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# OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

# orange Shoebox Packing Instructions

THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD! YOUR GIFT AND THE MESSAGE OF JESUS CHRIST WILL IMPACT THE LIFE OF A CHILD WHO MAY NEVER BEFORE HAVE RECEIVED A CHRISTMAS GIFT.

PLEASE FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES IN PACKING YOUR BOXES:

# 1. GATHER YOUR MATERIALS:

- Standard size shoebox (plastic or cardboard)
- Box label listing gender and age group—at the bottom of this sheet (Note: if you choose to use the "Follow Your Box" option listed in step four below, you will be provided with an electronic label to print.)
- "Let's Be Friends" child information and coloring sheet

# 2. PURCHASE GIFT ITEMS.

Use the "Operation Christmas Child" Parent Cue to create a family evening in which you purchase the items to go inside the box. We suggest the following.

#### TOYS

Start with a central item a child will cherish, like a beautiful doll, a deflated soccer ball with pump, or a plush stuffed animal. Then add quality items like cars, musical instruments, jump ropes, balls, puzzles, and toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.

#### SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, coloring books, etc.

#### **NON-LIQUID HYGIENE ITEMS**

Toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc.

#### **ACCESSORIES**

T-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, flip-flops, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.

### OTHER ITEMS FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

Blankets, sticker and picture books, blocks, finger puppets, pages of colorful stickers.

#### OTHER ITEMS FOR OLDER CHILDREN

Small tools, tape measures, sewing kits, fabric squares, solar calculators, rulers, scissors, jewelry, deodorant.

### Please do NOT include:

Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; seeds; chocolate or food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

## 3. ASSEMBLE THE BOX.

You may wrap your gift if you desire, but make sure to wrap the lid separately. Place your gifts inside, along with the "Let's Be Friends" coloring sheet. If you choose to make your \$7 donation per box by check (instead of using the online "Follow Your Box" option below), please make it out to Samaritan's Purse with "OCC" in the memo line and place it on top of the gifts. (This donation covers shipping and related costs; if you send multiple gifts, please make a combined donation in one check.) Then put the lid on the box, tape the appropriately marked boy/girl label on top, and place a rubber band around the box.

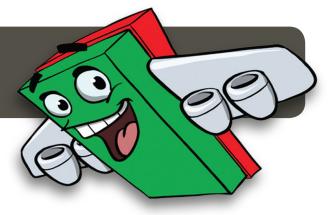
# 4. USE THE "FOLLOW YOUR BOX" DONATION AND TRACKING OPTION.

We encourage you to give your \$7-per-box donation online via credit card. Visit <a href="mailto:samaritanspurse.org/occ">samaritanspurse.org/occ</a>, go to "Pack a Shoebox" at the top of the page, and click the "Follow-Your-Box Donation" link.

If you do this, you will be able to print out a box label that will allow you to track your box online. When you discover where your box will go, you and your child will know better how to pray for the child who receives your shoebox. Your family can even study that country or plan a meal with food from that region!

## 5. DROP OFF YOUR BOX.

Once you've completed your boxes, bring them to your church or the drop-off site your church suggests. If you've used the "Follow Your Box" system, look for an email telling you where your box has traveled.



DON'T FORGET TO KEEP PRAYING
FOR THE CHILD WHO RECEIVES YOUR BOX!

