

It's good to GIVE

By Erika Enigk
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Some people call this time of year “the season of giving.” The first thing that might spring to mind when you hear that is “presents” (and who doesn’t love presents?), but there are other important ways to give.

Ways to give

There’s no shortage of groups that need help, especially this year. That means that no matter what you love you can help someone! You can support a local family in need by donating to a food pantry, or you can reach across the world to help small African villages get clean water. You can even give blankets to a local pet shelter or raise money for a guinea pig rescue (yes, that’s real!).

You can also help people one-on-one. Have an adult help you pick up groceries for a neighbor who can’t go out. Walk a neighbor’s dog. Help a sibling clean their room. Sometimes the littlest things mean the most.

How to keep giving

If you’re looking for a way to do something good not just today but for a long time, there are ways to do that, too. You can set up a Little Free Library in your community where people can take books and bring them back anytime they like. There are also Little Free Pantries where people can come get food for their families. You can help your school build a friendship bench (also called a buddy bench) where kids can sit if they want someone to talk to. And when you see someone sitting there at recess, go have a chat and maybe make a new friend.



FREEPIK

Give to your community or to a cause you care about

Here are some ideas:

- Clean out your closet of old clothes, toys, books or other items that you don’t want or need anymore, and take them to a local place accepting donations. (Be sure to have approval from the adult in your life before you do this — they might want to save some things for a younger sibling, a cousin or someone else.)
- Raise some money for a charity. There are tons of great organizations out there

that help people, communities and even animals. Do chores around your house or find a safe (socially distanced) way to do things for neighbors, like shoveling sidewalks when it snows or helping take down holiday decorations. Ask for a few dollars to donate to your cause. And if they can’t pay, do the chore anyway and help someone you know!

- Doing something nice for someone doesn’t have to be about money or things! Draw a sign to hang in your window, or make a sidewalk chalk design thanking health care workers and others who are working hard in your community.

WORD FIND

Give	Library
Presents	Community
Help	Food
Blankets	Toys
Shelter	Charity

O R E T L E H S T V
 Y T I N U M M O C R
 P B S H E L P S R Y
 U C T M O Y S Z K R
 D Q N Y U T S E B A
 S M E Y H I B D L R
 Z J S C I R M B A B
 Z I E A D A R T N I
 S A R F V H A T K L
 Y N P Y O C N V E O
 O O X E W O V T T J
 T U G I V E D G S L

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