

# GIVING ACTIVITY #1: ONE IN, ONE OUT

Make it a practice in your home that when a new item is purchased and brought home, an old item is donated to charity. This activity will help you and your family give back to those who may be less fortunate. In addition, it will teach your family to embrace charitable giving.

## Materials needed:

- Old toys, shoes, coats, bags, clothes, etc.

## How to play:

- 1) As a family, talk about all of the good things you have and what happens to belongings when they are not used (misplaced, broken, etc.).
- 2) Have your family spend about 30 minutes thinking about items to donate to a non-profit organization, local shelter, day care, or philanthropic organization. During Spring and Fall cleaning, try to gather even more items for charitable donations.
- 3) After you've thought about what you'd like to donate, and each person knows what they're going to give, have a little race to see who can grab their items first!
- 4) Talk about the difference between the things your family uses on a daily basis versus the things that you don't use regularly. Are there things that you don't need anymore that others may have a need for.
- 5) Discuss the importance of your family giving to others who may not be as fortunate as you are and how good it feels to help those in need.
- 6) Once you determine the items you plan to donate to others, talk about who you would like to have them. For example, if your daughter chooses to donate a doll, ask her what type of child she would like to play with the doll next? What kind of home would she want her doll to live in? Why does she want to give her doll to a child like the one she describes?



# GIVING ACTIVITY #2: GOTTA HAVE IT, CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT IT

This activity will get you and your entire family thinking about the major difference between wanting something and needing something. Children and grown-ups can discuss the importance of spending money on the things they need. While brainstorming ways that everyone can save more money, you just might find that you can get what you want, too! Talking about needs versus wants will allow everyone to see that sometimes you have to make small sacrifices in order to have what you want, but getting what you want is possible.

## Materials needed:

- Needs and Wants worksheet
- Pens, pencils, or markers

## How to play:

- 1) Color the words “Needs” and “Wants” on the worksheet.
- 2) Brainstorm some ideas of things you need and things you want. Write or draw these things under either “Needs” or “Wants”, wherever you think they belong. Here are some to get you started: hair brush, video games, cell phone, groceries.
- 3) Discuss each item and why it is a want or a need. For example, a new pair of shoes could be a want if you have two other pairs of shoes already, but it could be a need if one shoe has a hole in the sole or you have outgrown it. Don't be afraid to challenge family members' explanations to ensure that everyone really grasps the concept.



NEEDS

A large rectangular area with a light gray background and a dotted border, intended for writing or drawing.

WANTS

A large rectangular area with a light gray background and a dotted border, intended for writing or drawing.

