

HOW TO *Pack a Backpack:*

1. **Choose** a gender and age, and order (at no cost) the appropriate color-coded band(s) to attach to the backpack(s) from AlabamaWMU.org/christmasbackpacks. Every backpack must have one of these bands attached.
2. **Start** with a new, zippered backpack.
3. **Fill** with new gifts (at least one from each category below) based on the age/gender you chose.
4. **Place** a copy of The Christmas Story in the backpack (order at AlabamaWMU.org/christmasbackpacks at no cost).
5. **Attach** the color-coded age/gender band to the top loop of the backpack.
6. **Pray** for the child who will receive the backpack.
7. **Drop off** the backpack at a designated collection site. Locate the nearest collection site at AlabamaWMU.org/christmasbackpacks.

BACKPACKS MUST:

- Be new and include only new items
- Have a color-coded band attached to the top
- Have a copy of The Christmas Story inside



Find Collection Sites at AlabamaWMU.org/christmasbackpacks

Gift Suggestions:

TOYS: Small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, small musical instruments, yo-yos, jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, toys that light up or make noise (include extra batteries), Slinky, frisbee, card games such as Old Maid, Go Fish, etc.

ART SUPPLIES: Crayons, colored pencils, markers, stamps and ink pads, craft paper, construction paper, coloring and picture books, stickers, etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS: Toothbrush, toothpaste, boxed bar soap (in a plastic bag), hair brush, comb, wash cloth, ponytail holders, hair clips, etc.

OTHER: Children's Bible or Teen Bible, hard candy (no chocolate), lollipops (double bag all candy), mints, age-appropriate Christian books, pop-top cans of food, t-shirt, socks, gloves, hat, etc.

IDEAS FOR OLDER CHILDREN (11-17 YEARS):

Girls: Lip gloss, costume jewelry, fashion scarves, friendship bracelets, craft kits, journals, fun socks and slippers, doodle books, etc.

Boys: LEGOS®, card games, hand-held electronic games, basketball, soccer ball, NERF™ football

PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE items that can be easily crushed or broken, perishable food, food containing nuts, or knives.

PLEASE NOTE:

Pre-printed, color-coded bands must be ordered from Alabama WMU for labeling backpacks.

AGE GUIDE:

Ages 2-3
Ages 4-7
Ages 8-10
Ages 11-14
Ages 15-17

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