



2018 - Community
Action Campaign

Homelessness- What,
When, Where and How

Girlguiding Leicestershire Taking Action in 2018! -
Get involved in our project about homelessness and
supporting children and young people.

We have put together a set of activities for a single unit meeting, for all sections. Following the meeting you are asked to take action by collecting personal hygiene items including sanitary products, which will go to 'Code Red' to be distributed to homeless shelters, food banks and refuges across Leicestershire.

Homelessness- What , When, Where and How

Brownie Session and Younger Guides 1.5 hours

Introduction to homelessness

Put pictures up around the room to prompt discussion

Read simple definition of homelessness; ask the Brownies or Guides what they understand by the term homelessness.

Definitions at the end of this pack

Family Soup - Game (Family Get together - The Guide Association 1994)

Suggested pictures at the end of this pack, but you can always find your own

Everyone sits in a circle. Each person has a picture which has a link to families. One person begins by making up a story based on her picture, after a few sentences the next girl takes over the story; this carries on until everyone has contributed to the story.

The aim of this game is to start to think about why people become homeless.

Is a house a home?

Girls work in groups to build their home; this can be an edible structure, built from boxes, LEGO or you can ask the girls to draw their homes on large pieces of paper.

Resources needed - Biscuits, icing pens, sweets and decorations, lego, pens, paper and markers.

Now, list the top nine things the girls could not live without. Share with everyone in the group and discuss.

What are a child's basic needs? At the end of the pack you will find Maslow hierarchy of needs.

If you have time..... you can ask the following questions

What makes a happy home?

What can make someone's home an unhappy place?

What do you think people do if their home isn't a happy place?

Why do young people run away?

There are lots of reasons why young people leave home; it's a sign that something is not OK at home. Every situation is different.

Ask the girls to work in groups to select nine reasons from the cards that they think could cause girls to run away from home.

Reason cards are in the additional pack

Discuss the choices, and ask the girls what advice they would give a friend who might be in these situations.

How can we help homeless children?

Fortune Teller

Raise awareness by sharing messages with your friends, initially make a fortune teller - *template in the additional pack*

Colour in your fortune teller but remember under each number flap write a piece of information about homelessness. Share your own messages or use...

Key messages to share

From Girls in Action pack

- Every five minutes a child runs away from home in the UK
- 70% of child runaways go unreported in the UK
- 1 in 6 child runaways will sleep rough or with a stranger
- 100,000 children under 16 run away from home in the UK every year

From Shelter

- 1:200 people are recorded homeless
- There are over 300,000 homeless in the UK
- There are approximately 4800 people sleeping rough in the UK
- 1:59 people are classed as homeless in London
- 128,000 children were homeless last Christmas

Now share messages with friends and family

As Girlguiding Leicestershire we want to help girls and young women who are homeless, or are at risk of being homeless, we want to make sure they have access to personal toiletries such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and for the older girls sanitary products, which is why we have teamed up with 'Code Red' a local campaign collecting sanitary products and raising awareness of period poverty.

Ask the girls to tell all their friends and families about our campaign, if you have time you might want to make posters to tell people about homelessness and the collection.

Or you could make a collection box for 'Code Red' and get your wider community collecting.

Please bring collected items to our County Office between Sept 2018 and Dec 2018.

For more help with this pack contact
Sam Harrold
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