



Local Wish Experiences – So Many Possibilities!

COVID-19 may have disrupted wishes involving travel or large gatherings, but there are still so many possibilities to create meaningful wish experiences in the near-term for wish children and families. *The information below is intended to spark ideas and creative thinking among wish granters and is not to be shared directly with families or considered a picklist from which kids should choose.*

Animals



Animal wishes can bring comfort and companionship to a wish child for years to come. We can work with local shelters or breeders to find the perfect pet! Wish boost ideas include:

- Petland goodies & Petco shopping day (in person or online)
- Video diary of animal in the days leading up to the wish day
- Book or video guide: preparing your home for a pet
- Virtual dog training

Adaptive Equipment



Everything from adaptive bikes, to swings, wheelchairs, communication equipment and more can provide additional mobility and accessibility to a child who needs it. We can plan fun, socially distanced celebrations involving the community to honor the arrival or first use of the equipment.

Sports Equipment



While some professional sports may be on hold, a wish kid can still engage in their favorite pastime. We can work with local vendors to purchase and deliver requested sports equipment. Wish boost ideas include:

- Jersey/uniform from the wish child's favorite team
- Video compilation of great plays, catches, goals, etc.
- Invite local high school team to socially distanced wish celebration

Musical Instruments/DJ Equipment



Musical instruments and/or equipment can provide a wish child with a creative escape. We can work with local vendors to plan and deliver wish items with appropriate social distancing. Wish boost ideas include:

- Private music lessons or lessons from a local DJ
- Music stand and sheet music
- Music mixing software





Computers / Electronics



Gaming Computer/Game Systems – We can deliver all the essentials for a wish kid's gaming system and arrange virtual assistance from a tech guru, if needed.



Computer (Laptop/iPad) – A computer can help a wish child stay connected with friends and families and assist with ongoing virtual schoolwork.



Home Entertainment – A TV streaming service, video game console and comfy furniture offers a relaxing way for a wish child to enjoy the best in entertainment and togetherness.



Headset Technology – We can help a wish child travel to their favorite places, virtually! We can help create exciting alternate environments with a virtual reality headset and games!

Computer / Electronics wish boost ideas include:

- 1-year prepaid internet access
- Games/accessories
- Masterclass package
- Comfortable loungewear

Shopping Sprees



Online shopping sprees offer the unique opportunity to skip the lines and crowds and get the best deals in town. For in-person experiences, we can work with local retailers to explore opportunities for exclusive shopping before stores open. Wish boost ideas include:

- Virtual personal shopper/stylist
- Make-up tutorial with a pro
- Include a tablet if needed to enable online shopping
- Favorite food delivered to the home for a family celebration meal

Virtual Character or Celebrity Wishes



A video chat, recorded video message or phone call may be pursued for a child's wish to meet their favorite character or celebrity. Wish boost ideas include:

- Set up the meet & greet space like a green room– star sign with the child's name, favorite snacks/drinks laid out, personalized director's chair, have laptop or iPad prepped and ready for video chat, ask permission to record
- Send celebrity merch beforehand – apparel, bedding, music, etc.
- Invite the child to choose a special outfit to wear





Education Wishes



Whether it's online classes or payments to their school, we can celebrate a wish child's desire to learn and advance. Wish boost ideas include:

- School sweatshirt/apparel
- Welcome message from the Dean
- Congratulations messages from HS principal, teachers, friends

Philanthropic Wishes



Celebrate a wish child's generosity and community focus with a direct contribution to a charitable organization or help with setting up their very own non-profit. Wish boost ideas include:

- Shirt, hat, or other merch from non-profit benefitting from wish
- Letter of thanks from non-profit staff, volunteers or beneficiaries
- Business cards for kids starting a non-profit

Wishes to Be



Talk about the transformative power of a wish! We can work with local organizations and creative geniuses to help a child transform into a superhero, actress/actor or whomever else they wish to be for a day.

Outdoor Structures/Playhouses/Playsets



We can help a child choose or design the playset or outdoor structure of their dreams and find a local vendor to properly install it in a socially distanced way. Wish boost ideas include:

- Groundbreaking ceremony for wish child with shovel, hard hat, etc.
- Rock garden - friends/family decorate rocks to add to a corner of the yard
- Include a large etched stone with MAW logo and wish date
- "Wish in Progress" banner that cover windows so the child will be surprised
- Shutterfly book and/or time lapse video as a keepsake

Pools/Hot Tubs



We can bring sun, fun and family togetherness to a wish child's backyard. Inventory with vendors across Illinois is low this summer but we can plan ahead for spring/summer 2021. Wish boost ideas include:

- Monogrammed towels
- Swimsuit and floaties
- Water toys with lights, sounds





Room Redecorations



Since kids are spending more time at home during the pandemic, we can make a wish child's room the place to be. Wish boost ideas include:

- Sending items ahead of time for the child to make/decorate – DIY wall art, paint small items to be incorporated into the room, corkboard display
- Set up signs and/or construction tape to indicate work in progress to maintain an element of surprise
- Friends/family fill a mason jar with encouraging thoughts for the child to read
- Host a ribbon cutting ceremony with big scissors

Vehicle Makeover



We can help a wish teen have the vehicle of their dreams with cosmetic improvements to their vehicle. Wish boost ideas include:

- Car cover, big sheet or giant bow for reveal
- Invite car club or other auto enthusiasts to be part of wish celebration
- Bucket of car care goodies
- Gift cards: gas station, car wash, drive-thru restaurants

Motorized Vehicles



We can give older wish kids the freedom to explore the outdoors, in accordance with the American Academy of Pediatrics guidance. Wish boost ideas include:

- Helmet and other gear
- Vehicle cover, big sheet or giant bow for reveal
- Invite local ATV group or other enthusiasts to be part of wish celebration
- Area trail maps

Camping Trailer Wishes



We can give wish children and their families the opportunity to create wonderful memories together by exploring the outdoors. Wish boost ideas include:

- Necessities – bedding, cutlery, dishes, emergency kit, flashlights, etc.
- Fun pack – smores kit, ghost story book, matching family pajamas
- Wish day celebration with the vendor and local community members

Staycation Packages



We can utilize local hotel/vacation rental properties for family togetherness in the area or deliver all vacation items to the family's front door for an exciting vacation in the comfort and safety of a wish child's own home.

