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Auction Item Ideas

1. A day at the farm
2. Anything with the local fire department or police department—ride in a vehicle, tour, birthday party at the station, wear gear, photo ops
3. Basketball party in the gym
4. Be the school mascot at an event
5. Bedtime story in your own home, read by your teacher
6. Boating trip on a local lake or river
7. Boating trip with the boat owner and your group of friends
8. Camping trip, hosted by an experienced family for camping novices
9. Fee-free year: no PTO dues, free yearbook, school T-shirt, no field trip fees, no school supply fees, no class party fee, free school photo package
10. Grab bag of goodies (leftovers worth at least XX dollars)
11. Guest DJ on a local radio station
12. Lunch with the principal at a local restaurant
13. Limo ride for students to lunch off site with a local celebrity or the principal
14. Lunch at a reserved table in the cafeteria with several friends for a month
15. Museum or bookstore field trip with the teacher
16. Name the school road for a year; keep the street sign at the end of the year
17. Picnic lunch with a teacher outdoors at school
18. Principal for a day
19. Reserved parking at school, for a month, year, or other time period
20. Reserved seating at key family events
21. Reserved seating for all school events (concerts, assemblies, graduation, etc.)
22. School ambassador for a day—e.g., represent the school at a board meeting
23. Season pass to district sporting events
24. Sleepover at the school
25. Special stuffed toy with classroom storybooks
26. Tour of a local factory
27. Tour of local newspaper, radio station, TV station, or sporting venues (even if there's no game)
28. Training session with high school or college coaches (check league and NCAA rules first) or a high school team (e.g., cheerleaders or pompom squad)
29. Clay vases, hand-painted aprons, decorated T-shirts, personalized picture frames, bound storybooks
30. Ceramic tiles, turned into trivets or a table top
31. Clay snack-serving set, platter, or anything from a paint-it-yourself pottery store
32. Collage done with individual drawing or paintings, framed or decouped onto a larger item
33. Decorated jeans, tennis shoes, hats
34. Decorated vinyl shower curtains (use Sharpie markers)
35. Fall harvest scarecrows
36. Garden stepping stones
37. Mosaic stepping stones, garden benches, garden tables, bird baths
38. Notecards printed with student drawings, envelopes included
39. Painted bird houses
40. Painted cookie jars, ceramic platters, lamp bases, large frames, throw rugs
41. Painted umbrellas
42. Patchwork quilts: photos, handprints, signatures, drawing transfers, team T-shirts
43. Rocking chair, footstool, side chair, nightstand, toy box painted with handprints, thumbprints, or faces
44. Wooden bench covered with poems or sayings written by students

Student Handicrafts

These items sell well, but keep an eye on quality and leave plenty of lead time.

Teacher/Staff Donations

45. Art teacher: private lessons, trip to a museum, paint a mural at your home
46. Bedtime story read by your teacher, child keeps book
47. Chaperone an outing in summertime

- 48. Computer training in your home
- 49. Gym teacher: supervises a birthday party at the gym
- 50. Music teacher: compose and record a song with your child's name, play piano at your birthday party, guest conductor for school concert
- 51. Photo collages, e.g. a week in the life of Mrs. Smith's 2006 fourth-grade class
- 52. A book of student responses to open-ended questions
- 53. Tutoring

Always Popular

- 54. Sports tickets
- 55. Sports memorabilia
- 56. Tickets for local cultural events
- 57. Vacation packages with few restrictions or strings
- 58. Gift certificates for dinner at a nice restaurant
- 59. Wine
- 60. Golf
- 61. High-end jewelry (auctioned with a reserve price; no risk of underpricing it)

Themed Baskets

- 62. All Kinds of Sports or Get Up and Move: anything sports—balls, games, water bottles, sportswear
- 63. All Scream for Ice Cream: fixings for sundaes, cones, toppings, gift certificates
- 64. Backyard Chef or Grill Out: barbecue sauces, grill accessories, Omaha Steak gift certificates
- 65. Backyard Fun: kids beach chair, pail, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, sand castle tools
- 66. Beach Party: towels, toys, umbrella, folding chair, sunscreen, sunglasses, iPod
- 67. Birthday Party in a Basket or Where's the Party: cake pan, cake mixes, balloons, piñata, plates, napkins, party favors
- 68. Bookworm Bonanza or The Bookstore: books, bookmarks, book light, nameplates
- 69. Building Blocks: Lego, Lincoln Logs, Jenga

