoy {page 6}, you'll feel **refreshed and ready for all those summer adventures!**

xo,

Bella and Lulu ☺

What songs make up your
SUMMER
PLAYLIST?

I am not sure of my entire playlist quite yet, but I know for sure that I will be listening to "Happy" by Pharrell all summer long.
-Bella, Co-Editor-in-Chief

NEXT ISSUE'S QUESTION: If you were stuck on a desert island, who or what would you want with you?

Bella's blog >> chicandpetite.wordpress.com | Lulu's blog >> theawesomeadventuresoflulu.wordpress.com
Email >> dollmagblog@gmail.com | Site >> thedollmag.wordpress.com | Pinterest >> <http://www.pinterest.com/dollmag/>

A reminder that Doll Mag is in no way affiliated with any of the companies mentioned, including but not limited to Mattel, American Girl, and Etsy.

BITS & PIECES

A peek behind the scenes in the doll and Doll Mag world!

On the Doll Mag Website

You can find these and much more on the Doll Mag website this month!

The following posts will appear throughout May and June, so be please be patient!

- Help us choose [our birthday party theme!](#)
- Learn how to do the [simple, yet stylish, mermaid braid](#) on your doll.
- Find some [new blogging resources](#) with our favorites.

FUN FIND OF THE MONTH!

Swimsuit season is fast approaching! Try making your own swimsuit for your doll with this free pattern. Start now, and you'll be ready when beach weather hits.

FREE Swimsuit Pattern PDF Download from Pixie Faire {www.pixiefaire.com}



Shop Owner Spotlight

Shop Owner: Jamie // Shop: Hey, Buckwheat! {Etsy}

What inspired you to start your shop?

I have always loved dolls, and I loved it when my daughters got AG dolls and I started sewing for them and my nieces. It was actually one of my nieces who suggested I started selling my doll clothes.

What are your favorite pieces to make?

I love making shoes and pants!

Tell us a little bit about your dolls.

We have the My AG doll #29; we named her McKenna because we missed out on her. She loves gymnastics, art, and fashion design. We also have Julie, and she loves music, fashion, and reading.



doll mag birthdays this issue

- Doll Mag Model Julie / May 1st
- Doll Mag Model Piper / May 13th
- AG doll Kit / May 19th
- AG doll Samantha / May 26th
- AG doll Cecile / May 28th
- AG doll Kirsten / June 8th
- Doll Mag Model Nicki / June 12th

making WAVES

Waves and loose curls instantly give off a summer vibe! Here's two cute 'dos for our curly haired friends.



Mini Lace Braids

Don't be afraid to braid your curly doll's hair! These fun accent braids will look good with any summer outfit.

1. Gather the hair in front on your doll's ears on both sides of her part.
2. Beginning with one section, start to French braid. However, instead of adding hair onto *both* sides, take hair from the pieces opposite the hairline only.
3. Finish braiding, and secure with an elastic. Repeat on the other side.
4. Finish the hairstyle by pulling the mini braids back into a half-up style. Secure with an elastic, and use water to smooth down any flyaway hairs.



Twisted Pigtails

Perfect for post-beach hair, this style works on all textures, from uber-curly to slightly wavy.

1. Gather hair into two separate sections. Beginning with one side section, separate two front pieces, and twist them together.
2. Take the twisted pieces, and add another section of hair to both pieces, and twist again.



3. Continue twisting and adding until you reach a little bit past your doll's ear. Secure into a pigtail with an elastic.
4. Repeat on the other side, and use water to smooth down any flyaway hairs.

Curly Hair Essentials

Water



Elastics

Hair Pick



Seasonal fruits lend themselves to many recipes, including one of our fave breakfast treats - smoothies! These are easy to make, and once you try one, we know you'll be making more.

BY BELLA AND LULU

MANGO ORANGE SMOOTHIE

INGREDIENTS:

- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup orange juice
- 1 ripe banana, peeled and sliced
- 1 cup frozen or fresh mango chunks
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped frozen or fresh pineapple chunks
- 2 oranges, peeled and sliced

In a food processor or blender, mix together the banana and juice until creamy, about three minutes. Add in the remaining fruit, and blend until mixed! (Adapted from Sally's Baking Addiction)



BLUEBERRY PINEAPPLE SMOOTHIE

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 1 cup frozen or fresh pineapple chunks
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup frozen or fresh blueberries
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of water
- A dash of orange juice

In a food processor or blender, mix together the pineapple and blueberries before adding in the water and sugar. Add a preferred amount of orange juice after taste testing! (Adapted from Martha Stewart Living March 2013)



UNDER the SEA

By Lulu. Photos by Bella. Modeled by Payton.

