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Work & play: Editor's picks

Collectors' classics

Take a break from the norm with these niche items

World vision

Take a trip into the past with rare books from dealer Maggs Bros Ltd. at www.maggs.com, which has a large collection of first edition works on everything from travel to science and naval history. For a local shop, Wattis Fine Art on Hollywood Road has several illustrated maps by early explorers. See www.wattis.com.hk for more.

A+ An insight into the era of exploration

A- Isn't Google Earth better?



Dashing pen

If you are after something a little more outlandish, you can't go wrong with the Caran d'Ache special edition models. At the top of the range is the La Modernista Diamonds fountain pen, released in 1999 in homage to Spanish architect Antoni Gaudí. With a whopping 5,072 diamonds totalling 20 carats, it set a Guinness World Record for the most expensive pen. Visit www.carandache.ch.

A+ Get the "wow" factor

A- Is it worth a second mortgage?



Vintage viewing

Give your home that classic look with a vintage poster from Picture This. With everything from movie and travel posters to old photographs, there's always something to pique your interest. Get retro chic at www.picturethiscollection.com.

- A+** Major talking point for dinner parties
- A-** Reflecting on the mark up from original price

Picture perfect

If you want to take the perfect snaps, few brands are better than Leica. The equivalent of a Rolls-Royce in the camera world, Leica regularly releases special edition cameras, including a crossover version with Parisian fashion house Hermès. For more information on dealers, check out distributor Schmidt Marketing Asia Ltd. at www.schmidtgroup.com.

- A+** Take awesome shots
- A-** Don't drop that now...

