

Pack It Up! - May 2026

Packing efficiently is an important skill that helps you stay organized, save space, and make traveling easier and less stressful. A great first step is creating a packing list so you can make sure you have everything you need before you even open your suitcase. When you plan ahead and pack smart, you can avoid overpacking, stay organized, and feel confident heading out on any trip. This activity will help you practice to make the most of your space and be prepared wherever you go.

What You'll Need:

- A suitcase or backpack
- Clothing and items from the list below
- A timer (phone is fine)
- Optional: small bags or packing cubes

Your Trip Scenario:

You're going on a **3-day trip**. You need to pack everything you'll need, but your suitcase has limited space—so you'll need to pack smart!

Packing List:

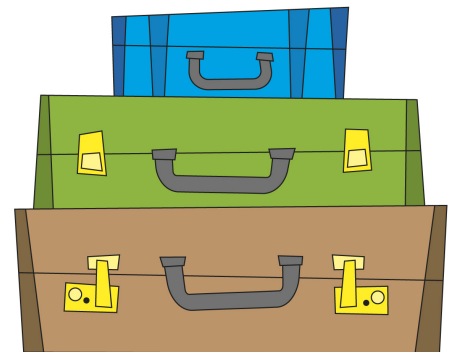
- 3 shirts
- 2 pairs of pants or shorts
- 1 set of pajamas
- 1 jacket or sweatshirt
- 3 pairs of socks
- 1 pair of shoes
- Toiletries (toothbrush, hairbrush, etc.)

Step 1: First Try

Set a timer for 5 – 7 minutes.

Pack your suitcase however you think is best. Don't overthink it—just go! When the timer ends, open your suitcase and take a look:

- Is everything wrinkled?
- Can you find things easily?
- Do you have extra space, or is it overstuffed?



Step 2: Learn a Few Tricks

Before you try again, read these packing tips:

- **Roll your clothes** instead of folding them
- Put small items inside your shoes
- Pack heavier items on the bottom
- Group similar items together
- Use small bags to keep things organized

Step 3: Pack Again

Unpack everything. Now, repack your suitcase using the tips above. Take your time and try to improve your first attempt. Can you fit everything in more neatly *and* create extra space?

Step 4: Reflection

Answer these questions:

- What worked better the second time?
- Which tip helped the most?
- Do you have more space now?
- What would you do the next time you pack for a trip?

Bonus Challenge:

Add **2 extra items** (like a book or an extra shirt) and see if you can still fit everything neatly!

By the end of this activity, you'll know how to pack smarter, save space, and stay organized—just like a pro traveler.



Deadline to submit your Pack It Up report: Sunday, May 31, 2026 @ 5:00 PM MDT

Submit report at: https://bit.ly/PackItUp_May26

You will receive your patch in 3 - 4 weeks after the end of challenge.

If you have any questions, please email info@gsdsw.org.

