

**DIALOGUE
WORKS**

HomeTalk

thoughtful conversations for families and schools

Let's talk about...

Gifts

compiled by Topsy Page www.topsy.com



Photo: daveynin from United States, [CC BY 2.0](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Zipcar_gift.jpg), via Wikimedia Commons

Note to parents/carers and teachers

This pack contains links to external websites. Whilst we take every care to make sure these are suitable, you may want to check the content before showing them to children.



To get HomeTalk emailed every week
click <http://eepurl.com/gUAlez>

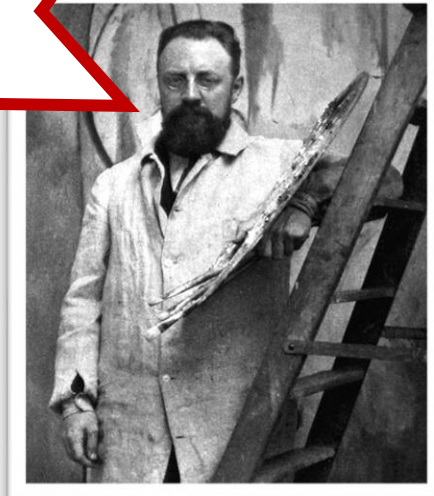
Quotes about gifts



Louisa May Alcott
U.S. novelist, in *Little Women*

I have nothing to give but my heart so full and these empty hands.

I didn't expect to recover from my second operation but since I did, I consider that I'm living on borrowed time. Every day that dawns is a gift to me and I take it in that way.



Henri Matisse
French painter

Go and celebrate with a feast of rich foods and sweet drinks, and share gifts of food with people who have nothing prepared.

Hebrew Bible
Nehemiah 8:10 (New Living Translation)

Thinking about gifts

Caring thinking

When we give gifts, should we think about the impact on the environment?

Collaborative thinking

Some people agree in advance what type of gifts they will buy each other. Is that a good idea or a bad idea?



Creative thinking

Think of making a gift for someone you care about. What would they really like you to make for them?

Critical thinking

Is it possible to receive too many gifts? Why / why not?

What is the best gift you've ever given someone?

In the next week or two, are you planning to give anyone a gift?

What do all gifts have in common?



Think **AHEAD**

Think **BACK**

CONNECT



DIVIDE

LISTEN/LOOK

ZOOM (in/out)

Think of a big celebration that you take part in. How many gifts do you think are given in total?

What are the differences between giving a gift and receiving a gift?

What do people do to make gifts feel extra-special?

Are there any special types of gifts related to your favourite celebration?

Discussion suggestions (age 3 – 5)

Stimulus



Image: QuinceCreative via Pixabay

Talking Points

- What could be inside these boxes?
- Would you rather be given one big present or lots of little presents? Why?
- Have you ever given someone a gift? How did it feel?

Activity

- Make a gift for someone, for example a special picture or sculpture, or something to eat.
- Find a way to package your gift. You could re-use some gift-wrapping, or make your own decorated wrapping paper or box.

Discussion suggestions (age 6 - 9)

Stimulus



https://youtu.be/AH-swBsXA_4

A gift fit for a queen

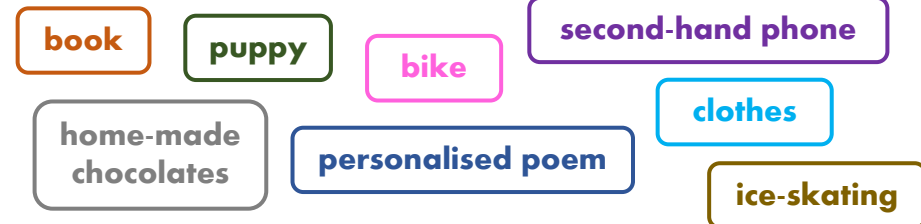
A comedy sketch from the BBC's Horrible Histories, imagining how England's Queen Elizabeth the First might have reacted to gifts.

Talking Points

- Describe the queen's reaction to her gifts. How do you think she should have reacted?
- How do you feel when you receive a gift? What sort of things do you say?
- Is it important that gifts are completely perfect?
- Why do people give gifts?

Activity

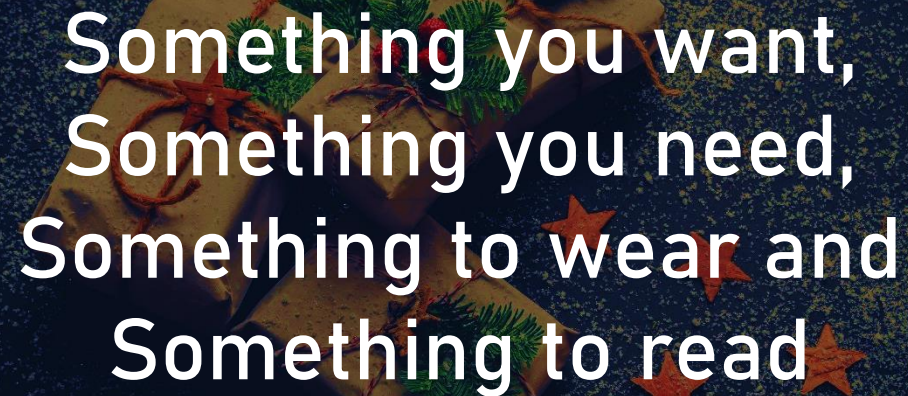
- Order these items from worst gift to best gift:



- Does the order change for different people?

Discussion suggestions (age 10+)

Stimulus



Something you want,
Something you need,
Something to wear and
Something to read

Image: Yanite via Pixabay

The Four Gift Rule

This rhyme is used by some families who celebrate Christmas by buying gifts for children, but who want to avoid excessive amounts of gifts. The idea is to give each child four gifts, one for each line from the rhyme.

Talking Points

- What is the difference between something you want and something you need?
- The Four Gift Rule – good idea / bad idea?
- Some people have decided to stop giving any gifts at Christmas. Why could that be?

Activities

- Some families make up their own version of the rhyme. For example they change *Something to wear* into *Something to share*. Try making up a rhyme for your next family celebration.
- Some families believe that the best gifts are not physical objects. Write a list of gifts that are in this category.

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Training opportunities for teachers, support staff and parents

P4C Plus Foundation course (12hrs)

Teaching that puts more thinking into learning

- Introduces you to **P4C Plus** and builds your skills over the first year of practice
- Equips you with a range of skills to use in P4C inquiries and throughout the curriculum
- Includes premium resources and teacher guide

Thinking Moves A – Z course (6hrs)

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- Shows you how **Thinking Moves** can enhance thinking in any subject, as well as in P4C inquiries
- Gives you practical guidance on how to embed Thinking Moves into learning
- Includes premium resources and handbook

Both courses available online or face-to-face, for individuals or whole-school teams

See <https://dialogueworks.co.uk/training/> for upcoming courses

Contact enquiries@dialogueworks.co.uk for bookings or more information