

Gift Wrap Challenge



What is needed: Newspaper, scissors, tape, string or ribbon, packages in various shapes and sizes

How to play:

1. Demonstrate the Art of Gift Wrapping with Newspaper. Explain that when we wrap gifts using newspaper, we are *reusing* materials which is better for the planet than buying brand new wrapping paper and just using it once. Think of all the birthdays and holidays in the world. Think of how many trees are sacrificed each year just so that gifts can be wrapped. If you want, you can also discuss other ways for gifts to be presented that don't involve wrapping at all, such as by giving them in a bag. Also, be sure to show children how to properly wrap the gift. Remember, this is more about FUN than anything else.
2. Organize children into small teams, except for one child who will be the Judge.
3. It is the judge's job to see that packages have been wrapped properly. If the judge is unsatisfied (perhaps, he/she feels that the wrapping paper is not properly secured to the package or that the package has been over-wrapped), the team must re-wrap that package.
4. Give each team an equal number of packages to wrap. HINT: Give them some irregularly-shaped packages in order to challenge them a bit more. Give them newspaper and other materials with which to do the job.

5. Tell the children that they are going to wrap their packages in the shortest amount of time possible.
6. On "Go!", teams start to wrap.
7. Whichever team has finished satisfactorily wrapping its packages first is the winner.
8. Also, make sure to tell the children to try and not destroy the newspaper so that the game may be played again, if desired.
9. Modify this game if you need to. Have fun!