

Stone Soup

Goals:

1. To build awareness of food insecurity in communities.
 2. To help children understand that food insecurity has many causes and can affect people from all walks of life.
 3. To foster community values, empathy, and the importance of sharing.
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Materials:

Stone Soup by Marcia Brown

Reading and Discussion:

1. **Read Stone Soup aloud.**
 2. **Use guiding questions:**
 - What was the problem in the story?
 - Why didn't the villagers share their food at first?
 - How did the soldiers encourage everyone to contribute?
 - What happened when everyone worked together?
 - What lesson does this story teach about community?
 3. **Connect the story to real life:**
 - Sometimes families don't always have enough food — this is called food insecurity.
 - Food insecurity can happen for many reasons (job loss, illness, rising costs, etc.).
 - When people and organizations come together, we can make sure our neighbors have the food they need.
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Activities:

- Soup Pot Collage: Each student adds a paper "ingredient" with a drawing of food they like to the classroom soup pot. Talk about how everyone's contribution makes it better.
- Feelings Art: Draw two pictures — one of how it feels to have enough food, and one of how it might feel not to.
- Use the Stone Soup handouts: color and cut out soup ingredients, then glue them into a paper soup kettle.