



Community Builders

Leader's guide

Aim of the session:

To help Mini Vinnies understand the impact of teamwork and practical support in caring for others, and to explore ways they can make a real difference in people's lives.

Time: 20–30 minutes

Materials Needed:

- A large open space (classroom or hall)
- Paper and pens for planning (optional)
- Small objects or picture cards representing items a family might need (e.g., food, toys, furniture, clothes – can be drawn or printed)

Opening Prayer (1–2 mins)

Lord Jesus, thank You for showing us how to care for people in need.

Help us to see where we can lend a hand and work together to make a difference in someone's life. Amen.

Story Sharing (2–3 mins)

Read aloud the Leeds story. Highlight how the family needed practical help and how the staff worked together to provide it.

The staff at the St Vincent's centre in Leeds were made aware of a woman with three children, aged six, five and two, living in an unfurnished property. She and her family had had to move cities for their own safety. The staff at the centre soon discovered that not only were the family living in an unfurnished property, but also had no food. When she eventually went to the St Vincent's centre, the staff worked together to entirely furnish the house, give them food parcels, and provide the children with toys and a TV and DVD player.

Team Challenge (10–12 mins)

- Split the children into small groups.
- Give each group "mission cards" or picture cards representing what a family might need (food, furniture, toys, clothes).
- Ask each group to plan a way to help the family using the items they have.
- Encourage creativity: some groups might "deliver" food, others "decorate the house," or "organise toys for the children."

Sharing (3–4 mins)

- Each group explains their plan and how it would help the family. Emphasise teamwork, creativity, and thinking about real needs.

Closing Reflection (2–3 mins)

Ask:

- How does helping others make you feel?
- Why is teamwork important when helping people?
- End with a reflection:

Even small acts of care, when we work together, can bring hope and happiness to someone's life.

End in prayer:

Lord, thank you for teaching us to help and care for others. Help us to work together, share what we have, and bring happiness to those in need. Amen.

If you or someone you know needs help from the SVP, go to Info@svp.org.uk



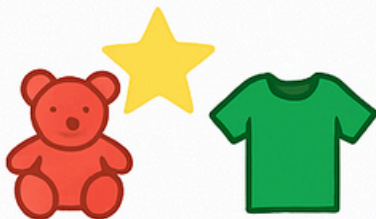
Food Parcel

Plan how you could deliver food to the family so they don't go hungry.



Furniture Helpers

Think of ways to help furnish a home—tables, chairs, beds—so the family can feel comfortable.



Toy Organisers

Decide how to provide toys or games for the children so they can play and be happy.



Clothing Angels

Plan how to make sure everyone has clothes that fit and keep them warm.



Decorators

Help make the house feel like home—maybe add blankets, curtains, or pictures.



Cleaning Crew

Organise how to help tidy and clean the home so it's safe and comfortable.



Meal Time Friends

Plan meals that the family can enjoy together—maybe something easy and healthy.



Story Time Friends

Plan how to spend time with the children—read, play, or tell stories.