

TCK Adoption Program Gift Giving

Sending a gift to your adopted TCK blesses you and the family! Be sure anything you send is age appropriate as well as appropriate for the climate where he/she lives. Send gifts throughout the year—to be special and to bring surprise!

What do you send your TCK? Think of the kids and teens in your church that may be the same age as your TCK. What things are they interested in or excited about? The cost of gifts should not exceed the recommended limit in your District. This will vary, but \$50-\$100 per year has been a standard amount. Simple toys and inexpensive fun items are sometimes more appreciated than large, expensive gifts. Refer to your mailing and gift information questionnaire when considering what to give your TCK.

Advise parents or house parents when a gift is sent to your TCK so that they will be alert for a package and remind the TCK to acknowledge its receipt.

When to send gifts:

- Birthdays** If your TCK is at boarding school, remember there will be other students around. Provide the makings for a special birthday party! Send napkins, birthday tablecloth, balloons, gum, candy etc. And of course, a gift for the birthday boy/girl!
- Christmas** Your TCK will be home with his/her family, and you may want to send small gifts or one collective gift for the whole family to enjoy, in addition to a gift especially for your TCK. Send items for Christmas, such as small candles, Christmas napkins, tablecloth, decoration etc.
- Valentine's** Remind your TCK that you love them! Send a card or package with heart-shaped candies. Also, you could send your TCK a box of Valentines to share with classmates or send to their parents.
- Easter** Send a card celebrating the true meaning of Easter, and maybe some small Easter candies, such as peeps or Jelly Bellies.
- Graduation** This is a very special time for a teen. Send them words of praise and encouragement through cards. Send a gift that he/she can use after school is out. If you know your TCK is going to college, send something that will be useful at college.
- Fourth of July** Most TCKs like to be reminded that they are Americans! Send any items that are patriotic, but consider the restrictions that may apply according to what country they live in.
- ANY DAY** Pick any day at random to send a card or candy or little gift to let them know you care about them!