Is your doll in the mood for some **STYLISH, SEAWORTHY PIECES?** Whip these crafts up, and she'll be the most **GORGEOUS GIRL** under the sea!



SANDALS

- Trace your doll's foot /shoes on **FOAM**. Repeat so you have 4 tracings, 2 for each foot.
- Cut out a 2 ¼ inch strip of **FELT**. Glue the ends to the back of one foot tracing.
- Glue the other tracing for the foot to the one with the strap.
- Cut out a felt bow, and glue it to the middle of the strap.
- Add an **EMBELLISHMENT** to the middle of the strap.
- Try it on your doll's foot, and make necessary adjustments.
- Repeat.



HEADBAND

- Twist two **PIPE CLEANERS** together; they should fit around your doll's head.
- Cut a strip of **FABRIC** that is 5 inches longer than the length of the twisted pipe cleaners.
- Hot glue one end of the fabric to the headband. Twist the fabric around the pipe cleaner, and secure to the other end.
- Cut out a starfish or fish shape from **FELT**, and cover it with **EMBELLISHMENTS**. Glue the piece to the side of the headband.

TOTEBAG

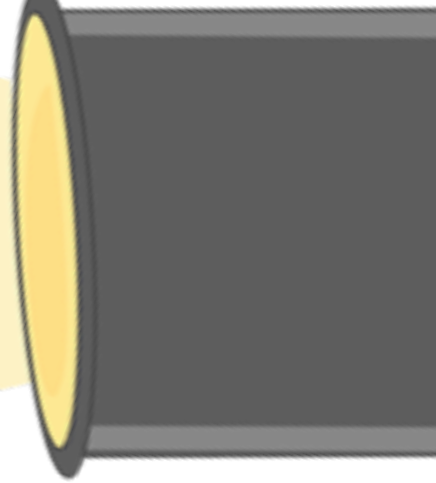
- Cut out two pieces of **FABRIC** or **FELT** that are the desired size of your bag.
- With matching **THREAD**, sew the two pieces of fabric together, leaving the top open.
 - Turn the bag inside out, so the seams are hidden.
- For the strap, braid three pieces of felt together and sew or glue to the sides of the bag.
 - Decorate!



MERMAID HAIR

- Start by tying a **RIBBON** to a bit of hair at the crown of the head.
- Next **BRAID** the hair, using two bits of hair and the ribbon.
- Repeat on the other side of the head, and by your doll's ears.
- Clip the two braids at the crown of the head together, and **CURL** the rest of your doll's hair.

lights, cameras, action!



This aspiring actress joined the American Girl family almost five years ago—but she's still shining bright! Learn about her stage experiences and thoughts on the latest AG historical news in this fun article.



DM: Tell us about yourself, Rebecca.

Rebecca: Sure! *I'm Rebecca Rubin*, and I live in New York City with my family. My dream is to *become a famous actress*; I even had a small part in a silent movie my cousin was working on!

DM: You have a big family. What's it like to so many people in one house?

Rebecca: It's great having so many people around! I love being able to see my cousins Anna and Max and my grandparents so much. *We're all so close*, but that doesn't mean I always get along with my siblings...

DM: Would you rather act on stage or in movies?

Rebecca: Ooh, that's a hard one! I love going to the movies with my friends, and I had so much fun working on the film set with Max. But I do like performing in front of an audience, so *it might just be a tie!*

DM: American Girl recently announced that they're re-releasing Samantha. Are you excited to meet her?

Rebecca: Since I came out just as Samantha was retired, I never really got to know her. The other dolls say *she's lots of fun though*, so I can't wait to meet another early 1900's girl!

Maxi DRESSES

A long flowing maxi dress makes a great statement piece for any boho-loving doll! Try to find bright colors or patterns to get the ultimate look.

This cutie is wearing a Trendy Maxi Dress from Royal Doll Boutique {Etsy}.



Go

BOHO

Let your doll shine in the sun while wearing bohemian pieces this summer. Flowing skirts, maxi dresses, dangly necklaces, and plenty of floral create the perfect boho outfits!





Tie DYE

Add a splash of color to an outfit with a tie-die pattern! Get them in multiple colors for lots of outfit combinations.

This darling is wearing a Maki Skirt with Short Sleeve Ruffle Tee from My Dressed Up Doll {Etsy}.

