Suggested Items to Bring

KITCHEN/HOUSEHOLD

* Sheets & towels
* Travel mug (if coffee/tea drinker)
* Photos of friends and family
* Your own pillow
* Beach towel
* Down comforter/duvet (with cover)
* Pictures of your home country (e.g. a coffee table book or calendar)
* Permanent, hard wearing water bottles
* School backpacks (for school aged children)
* Lunch boxes (for school aged children)
* A sturdy backpack
* A good vegetable peeler
* A few good kitchen knives & a bread knife (these are provided, but of varying quality)
* Good scissors (and children’s scissors if you have kids - also left hand scissors if needed)
* A small repair kit
* Sewing/mending kit
* Good “scotch” tape / sellotape
* A power strip/international multi-plug extension cable
* A cold bag (to keep things cold when you buy meat at the supermarket and for picnics and camping)
* Rechargeable batteries and recharger (non-rechargeable batteries are available- mostly AAA, AA, D)
* Good flashlights/lanterns/torches - one for each member of your family

FOOD/TOILETRIES

* Preferred brands of make-up, facial cleansers, shampoos, conditioners and lotions
* Favorite food stuffs (things people often bring: cheese, butter, nuts; dried fruits; drink mixes [Kool
* Aid, Crystal Lite]; spice mixes for things like tacos, fajitas, sauces, etc.; chocolate chips and other
* things for baking)
* Vegemite or Marmite (if you’re from one of these countries!)

CLOTHING

* Sun glasses with UV protection
* Hat for use in sun
* Good walking shoes
* Slippers or house shoes (most apartments have tiled floors)
* Swimsuit
* Sports clothes and gym shoes
* Clothes and shoes in a variety of sizes for children to grow into while here
* Rain boots and rain jackets for the rainy season
* Clothing for cool weather – it is cooler than you think here! (2-3 sweaters will be necessary!)

ELECTRONICS

* Alarm clock
* Adapters so that you can use your computer with our data projectors some of which have VGA and some of which have HDMI connections. Make sure you can connect to both types.
* Adapters from home country to Ethiopian power sockets
* Lamps for desks / bedrooms with associated bulbs – warm light bulbs are especially hard to find.

LEISURE

* Bible and Bible study materials
* Favorite music
* Hobby supplies
* DVDs of favorite TV programs or movies
* Sports equipment (for whatever sports you enjoy playing - soccer balls are available here)
* Camping equipment
* Musical instruments (if you play a stringed instrument bring extra strings)
* Toys and games

MEDICAL

* First aid book for reference
* First aid kit, household medicines
* Sunscreen with at least SPF 50 or more rating

OTHER

* Infant car seat or booster for each small child/baby when riding in a vehicle
* Motorcycle and/or bicycle helmet if planning to ride a motorcycle or bicycle
* Birthday and Christmas presents, wrapping paper, cards and decorations
* Birthday party decorations
* 10 passport size photos of each family member – they are needed all the time for government paperwork. You can get them done cheaply here, but you may not want to when you first arrive.
* Small gifts to give to other children at parties (it’s hard to buy anything worthwhile here and it costs!)

Disclaimer: These items are *suggestions*. It is impossible to create a must-bring list that will suit every missionary. These are things that it can be hard to find here which you may want to bring.

Rule of thumb: if it’s important, bring it!