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life with music. They also sell a wide variety of cotton and wool stockings from \$8 to \$21.

If all the names on your holiday list still aren't matched with a gift idea, float your thoughts towards gifts that tend to be more globally conscious.

Birkenstocks also offers benefit-for-AIDS socks for \$19; benefit- the-world-wildlife-fund socks with giraffes, elephants and pandas for \$5; and Doc Riley's allnatural, no-dye, 100 percent wool socks for \$6.50.

Greater Goods, 515 High St., offers one of the largest stocks of environment-saving products, according to owner Cary Thompson. They offer ecologically marketed light bulbs for \$1.95 and a range of energy saving bulbs from \$9.95 to \$25.

Similar ideas are low-flow shower heads, air filters and water filters. They also have solar battery chargers for \$6.50 and musical, solar key chain lights for \$5.95.

Full spectrum lights, which may help eliminate the winter blues, are one of Sundance Mercantile's most popular items, selling for \$8.95. Sundance, 2470 Alder St., also offers natural resource savers, such as the water saver kit for \$14.95. The kit includes faucet, shower and toilet fixtures.

Natural Wonders at the Valley River Center, which recently created an alliance with the nonprofit environmental organization Conservation International, sells a variety of nature and science fun items.

Try some of these on for size: wind-up sharks for your bathtub at \$2.50, shells starting at \$1, wooden snakes starting at \$8.50, various rocks and minerals ranging from \$1 to more than \$200, inflatable globes priced from \$9 to \$15 and oil lamps from \$5.95 to \$52.

Still struggling to check off more names on your gift list? Here are some things most everyone can use. For the postcard writer, the U.S. Post Office sells blank, stamped cards for 19 cents. Currently the postcards are featuring America the Beautiful, Carnegie Hall and The Yankee Clipper. Buy a couple, a stack or choose 29-cent stamps instead.

You might even buy 10 blue books at the University Bookstore, a total purchase of \$1, and tie them up with a l e n g t h o f embroidered ribbon from M indy's Needlepoint Factory.

How about soap? Uncommon Scents, which manufactures its products in Eugene and runs outlets at the Fifth Street Market and Valley River Center, sells soaps from 65 cents to \$4.50. They also offer non-animal tested body care products and refills.

You might even buy 10 blue books at the University Bookstore, a total purchase of \$1, and tie them up with a length of embroidered ribbon from Mindy's Needlepoint Factory, 296 E. Fifth Ave. You can tie the ribbon in your friend's or sweetheart's hair later on.

Continuing with low-budget gift ideas, you might try filling a tin from Hiron's, 1950 Franklin Blvd., with bulk nuts, dried fruits, Q-tips or condoms, which costs about \$5 to \$7 per package.

On the other hand, you might buy your friend a gift certificate to his or her most favorite place, whether it be a restaurant or a store.

May your personal Grinch now be banished!

-Jacqueline Woge









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