We love the color palette of these stylish bags and how they match the skirt!



Colorful ITEMS

To get a perfect outfit, accessories are your best friend! Bring out details and accent colors with clunky bracelets, necklaces, rings, and matching bags.

These fun items are The Surfer Girl Skirt and Gem Drop Pouches, both from the Etsy shop, Caroline's Castle.

DIY SKILLS

Making your own boho dress can be just as fun as shopping for one!

Look for playful, summery fabrics with paisley or embellished details. Bonus points for a flowing pattern!

This doll is wearing a dress made from a downloadable pattern from Create Kids Couture {Etsy}.





FUN NECKLINES

A mix of color and patterns with a big embellishment can create a fun summer day dress! Don't add too many accessories though; let the dress be the main piece.

This cutie is wearing a Lime and Turquoise Halter Top Dress from Lori Liz Girl and Dolls {Etsy}.

What's Your

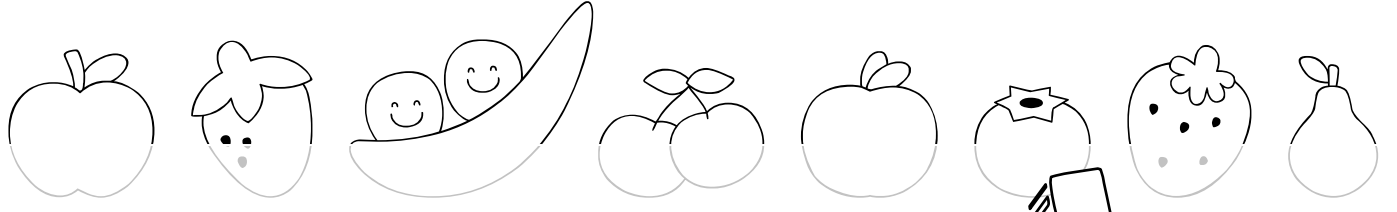
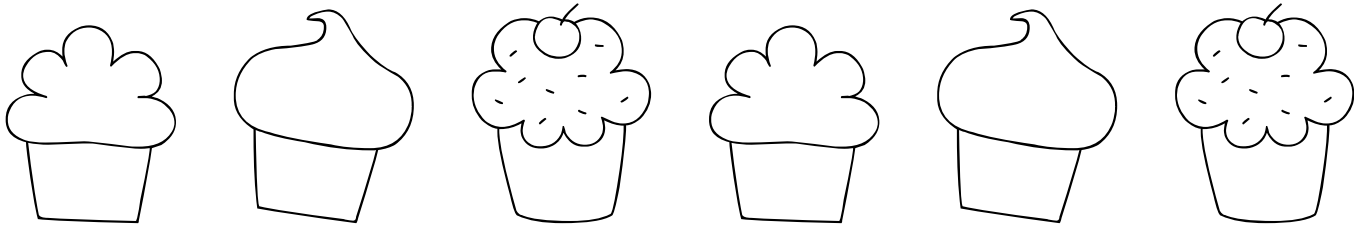
Role on Stage?

1. Your style can be described as...
 - a) Bright and colorful with plenty of sparkle. You like to shine!
 - b) Funky and cool with lots of accessories. You've designed some of them yourself!
 - c) Comfy, yet classic, with lots of coordinating patterns. You like to stay organized, even within your wardrobe!
2. In a group project, you would be assigned to do the...
 - a) Presentation. Your group members can rely on you to jazz up the delivery.
 - b) Visuals. You have a reputation for your artistic skills!
 - c) Organization and Research, Not one fact could get by with you on the job!
3. If you were spending a day in New York City, you would...
 - a) Go see a Broadway show. It's been your dream since you were little!
 - b) Visit a museum, preferably one on art.
 - c) Go on a tour of a TV studio. How fun would it be to see the behind-the-scenes areas?!
4. Your after-school activities include...
 - a) Chorus – you'll do anything to work on your singing skills!
 - b) Art Club – you could spend hours drawing and painting there.
 - c) Yearbook Committee – you love working on the various layouts.
5. When watching award shows, you look forward to...
 - a) The musical performances, of course!
 - b) Judging the dresses of the celebrities. There's always a few hits and misses!
 - c) Who wins what – what else?

