

### **Scary Christmas Stats**

- 30% of children's presents not used
- £50 million of presents go to landfill
- Billions of cards and wrapping paper binned
- 50 million plates of food wasted
- 125,000 tonnes of plastic packaging thrown away
- 8 million people fall behind with their finances





## **Christmas Gifts - Principles**

- Quality not quantity: fewer, better-quality gifts reduce the chance of waste and saves money, avoid novelty gifts that won't be valued
- Consider the materials: keep sustainability and ethics in mind, look out for respected certification logos e.g. FSC, consider second hand or refurbished
- Avoid packaging: buy gifts with little or no packaging, shop locally, try refill shops, otherwise opt for plastic-free or recyclable materials
- Support your local independent shops: find some amazing seasonal specials, and support your local economy



#### **Christmas Gifts - Practical Ideas**

- Give your time / Skills: the gift of time is meaningful and helpful
- Make memories: think of things you can do together
- Homemade: simple homemade items can be gifts
- Donations: give a charity donation in someone's name
- Start a savings account for someone
- What is the "need"?: find out what's important to them
- Give a household item: it's practical, it'll get used
- Gift an experience: less resource intensive
- Family gifts: buy a group present?
- Secret Santa: buy one wanted gift rather than several unneeded
- Don't exchange gifts at all: maybe it's an unneeded habit



### **Christmas Gifts - Practical Ideas**

- **Gift wrapping:** cards and wrapping paper made from recycled or FSC-certified paper, avoid plastic ribbon and tape, foil-backed papers or glitter, tape-free wrapping online, consider not wrapping
- Christmas cards: call, write, make your own or buy recycled
- **Food:** eat more plant based food to lower environmental impact, plan ahead, avoid waste, eat seasonal, avoid single use like plastic
- Christmas trees: if it's artificial keep it for 10 years, consider one that can be planted, if it's cut make sure it's FSC and recycle
- Decorations: make sure crackers and decorations are recyclable and lights are energy efficient, make your own!
- Cloths: make sure they are sustainably sourced e.g. Fair Trade

#### **Ethical Labels**

Clothing and Fashion: Fairtrade, Organic, WFTO, Fair Wear

Cotton: Organic, Fairtrade, Better Cotton Initiative, Responsible

Sourcing Network

Food & Drink: Organic, Free Range, Vegan, Palm Oil Free, MSC, EC

Best Buy, Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance, Organic, UTZ, Fair for Life

Furniture: FSC, PEFC, Leather Working Group

Health and Beauty: Organic, Leaping Bunny, FairTrade, BDIH, Natrue.

EC Best Buy

Palm Oil: RSPO, Orangutan Alliance, Iceland's no palm oil, Palm Oil

Free



### Gifting Guide, Living Wage, Christmas Trees



# **Gifting to Charity**

You can give a gift to a good cause as an alternative to a present and dedicate it to a family member of friend



**UNICEF** - help children around the world



Oxfam - delivers life-saving supplies





## **Buying Gifts from Charities**

Buying a gift from a charity helps support a good cause

RSPB - revenue used to support wildlife	National Trust - supporting conservation	Red Cross - supporting people in crisis
Oxfam - delivers life-saving supplies	Save The Children - keeping children safe, healthy and learning	Woodland Trust - protecting UK woodlands

### Gifting a Savings Account

Setting up savings accounts using ethical providers. These banks are rated highest by Ethical Consumer Magazine:

