

Donating Toys *by Tracy Martin*

What do you do with rooms that have toys your child has either outgrown or no longer plays with?

- Every household that has children has toys lying around in either a closet, cellar, or in their room.

Rather than throwing away perfectly good toys, why not recycle them?

- Your child's old toys are another child's new toy.
- Once your child no longer wants a toy or multiple toys, why not take advantage and encourage your child to donate them to a good cause.

Teaching kids:

- The importance of giving
- The importance of reuse
- Not to be wasteful
- To appreciate that they were fortunate enough to have it

You may be surprised that your child is willing to do this.

They may even start to bring you toys they do not use anymore on their own. Many organizations will take gently used toys that are in good condition.

Before you decide where to donate:

- You need to make sure all pieces are intact; that the toys you want to donate are in good condition, and still work fine.
 - You can start your search of places to donate by looking at places such as good will and family shelters.
 - You need to call and find out if these places will accept toys. The computer is also a great resource to find out who may take recycled toys.

Examples of places:

- Some libraries have sections where you can check out toys.
- Some hospitals will also take perfectly good toys for their children sections.

Teaching your child to help another in need is a great learning experience for both child and parent.