

NOTICE OF CLOSING

It is with a heavy heart that we are announcing Green Kids Resale will be closing at the end of the year. It was eight years ago that we were alarmed by the closing of Once Upon a Child in the same location. With no retail experience, but recognizing the need in the community, we started on a wild ride that became Green Kids Resale. Our objective was to create a resource for the community – selling and buying used items to help local families while limiting waste in our increasingly disposable-minded society. We started by forming a staff that became family and implemented policies that always strived to be customer-focused.

It's a tough business. The amount of labor involved in sorting, logging, pricing, tagging, and organizing thousands of items a day is off the charts. We have been blessed over the years with having some really exceptional individuals give us their conscientious effort, creativity, knowledge, and skills in exchange for retail wages that are far below what they deserve. The overhead expense of being in a high-traffic area strip mall is daunting. Rent, taxes, insurance, utilities, maintenance, etc., take a big bite. When everything is said and done, there is no profit left.

The lease is up at the end of this year and because of other demands on our time, we are simply unable to continue to run the business. It really needs to be structured as a non-profit, and we have pursued a couple local groups that also focus on families. Unfortunately, the demands of running the day-to-day operations of the store were too much for either group to take on. We are truly heartbroken that all we've created won't be continuing. It is a very vibrant business, and the need in the community is certainly there. Hopefully the whole arena of shared resources will continue to evolve and provide a new format that makes sense for the high turn-over kids items.

Despite the lack of financial return for the time invested, we have been rewarded with relationships we otherwise would not have, as well as eight years of experiences – both good and bad – that have been everything from humorous to frightening, and heartwarming to heartbreaking. Over the years people have regularly expressed gratitude for the store, and while it is not financially profitable, we view it as a success. Thank you for being a customer and contributing to our success.

We are making immediate changes to some of our policies to prepare for closing. Please read these carefully. All of these changes are effective Thursday, October 4th.

1. We will continue accepting drop offs through October 31st. We are limiting drop offs to items that will sell now. This is a general list of what we will and will not take. If you have something you're not sure about, please call. If you include items that we are not accepting, we will not be able to take the time to sort it, so please limit your drop offs to only items we are accepting.

Yes We are Accepting

Halloween costumes
Winter coats, boots, hats, gloves
Fall and Winter clothing
Christmas items
Ice skates
Playpens, swings, bouncies, etc.
Changing tables, high chairs, etc.
Good quality, complete toys

NO We are NOT Accepting

Summer clothing, sandals, swim suits
Books
Maternity clothes
Soccer, baseball, football cleats
Stuffed animals
Cribs

2. For new drop offs, we will not offer store credit. All payments will be made by check.
3. You can no longer hold items while awaiting an offer on a pending drop off.

4. We will no longer honor any coupons. 10% discounts for military, teachers, and foster families is still in effect.
5. All sales are final. We will not accept returns of any kind for any reason. This applies to purchases made as of October 4th. If you purchased items prior to October 4th that are still within our return conditions and period, we will accept those.
6. We will no longer be awarding reward points on new purchases. Your current award point balance is still in tact and can be used with your next purchase. With 100 points you receive a \$5 reward. If you have less than 100 points, there is no value to those points. The points have no monetary value and can only be applied to purchases. Your reward points cannot be transferred to another person, and only the person whose name is on the account can redeem reward points on a purchase.
7. We will pay out all store credit balances that are owed. Please remember that when you elected to take store credit rather than cash, we added 20% to the amount of the offer. If you do not use your store credit on purchases and prefer to be paid out, we will deduct that 20% from your balance. If you know you will not be in the store again and would like your store credit balance (less the 20%) mailed out to you, please email us at info@greenkidsresale-il.com with your request. Please include your full name (so we can confirm spelling), your current full address, and a phone number in case we have questions. We can only pay out store credit amounts to the name on the account. We cannot transfer the money to another account, nor can we change the name on the account. You can request a payout of your store credit any time prior to December 15th.

What Else Is Happening?

- We still have lots of great stuff to sell, and we're still taking in new stuff every day through the end of October, so take advantage of us while we're here!!
- Winter boots will be out in the next couple days. Check Facebook for daily updates.
- All Melissa & Doug is 25% off for the entire month of October. This is a promotion sponsored by Melissa & Doug. We are one of the largest stockers of Melissa & Doug products in Lake County, so if you're looking for something specific we probably have it!
- Since the end of the summer season a month ago, we've been purchasing only very select pieces of summer inventory. Over the next few days we will be bringing that inventory out and adding it to the "regular" clothing racks. So don't be confused if you see summer stuff; since everything needs to go by the end of the year, it's out there.
- We have thousands of hangers to sell. They are all clear plastic with metal swivel hooks. We have 4 different size shirt hangers and 2 different size pant hangers. All will be 10 cents each. If you were to purchase new in lots of 100, shirt hangers cost about 30 cents each and pant hangers cost about 40 cents each, so this is a great deal. We will have a section of them in the store. If you are interested in a large volume, give us a call or stop in and talk to us.
- All fixtures and equipment in the store will be for sale in December. If you're interested in something specific, let us know any time.
- Facebook is a great place to keep up with what's going on with us.
- Finally, if you know of someone interested in taking over, get in touch with us!! We would love to see someone continue on with the store.