

Community zone - key stage 2

Welcome pupils to the zone and remind them of your name.

Aims:

In this zone we're going to:

- find out how *and why* members of The Salvation Army help others who are in need
- think about ways you could help people in your community

CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

A. The SA in the community board game (15-25 minutes)

To find out about how The Salvation Army helps people in the community we're going to play a game. *Follow instructions for the game. Use some or all of the questions below to prompt a discussion about what they learnt during the game.*

- What kind of people did you help in the game?
- How do you think those people felt?
- Was it possible to help everyone in the community? How did that make you feel?
- Do you think you would like to work or volunteer for The Salvation Army when you get a bit older? What kind of work do you think you might like to do (eg soup run, visiting prisoners, hospital patients etc)?

B. DVD clip: Every day (3 minutes)

We're going to watch a short DVD showing different ways The Salvation Army helps people in the community. Afterwards I'm going to ask you what you remembered from the clips, so watch carefully! *Show pupils the community DVD clip (1 min 11) and then check how many of the activities the pupils can remember.* The activities you saw in the clips are happening every day, all around the United Kingdom and Ireland (and in many other countries too).

C. Community work in this church (5 minutes)

Design your own presentation (eg PowerPoint/objects/video/sketch) about the work of The Salvation Army in your own community.

D. Story bag activity (8 minutes)

Use a story bag, containing a selection of objects, and the story bag script (download from USB) to explore different ways The Salvation Army cares for and supports people in communities. This could be adapted to reflect your own community work.

E. Picture trail (10+ minutes)

Using the display boards and picture trail cards (see resources list), pupils work in pairs or small groups, finding the pictures, answering questions and discovering how The Salvation Army helps people in the community.

Why does The Salvation Army help people in need? (4 minutes)

Show the Matthew 25 'I was hungry' card and read it aloud, or invite pupils to read a line each. How is The Salvation Army following this teaching from the Bible? Christians believe that Jesus showed love to everyone, especially to people others forgot about or didn't like. He made friends with poor people and sick people and with people who were lonely, even with criminals. Most of these people weren't really accepted by other people but Jesus saw them all as God's children - people God made. Jesus wanted his followers to do the same – to love and to help anyone in need, and members of The Salvation Army today feel very strongly about following Jesus' example and being like him. When we show love to people in need, especially those who seem unimportant, we show how much we love Jesus.

What can I do? (5 minutes)

I wonder what you or your class could do to help other people and make a difference in your community. *Encourage pupils to share their ideas. Point out that it is not safe for children to help people in the same way as adults, such as helping strangers, but there are still lots of safe things they can do. (Prompt if necessary – eg raise money, donate clothes and toys, keep the streets tidy, write to the local government, buy a wristband to support a campaign). Sometimes we feel like we can't make much of a difference on our own, but when we join together we can make a big difference. Also, we can make a difference in small but important ways, at home and at school and in our community. Give out a bookmark to each pupil. Encourage them to tick some of the suggestions on the bookmark and add their own ideas – and remember to do the things they have pledged!*