

Resource Sheet 2E

Drama Script



If this is a class you have previously sung songs with, you may wish to include a favourite song.

Give pupils the opportunity to read their character cards.

Explain that we are going to be doing three things.

One - Create our characters.

Two - To enjoy being in a Salvation Army hut. Each table will get a chance to come up and select something to eat and to drink. But there are other things to do too. Write a letter home, read The War Cry, or have a discussion using the discussion cards on your table. Try and do a mix. Remember to stay in role. Hut helpers - no food or drink for you! You're too busy! But if everyone is served, there will be time for you to take a snack and sit with the soldiers too!

Three - Getting ready to say goodbye to those of you leaving the comfort and safety of the hut to go to the front line.

There are three character types: A soldier about to head off to the front line; a soldier staying behind; and hut helpers.

Let's create our characters.

If you're a soldier, it's time to put your jacket on, button up all those buttons. Don't forget your belt. Are you tired? Exhausted? Or are you well rested with lots of energy? Show me! Put your boots on. You've got lots of laces, and don't forget those wraps around your ankles, to try and keep your feet dry from all the mud. Hut helpers, it's time to put your caps on, tie an apron around you, wash those hands, and roll your sleeves up. Try doing a few stretches - you've got another long day ahead of you and you need to act cheerful!

Now that we are ready, freeze frame your character in 3... 2... and 1. Walk around the room, praising their images. Well done. You look so smart and straight, ready for anything! Gosh, you look like a really tired soldier; you must be ready for a cup of tea! You look ready to help the world today!

If you are a hut helper, walk briskly, with lots of energy, to the food table. Remember, we're going to welcome each soldier and make sure they're well looked after. If anyone asks for something to be sewn - do you remember where the needle and thread is? Once everyone is happy, we can have a quick break and sit with them, make sure no one is worried about anything.

Now the hut helpers are in position, soldiers, it's your turn. Are you tired or filled with energy? Walk to your seats. What activity are you going to do first?

Send some hut helpers round to the tables with the teapots to pour out the tea (juice/water). The other hut helpers help to serve the food. Invite one table at a time to come up and collect food, each with a plate and napkin.

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Drama Script



Stay in role and encourage the children to participate. Ask other adults to do the same. Try and sustain the drama for 15/20 minutes to give everyone time to enjoy their food and to try different activities. Do a countdown reminder for letters: *Five minutes before the hut closes. Have you written your letter yet?*

Towards the end, ask the hut helpers - and adults - to collect the cups, saucers and plates. Tell the hut helpers that in a minute they will be helping to say goodbye to the soldiers leaving for the front line. They may wish to shake a soldier's hand, say goodbye, wish them the best of luck. Ask them to stand throughout the room. Go round the tables, collecting any letters or postcards to add to the keepsake box.

Gain the class's attention by playing a snippet of 'Rock of Ages'. There is an opportunity at this point to sing a song together if appropriate.

It's been a thoroughly enjoyable evening, tonight in the hut. It's done my heart good to see you eating and laughing and joking. There's been a lot of letter writing done - your mothers will be happy to hear from you. I have the letters safe in the box. There has been a lot of lively discussion going on. And it has been good seeing so many of you taking the opportunity of a quiet and peaceful moment, to do some reading.

You would almost think we were back at home. But we're not. We are far from home. But we are not alone. We are surrounded by people who care for us.

Some of us here tonight will be heading off into danger. Could these soldiers please stand? Before we say farewell, before you shake a friend's hand and wish them well, take a moment to remember that you will be missed. That we will all be here waiting and hoping for your return. Let's take a moment of silence together to think good thoughts for you, before you go. Pause for a moment.

You have touched our lives and our lives are better for having met you. Remember, that what you have done has mattered. You will not be forgotten. Go, and make everyone who knows you proud.

Encourage the soldiers leaving to say 'goodbye', 'don't forget me' to those staying behind, and to the hut helpers standing around the room.

Freeze the room. *When I touch your shoulder, I want you to say what you're thinking or feeling.* Go around the room, getting responses from a variety of characters.

Congratulate the class on their performance.

You are a hut helper.

You will be helping make the soldiers feel at home.

Things you might say -
'Lovely to see you again!'
'How is your cold?'
'How is your family?'

You are a soldier.

You will be leaving to go to the front line.

Things to do - You should write a letter to someone special.

Things you might say - 'Will you remember me?'

You are a soldier.

You will be staying at the camp.

Things to do - try lots of hut activities.

Things you might say - Tell a hut helper you are worried about a friend.

You are a soldier.

You will be staying at the camp.

Things to do - write a letter to your Mum.

Things you might say - 'This cake tastes just as good as my Mum's!'