



Operation Christmas Child

GIFT IDEAS

For a full list of ideas for shoebox items, you can find suggestions on the Operation Christmas Child website: samaritanaspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/

JUNE – “Wow” Items

Delight a kid! Start with a medium to large item that will capture the child’s attention the instant he or she opens the box. (Just remember that it needs to fit in a standard-size shoebox along with other items.)

Ideas include: Soccer/kick ball with pump, stuffed animal, toys (puppets, trucks, etc.), doll (baby, Barbie, etc.), musical instrument (like a kazoo or harmonica)

Or items that children will immediately embrace such as toy cars, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), or other fun toys you find, like a small Etch A Sketch® or Slinky®

JULY – Personal Care Items

Ideas include: Comb, hairbrush, blanket, toothbrush, washcloth, bar soap (packaged and/or in a container), adhesive bandages (Colorful ones can help a child be more willing to wear a bandage. Do not include liquid antibiotic ointment), non-liquid lip balm.

Also reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, plate, bowl, blunt-edged utensils. Consider filling an empty container with non-liquid items such as hair bows, bracelets, sunglasses, or washcloths to maximize the space. **Toothpaste and liquids are not permitted.**

For older children - Flashlight (solar-powered or hand-crank; if battery operated, be sure to include extra batteries of the type needed), compact mirror, nail clipper and file, stick deodorant.

AUGUST - School, Craft and Activities Supplies and “Wow” Items

Ideas include: Pencils, small manual pencil sharpener, erasers, colored pencils, pencil case, crayons, markers, pens, coloring pads, coloring books, picture book, notebooks, glue stick (Do not include liquid glue.), small adhesive tape, blank index cards, solar-

powered calculator, safety (blunt tip) scissors, ruler, protractor. Also, watercolor set, finger paint), paint brushes, canvas, Playdough (Consider adding plastic cookie cutters as non-sharp utensils the child can use with the playdough.), stickers, jump rope.

A PERSONAL NOTE

In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

DO NOT INCLUDE:

Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

We also need \$9 to cover the shipping of each box we fill.

For more information about the program please visit Operation Christmas Child page at the Samaritan's Purse website: samaritanspurse.org/index.php/occ

Please bring your donations to church on Sundays from June 3 through September 2. Then join the Packing Party on Saturday, October 27 at 11am in the Parish House.