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## Get your freak on



I've seen my neighbor's tween struggling with a full school backpack, so I may have to play Santa and pass a **Freak-O-Bag** her way for those days when a few extra books threaten to topple her onto her back.

Now, even my mom knows how smart it is to keep a portable bag folded up and clipped to her pocketbook, but trust me, these are no grandma bags. Instead, the Freak-O-Bag normally looks like a little creature dangling from wherever it is clipped. But, when needed, the "pets" transform into a generous 16"x16" reusable tote.

The original fair trade bags were made by the Koonin family in Thailand with colorful button eyes and teeny-tiny bodies. Now, there are silk screened styles designed by North Carolina's Julie Armbruster and sewn at North Carolina's Opportunity Threads. Don't stress over which of them to choose though; all of them are cool enough that even a tween who'd never be caught dead carrying something as practical as a reusable shopping bag will be impressed that you were cool enough to find her this one. - *Christina*

Over 10 different **Freak-O-Bags** are available at [Kamibashi.com](#).

**EXTRA COOL: WIN IT!** We have an original Koonin Family Freak-O-Bag of your choice to give away to one lucky reader. Just send an email to [contests@coolmompicks.com](mailto:contests@coolmompicks.com) by midnight PT with **FREAK** in the subject and include the names of your two favorite Koonin Family bags. Good luck!

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