TOY GUIDELINES

Thank you for your interest in donating items for the patients at Batson Children’s Hospital. We need toys and other recreational materials for our patients—from infants to teens—throughout the year. We ask that the items comply with the following guidelines. If you have questions, please contact our Child Life staff at 601-815-4282.

- **All toys must be NEW.** No matter how clean they appear, even gently used toys may harbor potentially harmful germs and/or allergens.

- Painted toys and craft items such as glue, crayons or paint should be labeled non-toxic.

- Please do not gift-wrap items.

- Please avoid the following:
  - Latex balloons – some children may have latex allergies. Mylar balloons are welcome.
  - Toys with detachable parts (like button eyes) that can be removed and swallowed
  - Glass or brittle plastic toys that can break and leave sharp edges that can injure eyes.
  - Toys with parts that can pinch fingers, toes or catch hair.
  - Stuffed animals and toys filled with materials that may be choking hazards. Please do not bring Beanie Babies.
  - Humorous medical toys and games that may cause fears and misconceptions.
  - Any religion-themed items as we are a state institution and must abide by separation of church and state statutes.
  - Electrical, spark-producing or friction-producing toys.

**Suggested Toy Ideas**

**Infants:** music boxes, rattles, soft rubber dolls, infant mirrors, busy boxes, teethers

**Toddlers:** push/pull/talking toys, music boxes, shape sorters, trucks, musical instruments, picture books

**Preschool:** activity books, cars and trucks, balls, duplos, board books and puzzles

**School Age:** board games, playing cards, model and building sets, puzzles, Barbies

**Adolescent:** board games, puzzle books, make up kits, craft kits, caps, picture frames, UNO cards