

Creative Ideas to Show Teacher Appreciation

The last few years have been tough for educators and staff. Now that students have returned to in-person learning, teachers are doubling down on their efforts to support students in the classroom. During the holiday season and year-round, use these ideas to show appreciation for your child's teachers and recognize them for their hard work.

Support a Teacher's Classroom

A great way to show appreciation for your child's teacher is to provide classroom support. An offer of much-needed supplies is always appreciated, as data show most teachers spend a good amount of their own money to provide their students with school supplies. You and fellow parents can use crowd-sourcing websites such as adoptaclassroom.org and donorschoose.org to make tax-deductible donations to teachers in need.

Find Ways to Say Thank You

Working with your children on ways to show teacher appreciation gives them a chance to add their own personal touch. Anything handmade makes your effort that much more special. Thank-you cards are always a good idea and can make for a fun craft project that sparks creativity. You might even include a "coupon" for help after school or something needed for the classroom. Another fun idea is to create a thank-you video or even choreograph a dance or skit with other parents and classmates.

Organize With the PTA

If you're looking for a collective teacher appreciation effort, work with school PTAs



or other parent organizations affiliated with your child's school. Most parent-teacher groups regularly organize initiatives to support teachers and school staff year-round. Whether it's going in on a gift card, organizing a bake sale, or planning a teacher appreciation picnic, pooling creative resources makes lighter work for all.

Give the Gift of Self-Care

Teachers put their students first, sometimes forgoing their own little luxuries to provide for others. Joining forces with fellow parents to chip in for a self-care gift is a great way to show appreciation for a job well done. Teachers love gift cards for salon services, specialty stores, gym memberships, and local restaurants.

Make It Personal

The most treasured gifts from students are ones that are from the heart and show the students know their teachers. Toys for teachers' pets, seeds for a home garden, and anything personalized like tote bags, desk accessories, jewelry, and travel mugs are always a hit.

