



Give the Gift of Time

Nourish Generosity
Strengthen Relationships
Encourage Creativity

With Personalized Certificates

Exchanging gifts during the holiday season is a wonderful tradition. Giving and receiving carefully chosen presents delights both young and old. However, do you feel that you and your children are getting away from the true spirit of giving? Or, do you overspend and regret it later?



Consider **personal gift certificates** that focus on creatively giving of ourselves to family and friends.

Make certificates or note cards from plain paper.

1. Write the name of the person to whom you are giving the gift.
2. Write exactly what your gift will be.
3. Sign it.
4. To make it look “authentic,” write how long the gift certificate will remain valid (e.g., good through May, 2010)
5. Decorate with stamps or markers. Put the certificate in an envelope—decorate the envelope, too.

Examples of Gifts

- ☺ A 12 year-old young man might give his mother a Saturday morning off, starting with breakfast in bed.
- ☺ An older teen might give his or her adopted grandparent three gift certificates, each one good for a round-trip drive to the grocery, a friend’s home or the doctor’s office.
- ☺ A father might take his daughter out to her favorite restaurant.
- ☺ A walk together at a nearby park.
- ☺ A backyard cookout for your son’s friends.
- ☺ A three-minute shoulder rub.
- ☺ Washing the car—inside and out!
- ☺ Twenty minutes of reading from a favorite book.
- ☺ A 15-minute personal concert of favorite music (piano, voice, guitar)
- ☺ Cleaning the bathroom, kitchen floor, living room windows.

The possibilities are limited only by your imagination!

