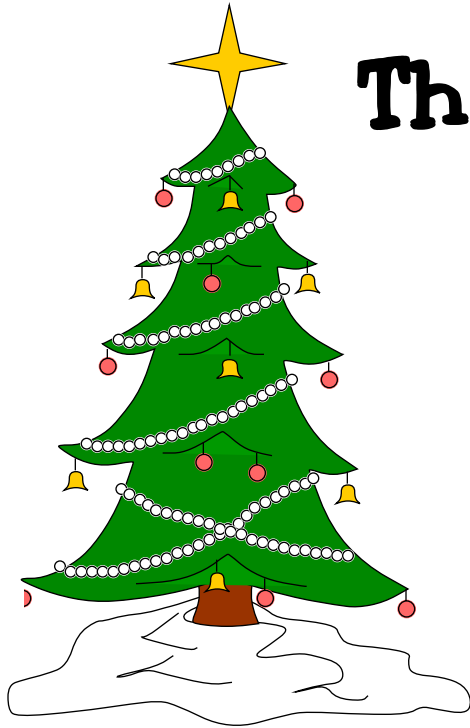


# The Best Gift Ever



A K-6 Christmas Musical / Song Collection  
by Denise Gagne  
Themes & Variations

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# The Best Gift Ever

by Denise Gagne



The Buymore Shopping Mall has a contest - tell what the best Christmas gift is, and WIN that gift! The shoppers have many unique gift ideas - toys, candy, new teeth, slippers, and baking. But it's the Charity Bell Ringer that has the best gift idea - a Christmas meal for the homeless. The best gift is one that brings hope, peace and joy to all.

This teachers guide includes a reproducible script with lyrics, vocal scores, piano accompaniments, costume and choreography suggestions. Use this collection as an all school musical, or use just the songs with your class or choir.

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# The Best Gift Ever

*The Buymore Shopping Mall has a contest - tell what the best Christmas gift is, and WIN that gift! The shoppers have many unique gift ideas - toys, candy, new teeth, slippers, and baking. But it's the Charity Bell Ringer that has the best gift idea - a Christmas meal for the homeless. The best gift is one that brings hope, peace and joy to all.*

*Setting: The Best Gift Ever is set in the Buymore Shopping Mall. Hang a sign at the entrance to your gym/theater with the name: "Buymore Shopping Mall" Create storefronts decorated for Christmas inside the gym. Use store names that you have where you live. The mall administration office is on stage right in front of the curtains. A desk and a sign indicates that this is the mall office.*

*The scene opens with Mr. Sellmore, Mr. Buymore and Miss Perky entering the mall administration office and having a business discussion.*

Mr. Sellmore: (*pointing to his business statement*) Look at these figures! It's already September 15 and our Christmas Sales are looking glum.

Mr. Buymore: The Buymore Shopping Center takes pride in being the Mall with the MOST! We always have the best Christmas sales in town. Come now Mr. Sellmore - surely we can come up with a marketing campaign that will bring the shoppers in.

Miss Perky: Let's have a contest! Shoppers LOVE contests!

Mr. Sellmore: Miss Perky - you're brilliant! .....uh...what kind of contest?

Miss Perky: Let's have a Christmas gift contest - have the shoppers tell us....in 50 words or less....what the best Christmas gift is. I'll judge the entries, and the best entry wins the gift that they want!

Mr. Sellmore: Little ones can enter by visiting our Shopping Mall Santa.

Mr. Buymore: Stupendous idea Miss Perky! Start advertising right away!

*Curtain opens onto shoppers. Everyone on stage holds shopping bags & boxes, some gift wrapped. Some shoppers can enter through the audience. The shopping mall Santa is seated in the center of the stage. The charity bell ringer stands on Stage left. Mr. Sellmore, Mr. Buymore and Miss Perky exit through the stage.*

**Shoppers sing Song #1: Give us a Gift**

**\* start tape**

## **Give us a Gift**

Give us a gift for Christmas, a gift that will last all year  
Something to treasure, something to hold, a gift that will keep your love near.