Mostly A's
Actress

Mostly B's
Costume and
Set Designer

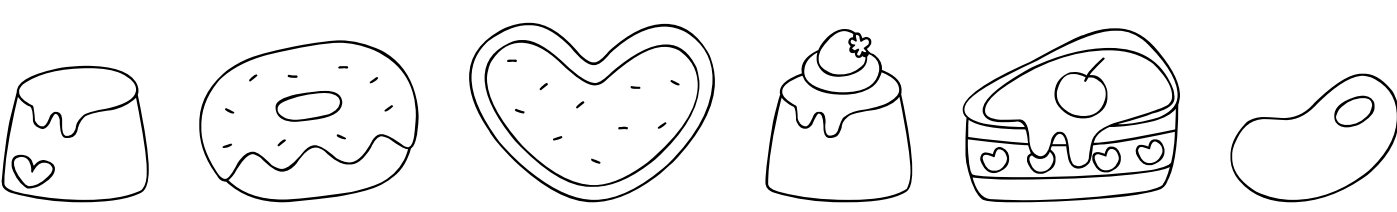
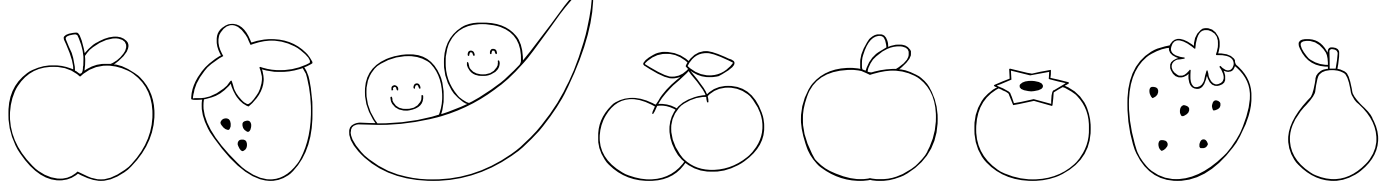
Mostly C's
Stage Manager



Sweet
Treats



XOXO,
The Girls at Doll Mag

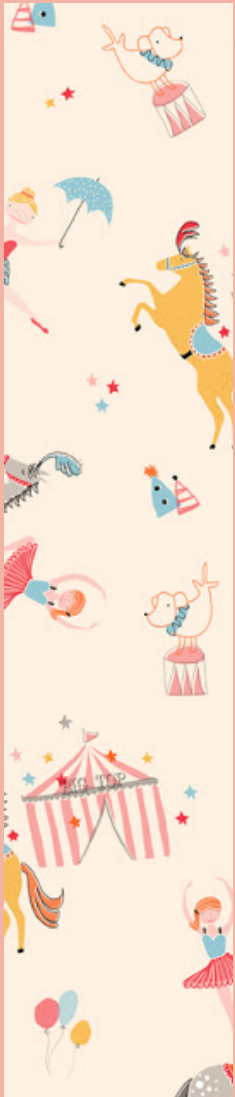


at the

BIG TOP

The circus is rich with bright colors and whimsical designs. Evoke the vintage feel of the big top, while still staying trendy, with these cute picks!

INSPIRED BY...



(L) <http://dawndraws.blogspot.co.uk/2011/04/my-circus-designs-in-pumpkin-patch.html>

(TR) <http://thecarolinejohansson.com/blog/?s=circus&op.x=-1113&op.y=-48>

(BR) <http://www.oopsydaisy.com/store/vintage-circus-elephant.html>



Red and White Dots
with Blue Flower
Pocket Tank Top from
Closet 4 Chloe



Yellow Chevron Shorts
from Janie Jumps



American Girl Doll Bow
Set {Dumbo Inspired}
from My Magical
Vacation



Red and White Stripe
High Low Skirt from
Circle C Sewing

Have you ever wanted to know a little bit more about a few of your favorite doll blogs, and the people {and dolls!} behind them? We interviewed some lovely bloggers – here’s what they had to say!

by bella and lulu; photos from respective bloggers

the days of DOLL BLOGGERS



CLARISSE'S CLOSET

<http://clarissescloset.wordpress.com>



Even though Clarisse’s Closet was started in late 2013, both Nicole {the photographer} and Clarisse {the adorable model} have both impressed doll lovers everywhere! Inspired by a few fashion blogs for people, **Nicole started the blog to stay creative and connect with people who might be interested in “Clarisse Originals,”** or the items now available for sale in her popular Etsy shop.

I love hearing from the readers ... and sharing inspiration!



