

The 300 toys donated by the Happy Factory were a huge success from my trip to the Dominican Republic this July. I wanted to share some stories and pictures from various locations we went as well as children's responses! I know that the children were very excited and extremely grateful for the toys and I am so grateful for the opportunity to go and deliver them. It was an incredible experience and one I will never forget. Thank you so much Happy Factory for letting me take these toys down and bring so much joy to the Dominican children!

This is a community we visited with the Dominican Starfish foundation. They have helped build houses in this area and also helped rebuild their school that was falling apart. We handed out toys to the kids in this community who all followed us up to the top of their hill where the school is located so we could pass out toys to them. My boyfriend who translated for me told me that one of the kids shouted and exclaimed "They got me a truck!" as he pushed his toy down the hill.



Local kids that followed us up to the school and got to receive toys.









This grandmother takes care of her grandchildren who were very excited to be playing with their new toys.



This cutie immediately put her toy in her mouth, her brother who is not pictured had the biggest grin on his face. He was so excited to have a new toy and that his baby sister got to have one too!





These boys from a different community were very excited and started the play with their new toys immediately together over at their table.



We delivered food packs to a local village nicknamed “The Chocolate Factory” because it is an old abandoned chocolate factory that the government moved but the people stayed and lived within the remains of it. While handing out food packs to the families, we gave out toys to their children and other kids that lived locally within this community.















A family we delivered a food pack to and gave their three children toys. Their mom made them change into nicer clothes because we wanted a picture with them.













Little boys attached strings to their new cars and pulled them around with them!





These were toys passed out to students who are part of the ILP (International Learning Program) where they learn English during the summer months and students from the US come to teach them. One student stood up and said "We are very grateful for these toys. My mother cannot afford toys as nice as these and I am very excited to go home and play with mine. Thank you so much." (The child who said this is wearing the white shirt)















Local vendors at the resort we stayed at had children that we also gave out toys to.









We passed out the remaining toys to children who were at the AYUDA clinic. A group of dentists that come down and fill cavities, remove rotten teeth, and teach children and adults about oral hygiene.





