

Bedtime Bags

In this one period lesson, students learn about people and children who are homeless and make bedtime bags for children in shelters as their service project.

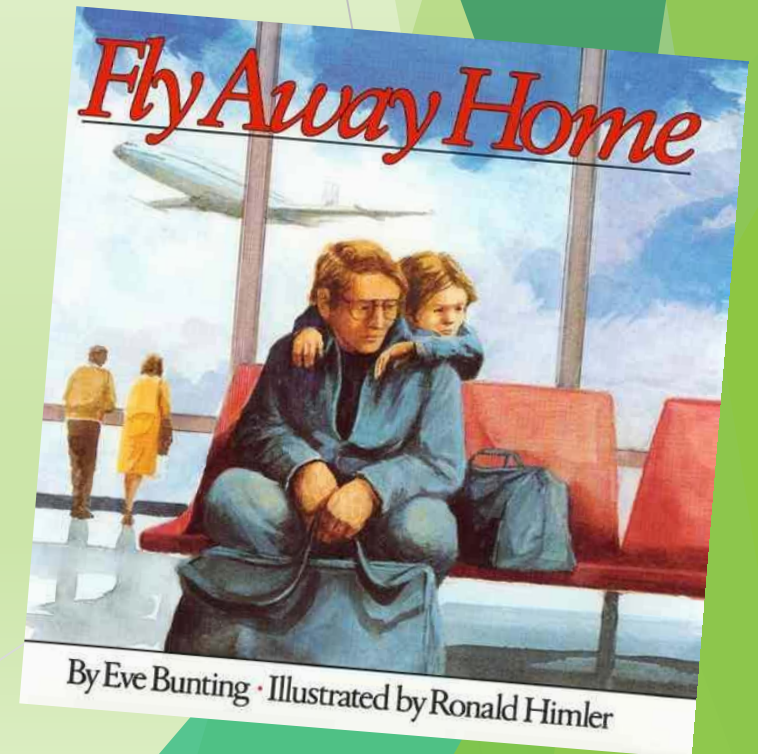


Children Who Are Homeless

- ▶ Explore what it is like for children who are homeless.
- ▶ What are the stresses and daily difficulties?

Link to video "Pursuit of Happiness"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OOIPGQ6aYNI>



Discussion

1. Suppose you did not have a home and a place to keep your things. What are your most important possessions you would want to keep with you? Discuss how it would feel to be homeless. What would you do to stay safe? What problems would you face?
2. From the book: Discuss the ways the boy and his Dad found places to sleep.
3. Why do you think it is especially hard for families who are homeless? Can you think of another place they could stay?



In small groups, read aloud and discuss the meanings of the following quotes.

<p>“Never look down on someone unless you are helping them up.”</p>	<p>“I always wondered why somebody didn’t do something about that, then I realized I am somebody.”</p>	<p>“Your job is not to judge. Your job is not to figure out if someone deserves something. Your job is to lift the fallen, to restore the broken, and to heal the hurting.”</p>
<p>“In the world where you can be anything, be kind.”</p>	<p>“People often forget that kindness is free.”</p>	<p>“Who are we as human beings if we ignore the suffering of others”</p>

Variations on the Theme

1. Working in small groups, students identify the common theme among the quotes on the previous slide.
2. Create a mission statement describing our civic responsibility to others in the community.
3. Working in small groups, students identify different ways they can show kindness to others.
4. How are we already showing kindness to others, including family, friends, and people we do not know?

Define Advocacy

Advocacy is writing or speaking in favor of a cause.

Watch these videos and listen for facts, emotions,
and call to action.

Video link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KBmiRgOiW1A>





What Is #GivingTuesday?

#GivingTuesday is a day of giving that is fueled by social media and communication about what people care about.

Explore ways people use #GivingTuesday as a way to promote a cause they care about. Look at the www.givingtuesday.org website.

What's next? We are going to plan an action, asking people to help gather bedtime supplies for homeless children.

Link: www.givingtuesday.org



Service Project:

Tell others about homeless children and hold a collection drive for items needed to put together “Bedtime Bags” for children in need in the community.

We will use social media to advocate for this in the weeks building up to and on #GivingTuesday #Teach1.



Nonprofit Guest

What items are needed for children who are homeless, particularly around bedtime?

(toothbrush, books, music, pajamas, blankets, pillow, bedtime snack, socks, stuffed animal)



Plan a Collection Drive

1. Make posters, signs, social media messaging
2. Who do we contact?
3. How do we collect items?
4. How do we package them? (plastic bags, homemade bags...)
5. Where do we donate the items?
6. Write notes to include in the bags.
7. Deliver the bags.
8. Create a presentation to share the process and results with others.

Reflection

1. What is the impact of the project on the recipients and ourselves?
2. Write a reflection or create a slideshow to share to encourage others to “pay it forward.”
3. Share the reflections with Learning to Give and a national audience.
4. Use social media on #GivingTuesday to enhance the project. #Teach1