- 70. Bundle Of Joy: baby shower gifts for a parent-to-be
- 71. Candle Basket: assorted candles, candle holders, snuffer, fancy matches
- 72. Car Wash: bucket, sponges, chamois, paper towels, Armor All, Turtle Wax, air fresheners
- 73. Chef's Delight: cookbooks, kitchen gadgets, bowls, spices, oils, cutting board
- 74. Christmas: ornaments, cards, wrapping paper, decorations
- 75. Coffee Break: mugs, assorted coffees, chocolate-covered spoons, biscotti
- 76. Cookie Monster: cookie pans, dough, recipes, add-ins, decorations
- 77. Date Night: dinner, tickets to concert or ballet, baby-sitting service
- 78. Day at the Pool: floats, sunscreen, flip-flops, toys, towels
- 79. Disney Mania: videos, clothing, towels, school supplies, anything else Disney
- 80. Do-It-Yourself: tool belt, instruction books, painting supplies, store gift card
- 81. Family Fun Nights: movie night, game night, etc.
- 82. Family Night Out: certificate for a four-person dinner, movie tickets
- 83. Fiesta Fiesta: Mexican jumping beans, fancy salsa and chips, recipe book
- 84. Fisherman's Cove: rod and reels, fishing line, tackle and bait, gift certificate
- 85. Garden of Eden: seeds, soil, tools, garden artwork, accessories, plants
- 86. Get Well Soon: chicken soup, robe, crossword puzzles, tea, pillow, eye mask
- 87. Gift Wrap: assorted papers, ribbons and bows, notecards, fancy scissors, tape
- 88. Hair Care: hot-oil treatment, hair towel, brush, hair clips and bands, blow-dryer
- 89. House Beautiful: cleaning supplies, dust cloths and polish, cleaning service
- 90. Italian Feast: pasta machine, fancy olive oils, spaghetti fork
- 91. It's a Girl or It's a Boy: new-baby supplies
- 92. Just What the Dr. Ordered: Dr. Seuss books, pajamas, towels, other logo items

- 93. Kitchen Gadgets: colander, slotted and serving spoons, measuring cups, pot holders, tongs, cutting board
- 94. Life's Simple Pleasures: fluffy robe, scented candles, bath and body products, manicure/pedicure supplies or certificate, eye pillow, facial mask
- 95. Love for Learning: reference books, reading light, flashcards, school supplies
- 96. Manicure/Pedicure: nail clippers, nail file, emery boards, polish remover, cotton balls, cuticle remover, orange stick, hand lotion, assorted nail polishes
- 97. Men's Night Out: small TV, poker chips, cards, cigars, snack foods
- 98. New Home: tool kit, picture-hanging supplies, address numbers, stud finder
- 99. Pasta Mania: colander, cheese grater, fancy pasta, sauces, and olive oils
- 100. Petite Picasso: arts and crafts supplies
- 101. Photo Supplies: certificate for portrait session, picture frames, albums
- 102. School Spirit: blanket in school colors, sportswear, mascot for a day, lead cheer at sport event
- 103. Soccer Fun: ball, portable goal net, jersey/shorts, game tickets
- 104. Something's Fishy: mini tank, food, decorations, gift certificate for fish
- 105. Spirited Exchange: various wines, wine log, tasting book
- 106. Stationery Basket: stamps, journal, notecards, gel pens/markers, envelopes
- 107. Tea Break: mugs, assorted loose and bag teas, infuser, honey, biscotti
- 108. Teacher's Pet: personal pampering items, additional school supplies, books
- 109. Tee Time: golf-club covers, certificate for lessons or course time, tees
- 110. Toy of the Moment: hottest toy of the time and accessories
- 111. Travel: games, snack items, DVD player and discs, books on tape
- 112. Writer's Workshop: pens/pencils, lap desk, dictionary, journal