A toy that will brighten the eyes of a child and bring out the child in us all.  
Everyone tries it to make sure it works and finally the child gets his turn.

Give us a gift for Christmas, a gift that will last all year.  
Something to treasure, something to hold, a gift that will keep your love near.

Some candy and chocolates for Grandma, almost as sweet as her smile.  
As soon as she opens the box disappears. Her smile will be there for a while.

Give us a gift for Christmas, a gift that will last all year.  
Something to treasure, something to hold, a gift that will keep your love near.  
A sweater, a scarf or or a warm pair of mitts for mother or father or friend.  
They warm the hands, they warm the heart, with the message of love that they send.  
Give us a gift for Christmas, a gift that will last all year.  
Something to treasure, something to hold. a gift that will keep your love near.

*Shoppers exit, except for Ashley and Mom. Kindergarten enters. \*stop tape*  
*Bell ringer asks one shopper for a donation as he/she leaves the stage.*

Bell Ringer: Would you like to donate to our Christmas Charity?

Shopper: Not now - I'll catch you next time.

*Mom points out the shopping mall Santa.*

Shopper Mom: Look Ashley! There's Santa - you can tell Santa what you want for Christmas.

Santa: HO HO HO. Come and sit on Santa's knee! What's your name little girl?

Ashley: My names Ashley.

Santa: And have you been a good girl this year?

Ashley: Of course!

Santa: And what do you want for Christmas Ashley?

Ashley? (*wiggling tooth*) Santa - do you have any idea what it's like to try to talk or sing or eat when you're missing teeth? All I want for Christmas this year is some new teeth!

**Kindergarten sings song #2: New Teeth for Christmas!** **\*start tape**

**New Teeth for Christmas**

Santa can't you bring me just one thing?  
I'm really getting tired of this lispng.  
It's hard to whistle (blow) and its hard to sing.  
Santa can't you bring me new teeth?

I wiggled, and I jiggled till I pulled it loose.  
I wiggled and I jiggled till bed.  
I wiggled, and I jiggled till I pulled it loose.  
And now I have a hole in my head.

Santa can't you bring me just one thing?  
I'm really getting tired of this lispng.  
It's hard to whistle (blow) and its hard to sing.  
Santa can't you bring me new teeth?

I wiggled, and I jiggled till I pulled it loose.  
I wiggled and I jiggled till bed.  
I wiggled and I jiggled till I pulled it loose  
And now I have a hole in my head.

Santa can't you bring me just one thing?  
I'm really getting tired of this lispng.  
It's hard to whistle (blow) and its hard to sing.  
Santa can't you bring me? Santa can't you bring me?  
Santa can't you bring me new teeth?

**\*stop tape**

## Costume Suggestions:

**Mr. Sellmore and Mr. Buymore:** business suits

**Miss Perky:** horn rimmed glasses, hair in a bun, a prim blouse and skirt, carries a clipboard

**Bell Ringer:** ordinary clothes, carries sleigh bells and has a donation barrel

**Shoppers:** Shoppers wear ordinary clothes. Some may carry shopping bags or gifts.

**Kindergarten:** Concert clothes

**Grade 1:** Pajamas and slippers

**Grade 2:** Concert Clothes

**Grade 3:** If you choose to use soloists, they should dress like the Spice Girls. The rest of the Grade 3 class wears concert clothes.

**Grade 4:** Rappers can wear backwards ball caps, black t-shirts and jeans. Dress a few children up like gifts. Cover cardboard boxes with gift wrap, cut holes for the head and arms and wear them on stage. If you have 'body sacks' they could be worn as gift bags. Attach a gift tag and wear a bow on top of the head. If you wish to, you could gift wrap the entire class.

**Grade 5:** Blues Brothers wear sunglasses, suit jackets or trench coats. If you can get a class set of felt hats it will complete the effect.

