

Make a kindness box

Nelson Mandela once said: “There can be no greater gift than that of giving one’s time and energy to helping others without expecting anything in return.”

Help children celebrate the life of Nelson Mandela and the kind acts he demonstrated by making a kindness box to share with others.

Learning aims

- To listen to stories and ask questions about why some things happen
- To show care and concern for other people
- To learn that actions affect other people
- To work in partnerships with parents to support learning.



Resources

- Nelson Mandela storybook or video
- Shoe boxes
- Decorations e.g. ribbon, paper, card, pens etc.
- A variety of inexpensive and homemade items.

Activity outline

- The purpose of this activity is to introduce children to Nelson Mandela and help them learn that acts of kindness make a difference to other people's feelings
- Use Nelson Mandela children's book to introduce his life and how he made the world a kinder place
- Talk to the children about what kindness means to them. Have they made or received any acts of kindness? How did it make them feel? Talk about ways they can be kinder to their friends, family and even themselves
- Work with the children to identify some members of the community who deserve to receive kindness. This could be a local nursing home, police station, fire station etc.
- Gather a range of inexpensive items that you think members of the community would benefit from. These could be hand-drawn pictures and other little things that make people smile. You could ask parents to get involved by bringing in items or doing some baking
- To make the kindness box, children should decorate the shoeboxes with paper, ribbon, pens etc.
- Fill the shoeboxes with the items you have gathered from your setting and parents
- Deliver the boxes to your chosen members of the community and take pictures. Make a kindness display in your setting to remind children of the kind acts they demonstrated and how they made other people feel.