Many new bloggers struggle with their posting plans, but Nicole shares this helpful tip: “Make sure you **set reasonable expectations for how often you are able to post.**” Setting up a schedule, she says, “can help you keep up with posting, without it making you feel too pressured when you have other things going on.”

With a rapidly growing blog and Instagram audience, it’s clear that Nicole and Clarisse have made sure doll style blogs come into fashion - and looking pretty chic while doing it.

FUN FACT! Nicole’s first sewing attempt? A stuffed teddy bear turned beaver!

WANT TO BLOG YOURSELF?

Whether you start a blog as a hobby or a way to grow your Etsy business, doll blogging can be lots of fun! We suggest these reads to help beginning bloggers...



elembee
{blogging category}

Tips & Tricks
BLOGGING
{on Design Crush}

THE SALTY BREEZE

<http://thesaltysadollblog.blogspot.com>

It's crazy to think now that Elizabeth and Chrissa, bloggers at The Salty Breeze {formerly known as The Saltys}, were inspired to start a blog after "all the other talented bloggers, especially Doll Delight," as both told us, when they could be considered inspiration themselves! From their well-done photo stories to their adorable style, we always love reading one of their posts.

Elizabeth enjoys "capturing everyday life with [their] camera," while Chrissa loves to write. For new doll bloggers, they advise keeping your expectations realistic and using your time wisely. It sounds like a "breeze" to us!

Don't expect everything to go perfectly when you're blogging.

It won't. - Elizabeth



FUN FACT! Chrissa is obsessed with strawberries!

FROM ECHO WITH LOVE

<http://www.fromechowithlove.com>

The always creative and adorable blog, From Echo With Love, originally started from a love of blogging. Today, readers return to Echo's blog for her amazing sense of style and fun stories that she often shares. Echo says that developing "relationships with folks who regularly read and also comment on what [she shares]" is her favorite part of running a website, and as fellow bloggers, we have to agree!

Having only started in January of this year, Echo may be the "rookie" blogger of the group, but her tips are still invaluable. She advises new bloggers to include "at least one picture in any blog posting you do;" posting on a consistent basis, she continued, "is also key because it helps you to have a good foundation to develop connections with others."

Echo has already grabbed our attention - we can't wait to see where this loveable blogger goes next!



Being yourself adds a personal level... to your blog. - Echo

FUN FACT! Echo has kindly turned down a blog sponsorship because she didn't think it was the right fit.

POPULAR BLOGGING PLATFORMS:



- Wordpress
- Blogger
- Typepad

NEVER GROW UP

<http://nevergrowupdollguide.blogspot.com>

Can you believe that the always reliable toy blog, Never Grow Up, was started because Beast's Belle learned that published authors use blogs for marketing? She decided to write about what she loves, and ta-da! Today, she **posts about Disney movies, toy reviews, and adorable photos of dolls.**

Beast's Belle told us that she loves the social aspect of blogging and that Never Grow Up has helped her form lots of great friendships, thanks to emails and comments. For other bloggers, Beast's Belle advised not worrying too much about what other bloggers are doing and **"...to HAVE FUN! It's easy to get overwhelmed by everything, whether you're a brand new blogger or seasoned veteran."** Personally, we love Beast's Belle blog; she has done a great job of keeping things on her blog unique, fun, and interesting. It sure makes us want to "never grow up" too!

FUN FACT! Beast's Belle's first name is a palindrome!



All bloggers have something unique to bring to their blogs.

OUR OWN

BLOGGING TIPS!

QUALITY OVER QUANTITY

It might just be us, but we would much rather prefer to read a really wonderful post every once in a while than not-so great posts everyday.

Take care not to just post because you think your readers want it, but because you're actually proud of your work!

GIVE CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

We love featuring other doll blogs, but we also try our best to always give credit and have permission from the original writer if needed. And one of our biggest pet peeves? When people say an image is from Pinterest – that's not true! Someone spent time on that; use the link Pinterest gives instead.

LOVE IT!

You might feel like you have to blog, and you end up doing it because it feels like a chore. Blogging should be something you love, and you should only do it because you *want* to do it.

KEEP IT FRESH

There's more to having a blog than just writing the posts! You can keep your blog looking great by making sure you have a fun background and header.

DON'T BE NEGATIVE

Not everything is going to be positive, but that doesn't mean you have to be a bully! Keep your comments kind and civil, and don't ever purposely hurt someone's feelings.

DOLL FUN AND GAMES

Cure your and your doll's summer boredom with our fun activities! Test out your AG expertise with some trivia and read our thoughts on the AG movies.