**Grade 6:** Shoppers wear ordinary clothes. Some may carry shopping bags or gifts.

## Choreography Suggestions:

### 1. Greatest Gift of All

Open the curtains to a stage full of shoppers, carrying shopping bags and gifts. You can have everyone on stage sing the entire song, or you can have optional small groups sing each verse. If you choose to have the small groups sing the verses, have them pull the gift out of the shopping bag and show each other while they sing.

### 2. New Teeth for Christmas

Specific actions are given for this song. They are noted in detail in the piano/vocal sheet music.

### 3. Love My Slippers

The slow opening of this song could be a solo. The soloist could hold a gift wrapped box containing a pair of slippers, and put them on at the end of the solo. The rest of the class could stand with backs to the audience during the solo, and turn as they begin singing. During the chorus, the class can turn left and right, lifting the toes of their slippers left and right. A soft shoe shuffle will also look cute in this section. During the slipper pokey section the class should do the actions for the hokey pokey.

### 4. Rocks for Christmas

There are only a few specific actions suggested for this song. Instead, use props for dramatic effect. The props needed are a broken crystal dish, a goldfish, an empty cake plate, a couple loaded water guns, a can of sardines, and a class set of gummy worms. Have a child hold up each prop as they sing about them in the song. On the line 'someone got the neighbor wet, with my water gun' have a couple of children squirt the audience.

### 5. Christmas Spice

If you choose to use soloists, they should dress and move like the Spice Girls. Each soloist should stride forward to sing their solo, and back up again when the solo is over. During the chorus, use the same actions that the Spice Girls use in the video for the song 'Stop'.

# 1. Give us a Gift

Unison with Piano

D. Gagne

Unison

Piano

*Red.*

Give us a gift for

6

Christ - mas A gift that will last all year Some-thing to trea-sure, some-thing to hold A

11

Optional small group:

gift that will keep your love near A toy that will bright-en the eyes of a child And bring out the child in us

16

all Eve-ry-one tries it to make sure it works And fi-nally the child gets his turn

# 2. New Teeth for Christmas

Unison with Piano

D. Gagne

Moderato  $\text{♩} = 80$

Unison

Piano

hands out, questioning

San-ta can't you bring me

one finger up fists on hips fold arms on chest

just one thing? I'm real-ly get-ting tired of this lisp-ing It's hard to whis-tle

8 choir hands hands out questioning wiggle

(blow) and its hard to sing San-ta can't you bring me new teeth? I wig-gled, and I jig-gled till I

13 pull fists down wiggle sleep on hands

pulled it loose I wig-gled and I jig-gled till bed I

The musical score is written for Unison and Piano. It begins in 4/4 time with a tempo of Moderato (♩ = 80). The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into four systems. The first system shows the Unison vocal line and the Piano accompaniment. The second system includes lyrics and performance instructions: 'one finger up', 'fists on hips', and 'fold arms on chest'. The third system includes lyrics: '(blow) and its hard to sing San-ta can't you bring me new teeth? I wig-gled, and I jig-gled till I'. The fourth system includes lyrics: 'pulled it loose I wig-gled and I jig-gled till bed I'. The score concludes with a final cadence in 2/4 time.

# 6. Why Can't They See?

Vocal Solo with Piano

D. Gagne

**Solo**

**Piano**

*And.*

1  $\text{♩} = 90$

Why can't they see The Christ - mas in me

5 Caught up in buy - ing & wrap - ping their stuff Things they don't need for folks they don't see

9 Why can't they look and see Christ - mas in me? Shop - ping and buy - ing and wrap - ping



# 9. The Greatest Gift

Unison (optional 2 part) with Piano

D. Gagne

$\text{♩} = 80$

1

Unison

Piano

*Red.*

The great - est gift of all, was

7

sent so long a - go Gift of peace and hope and joy, the great - est gift we'll know

13

You can have so man - y things, fan - cy cars and dia - mond rings None of them mean an - y - thing if you

19

div.

don't have hope, you don't have peace or joy At  
(don't have hope) (don't have peace)