

The Eight Greatest Things About LA

# Los Angeles

THE  
KIDS  
ISSUE!

STARRING

ABIGAIL  
BRESLIN

WHERE TO...

PET A  
GECKO!  
HUNT FOR  
BARGAINS!  
BOWL A  
STRIKE!  
BUILD A  
ROBOT!  
BOOGIE  
BOARD!  
& MORE!

The  
Celebrity  
Fashion-  
Line Boom

By Laurie Pike

LAX's  
(Hopeful?)  
Future

By Mark Lacter

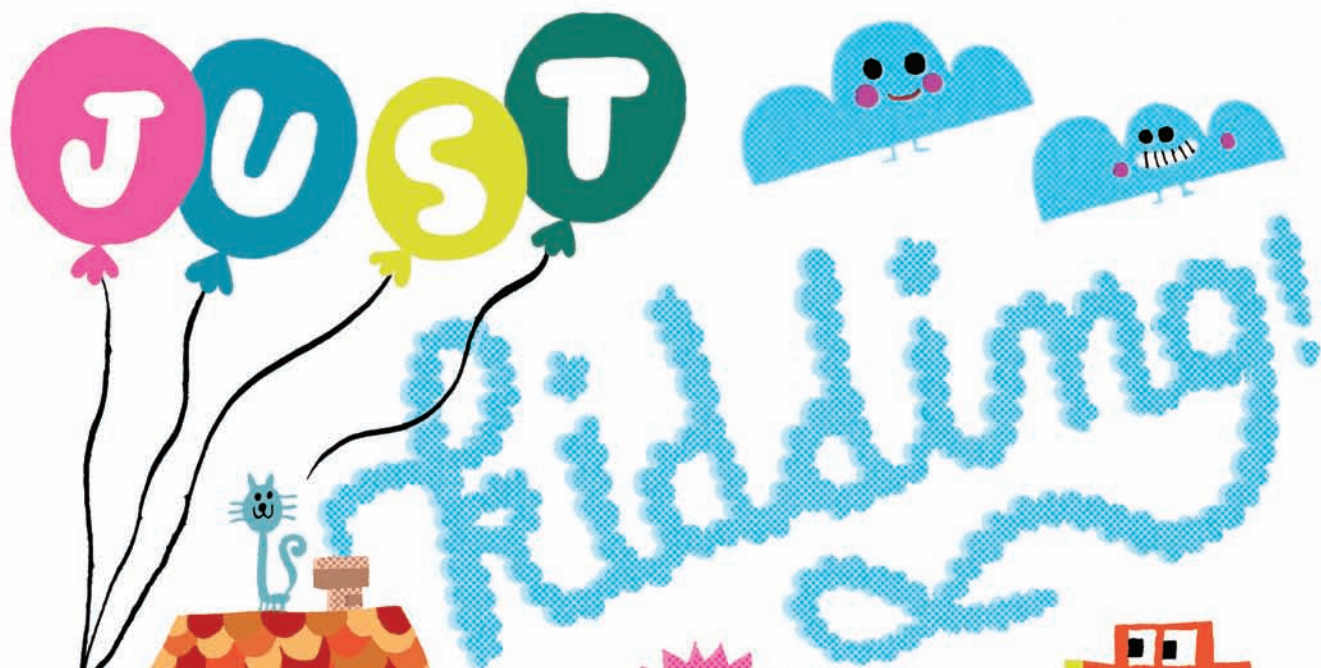
How Jack  
Sparrow  
Got the  
Boot

By an  
Ex-Disney  
Employee

CULVERCITY  
The Insider's Guide Page 48







27 Great Ways  
to Keep Your  
★ Children ★

busy this SUMMER,  
STARRING the COOLEST  
ALL-AMERICAN girl We know,

Aligail Breslin

Photograph by Blake Little



illustrations by Chamo



## [ OFF THE CUFF ]

# Abigail Breslin

**WHAT ARE THE ODDS OF BEING** an Oscar nominee at age 10—several billion to one? That makes Abigail Breslin something of a natural wonder. She followed up her debut as Mel Gibson's daughter in M. Night Shyamalan's *Signs*—she was 6 at the time—with a knockout turn as Olive, the offbeat, bespectacled beauty pageant contestant who scorches the runway in *Little Miss Sunshine*. The performance popped Breslin onto the Best Actress short list at last year's Academy Awards and led to a string of impressive projects. Layered without seeming contrived, adorable without being treacly, Breslin's characters are apt to take a graceful left turn when a right is the obvious direction. Now 12, she is an indisputable star—Jodie Foster insisted that Breslin get top billing for *Nim's Island*—with a potential blockbuster, *Kit Kittredge: An American Girl*, due out in July. Off the job, though, the New Yorker's charm is in being as regular a kid as any fan could hope for. —Margot Dougherty

**Are you starstruck by anybody?** Yes, I met the Jonas Brothers and Miley Cyrus and I was freaking out.

**Was it fun to be a blond in *Kit Kittredge*?** It was. I wore a blond bob, and it was really cool because we named the wigs—Willy and Wilhelmina.

**What do you do on set when you're not on camera?** I have to do school.

**Any favorite subjects?** I like reading and art. And I'm learning French.

**Let's hear you say something in French.** *Comment ça va? Je m'appelle Abigail.*

**What's your allowance?** Because I'm 12, I get \$12 a week.

**Where do you keep your money?** I store it in little teeny boxes around my room.

**Is there anything you request that your trailer fridge be stocked with?** Not really. Maybe water and Diet Cokes.

**What makes a director good?** When they can tell you exactly what they want you to do.

**Do you ever get sick of being with grown-ups so much?** No, because everyone I've worked with has been really nice.

**Do you ever play pranks on the set?** I do. Once on April Fools' Day I put honey on the steps and Silly String in people's shoes. Somebody wiped the honey off the steps, but Kate Hudson stepped into her shoes.

**Who's on your iPod?** Jonas Brothers, Hannah Montana, JoJo, Carrie Underwood.

**On your bookshelf?** There's a series called *The Clique*. I also like *Anne of Green Gables*.

**Are there any characters you'd really like to play?** Helen Keller and Lady Jane Grey.

**What do you like to do in L.A.?** I like to go to Bob's Big Boy. I get a cheeseburger, fries, and a chocolate milk shake.

**Any other restaurants you like?** BLT. And I love Crustacean.

**The garlic noodles?** Yes! And the Dungeness crab—the sauce is really good on that. But the garlic noodles are the best.

**What about Disneyland? What are your favorite rides?** Space Mountain, definitely. And then I like Pirates of the Caribbean. And the Matterhorn.

**What don't people know about you?** I'm a hypochondriac.

**What sorts of things do you imagine you have?** Everything, really. I'm not allowed to watch medical TV shows. When I was about 3 or 4, I was worried that I was going to step on glass, so I wore shoes even in my bed and when I went out under the sprinkler. I thought I had the bird flu, so for a long time I wouldn't go near any birds.

**What were your symptoms?** I didn't really have any symptoms.

**Did you have any ailments while you were filming in Australia for *Nim's Island*?** I thought I had been bitten by a poisonous spider. My best friend on the set was the medic.