

Child Life Donation Guidelines

Toys and Games- A prescription for recovery!

Thank you for taking an interest in donating toys and activities for our children.

Hospitalized children enjoy toys and games because play is a child's work. In a hospital where children are separated from most of what is familiar, play and activities become valuable and safe outlets for feelings.

Toys and games from our community friends will help keep the playrooms and waiting areas in the hospital well stocked. They will also turn special occasions, such as birthdays and holidays, into happy celebrations.

The child life staff carefully selects age-appropriate personalized gifts for our children year-round. You and your group can help keep our children safe by following our guidelines. Thank you for your interest in our wish list.

Please remember:

- ❖ **PLEASE be aware of recent TOY recalls when donating items. The hospital cannot accept ANY toys that have been recalled. www.cpsc.gov/ is a government website with all the latest toy recalls.**
- ❖ **ALL donations MUST be NEW and in original packaging.**
- ❖ Gifts are accepted on behalf of all the children in the hospital, not specific patients
- ❖ We are sorry we cannot allow donors to personally distribute gifts to bedside patients; this is due to patient confidentiality and for infection control reasons.
- ❖ Due to our policy of promoting non-violent play, please avoid donating guns, swords or war theme games
- ❖ Children in the hospital play with a lot of energy, please make sure toys are of high quality with no sharp edges or brittle plastic
- ❖ **Books, music, movies and sporting goods are always safe ideas**
- ❖ Electrical spark-producing or friction-producing toys are prohibited by fire regulations
- ❖ **Please do not wrap gifts**
- ❖ Please remember to include your donor's name and address so we can thank you!
- ❖ Please refer to the list for gift ideas appropriate to many developmental ages of the patients in the hospital
- ❖ **Gift cards** to many local stores are also a great gift; see stores listed for ideas
- ❖ Once you have organized your donation please give Child Life Services a call at 212-746-3516 and schedule a time with a Child Life Specialist to drop off your donation.

Developmental breakdown and suggestions:

Infants 0-12 months

Mobiles (that are all plastic), rattles, mirrors, music boxes(such as Aquarium Wonders by Fisher Price), board books, pop-up toys, plastic squeeze toys, stacking toys, lullaby CD's/tapes, musical toys- (lights and sounds), crib toys

Toddlers 12-36 months

Stacking toys, coloring books and crayons, blocks, push/pull toys, telephone toys, picture books, manipulative toys, beginner puzzles, shape sorter, musical CD's, CD player, duplo sets, dolls, see-n-say

Preschool 3-5 years old

Doll houses, farm houses, puzzles, pop up books, toy animals/people/vehicles, dolls, stencils, kitchen/cooking toys, beginner board games (Candyland, Trouble etc...) Mr. Potato Head, train sets, toy garage, play tool kits, Magna doodle, Play dough and accessories, (Please have small containers of play dough) bubbles, pinwheels, stickers, doctor kits, musical instruments, view masters with cards, kaleidoscopes

School age 5-11years old

Age-appropriate reading material, hand held video games, cars/trucks/trains, G rated DVD's (English and Spanish), puzzles, dress-up dolls, back packs, I spy books, board games (connect four, trouble, monopoly Jr), Cards (UNO and regular cards) models, art and craft kits, drawing material (markers/pencils), etch-a-sketch

Adolescent 12 years old and up

PG/PG13 DVD's (English and Spanish), games for game systems (X-Box 360, Nintendo Wii) advanced art/craft supplies, chapter books, computer games, music CD's, stationery, game boy with games, card games (Uno cards and decks of playing cards), board games, word searches, calendars

Gift Card Ideas

Toys R Us/Babies R Us

Barnes and Noble

Old Navy

Target

Gap

Music Stores-

I-tunes gift cards

Movie Tickets

Burn Unit: Kids Toothbrush, Pacifiers, Sippy cups, Crazy straws, Teethers, Character Pajamas, Slippers, Batteries, Stickers books and Action figures