By Lulu / Photos from American Girl Wiki

Who were the first three American Girl dolls?



Kirsten, Molly, and Samantha / Josefina, Felicity, and Kit

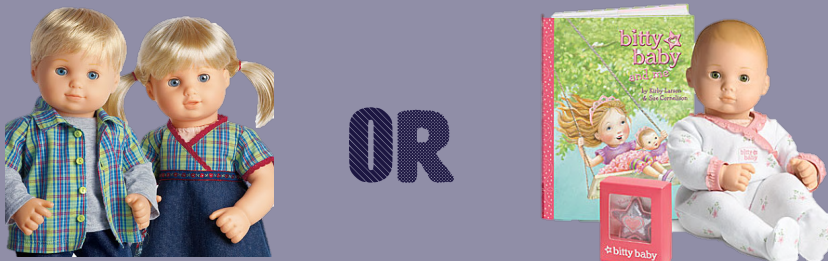
Which meet outfit for the MyAG dolls came first?



The "Go Anywhere" Outfit

The "Ready For Fun" Outfit

Which doll line came first?



Bitty Twins

Bitty Baby

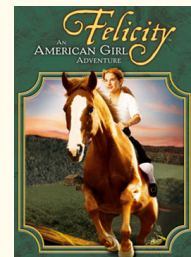
MOVIES

Kit Kittredge

Bella's favorite American Girl movie is the Kit Kittredge film. She loves the fast-



paced mystery and the delightful attention to technical details {i.e. the setting and costumes}!



Felicity

Lulu loves to watch the Felicity movie! The costumes and colonial

settings are so well done, and there are plenty of adventure scenes :) Plus, there are lots of fun behind the scene features too!

Isabelle, the 2014 Girl of the Year, will have a movie premiering this summer!

Will you watch it?

ANSWERS
1. Kirsten, Molly, and Samantha
2. The "Go Anywhere" Outfit
3. Bitty Baby

Our newest obsession of the moment?
Hearts for Hearts Dolls! If you are
new to this doll line, not to fear.
We've got you covered!

GLOBAL LOVE

Not only are these dolls adorable, they also inspire girls with stories based off of real-life events happening in countries around the world.

From giving food to hungry children on the streets to coming up with a plan to get a full education, each of these doll's stories provide inspiration about overcoming any problems that may come their way!



MEET THE GIRLS

- *Rahel* from Ethiopia, Africa
- *Shola* from Kabul, Afghanistan
- *Mosi* from Santa Fe, New Mexico
- *Lilian* from Belarus
- *Tipi* from Laos
- *Nahji* from Assam, India
- *Dell* from Kentucky, United States
- *Lauryce* from New Orleans, United States
- *Consuelo* from Mexico City
- *Zelia* from Sao Paula, Brazil

DID YOU KNOW?

- ♥ For every Hearts for Hearts doll that is bought, 6.5 percent, or \$2, of the profit goes to the charity, World Vision, that helps girls around the world!
- ♥ The next two dolls (Nyesha and Surjan) will be coming out later this year!

CURIOUS? Find out more about Hearts for Hearts dolls at <http://www.playmatestoys.com/brands/hearts-for-hearts-girls>

In the July/August issue of

Doll Mag...

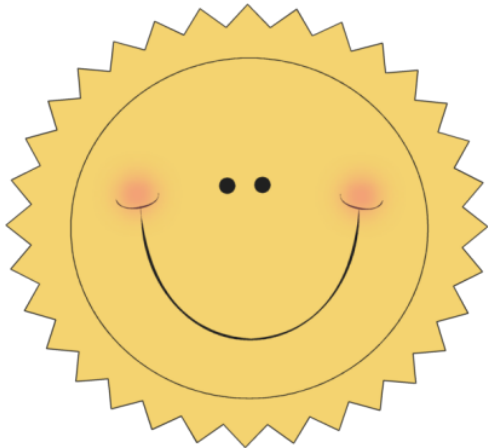


SAY AHOOLA!

Kanani Akina knows how to spend summer right. Read our interview, and learn more about this cheerful, passionate girl!

Stylish In The Sun

Don't know what your doll should wear once the hotter temperatures hit? No worries! We've got you covered.



Heat Busters

Don't let your doll melt in the heat! Caring for her on hot summer days is easy with our hair and care tips.

D "DOLL" LIGHTFUL BIRTHDAY

It's a birthday celebration for Doll Mag! We can't wait to celebrate it with all of our readers.

