



Kern Autism Network needs your help spreading Christmas cheer by donating gifts to their Sensory Santa event.

New toys for children of all ages (teens, too) are needed; they should be unwrapped.

The homeroom class that collects the most gifts will receive free dress for all of finals week.

Also, if you'd like to earn service hours, save your receipts and submit to Mrs. Z (\$25 = 1 hour).

Bring toys to your homeroom class now through December 11th.

See the following page for gift ideas.



Ages 5-7

1. **Sensory Play Kits:** Kits with items like kinetic sand, slime, play dough, and squishy balls can provide enjoyable tactile experiences.
2. **Fidget Toys:** Things like spinners, stretchy strings, or pop-it toys are engaging and soothing for many young children.
3. **Building Blocks:** Blocks like Mega Bloks or Duplo (larger than Lego) can help develop fine motor skills and encourage creativity.

Ages 8-10

1. **Lego Sets:** These sets help with motor skills and allow creativity. Sets that match their specific interests (like animals, vehicles, or buildings) are particularly popular.
2. **Board Games:** Games with clear, visual instructions (like *Candy Land*, *Sorry!*, or *Connect Four*) are good for social interaction and developing turn-taking skills.
3. **Art Supplies:** Markers, crayons, and modeling clay allow for creative expression and sensory exploration. Some kids enjoy textured or scented markers for added sensory stimulation.

Ages 11-13

1. **STEM Kits:** Science kits for making slime, growing crystals, or building simple robots are great for engaging curiosity and hands-on learning.
2. **Drawing Tablets:** A drawing tablet like a Wacom or even simpler LCD tablets for doodling can appeal to kids interested in art and technology.
3. **Interactive Books or Graphic Novels:** Books with vivid illustrations or graphic novels can be more engaging than text-heavy books. Topics that match their interests, like science, fantasy, or history, are ideal.

Ages 14-15

1. **3D Puzzles or Model Kits:** 3D puzzles or model-building kits (such as cars, planes, or famous landmarks) are excellent for focus and fine motor skills.
2. **Music Instruments or Digital Keyboards:** Digital keyboards, ukuleles, or other beginner-friendly instruments provide an outlet for creativity and sensory engagement.
3. **Specialty Art Supplies:** Professional-grade colored pencils, acrylic paints, or a watercolor set with brush pens can provide an outlet for self-expression.