

Schultüte School Bag

A Schultüte (also known as a Zuckertüte) is a special gift that German children have received on the first day of school since the early 1800s. They are given to teach children how important education is and to make their first day of school a little sweeter. The Schultüte is a gift from a child's grandparents and parents so that they can feel special on this important day. A Schultüte may be as large as three feet tall. It is decorated and filled with treats such as books, pens, pencils, toys and candy.

Education has always been important to the German people. Germany was the first country in the world to have free public education and "Kindergarten" (or in German, "children's garden") was invented in Germany to prepare children for education by learning through playing together.

Make your own Schultüte:

- *Cut a large piece of poster board into a square.*
- *Draw pictures and glue glitter, lace, sequins or ribbon on the posterboard.*
- *Take the bottom left corner and roll it up towards the top right corner into a cone shape. Have someone hold your cone while you tape the edges together with strong tape.*
- *Line the cone with tissue paper and leave some sticking out of the top.*
- *Fill the cone with treats, pencils, erasers and small toys.*
- *Use ribbon to tie the tissue paper closed at the top.*

Children of any age can enjoy a Schultüte. Make one for your brother or sister or any member of your family to wish them a successful school year.

