



Office Depot Foundation Introduces Exciting New Backpack Design for 2011

Building on the success of its 10-year-old, award-winning National Backpack Program, the Office Depot Foundation will donate 350,000 cool new school backpacks in five colorful designs this year to help children around the world succeed in school.

These totally new backpacks, which were specially designed for the Foundation, are more versatile than backpacks. Highly contemporary in their design, they reflect and respond to changes in the ways that children are taking their materials to school.

“In keeping with our mission – Listen Learn Care – we’ve created these fun and exciting backpacks in response to what kids have told us they like,” says Foundation President Mary Wong. “We are thrilled to donate these very cool backpacks to more children in a single year than ever before.”



Made from the same sturdy material as backpacks, the new sackpacks are water-resistant and lined to provide extra protection for their contents. They feature strong ropes and have no metal parts.

The sackpacks come in five different two-color combinations, each of which is highlighted by a unique print designed to match the color scheme. Each sackpack contains a zippered pouch containing essential school supplies.

Intended primarily for use by students in grades K-5, the sackpacks also will be suitable for older children – thus allowing the Foundation to expand the impact of this program in 2011. The sackpack is compact and stores flat, yet still offers plenty of room for books and other school items.

The sackpacks will be rolled out this summer as the Foundation launches the 11th year of its National Backpack Program.

Every Office Depot store in the United States will receive 50 sackpacks to give to non-profit organizations and schools in the community. In addition, sackpacks will be donated through approximately 25 “Back-to-School Celebration” events in key Office Depot markets during the summer, as well as to a number of national non-profits serving children in the U.S. and around the world.

By the end of this year, Office Depot and the Office Depot Foundation will have donated more than 2.5 million backpacks and sackpacks to deserving children.

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