



Parent Page



Stone Soup

We are learning about citizenship and working together. We read a story called “Stone Soup”.

Here are some things you can do at home:

- **Read “Stone Soup”.** You can read the story on the back of this page. There are several Stone Soup books. You could check out a book from the library or look for the story on the Internet.
 - Talk about the story.
 - How did the poor man feel at the beginning of the story when the villagers would not help him? (Answer: Sad, hungry.)
 - How did the poor man feel at the end of the story? (Answer: Happy, included, and not hungry.)
 - Why did the villagers all have a good time together? (Answer: They had all worked together to make the delicious soup.)
 - Would the villagers have had as much fun if they had all stayed in their own homes, eating only the food they had?
 - Explain to your child that when everyone does a little bit, everyone feels much happier and has more.
- **Working together.**
 - Think of ways you and your child may have helped someone. Maybe you gave food to a food drive. Or maybe you put some change into a collection for firefighters or a family in need.
 - How can you help in your community? If you hear of a food collection, try to go with your child to drop off a food item. Or, when there is a collection for money, consider giving your child some change to donate.
 - With your child, go through clothing that is too small and books and toys no longer used. Is there a place to donate these for other children who might not have enough clothing or might not have toys and books?

Stone Soup

Once there was a very poor man who came to a small village. He was very hungry and really wanted something to eat, so he knocked on the first door he came to.

“I am SO hungry! Do you have some food for me?” he asked. “No,” said the first person, “we are poor and have nothing for you.” And with that, he slammed the door.

The poor man knocked on the second door. “I am SO hungry! Do you have some food for me?” he asked. (Have the children say it with you.) “No,” said the second person, “we are poor and have nothing for you.” And with that, he slammed the door.

The poor man knocked on the third door. “I am SO hungry! Do you have some food for me?” he asked. “No,” said the third person, “we are poor and have nothing for you.” And with that, he too slammed the door.

The poor man knew they had to have something for him to eat, so he thought and thought, and then he had an idea. Out of his backpack he pulled a pot, and in the middle of the town he made a fire. He got some water from the creek and began to boil the water. In the pot he put three stones. Then he started to stir and sip the water saying (loudly), “My goodness. This stone soup is so good. Yummy.”

The first villager opened his door to watch. The man said louder, “My goodness! This stone soup is so good. Yummy.”

“What are you making?” asked the first villager.

“It’s stone soup,” said the man. “Would you like a taste?” After tasting the soup, the villager said, “It’s not bad. But it could use something else. Like carrots.”

“EXCELLENT idea!” said the man. “But I have no carrots...”

“I do!” said the first villager, and he ran back to his house and brought back some carrots, which he tossed into the soup.

Together they tasted the soup and both said: “My goodness. This stone soup is so good. Yummy.” The second villager opened his door. “What are you making?” asked the second villager. “It’s stone soup,” said the man. “Would you like a taste?”

After tasting the soup, the villager said, “It’s not bad. But it could use something else. Like celery.” “EXCELLENT idea!” said the man. “But I have no celery...”

“I do!” said the second villager, and he ran back to his house and brought back some celery, which he tossed into the soup. (Repeat as many times as you like, adding a new vegetable.)

As the other villagers came out, each one brought something from home to add to the soup. Before long, they had made a delicious stew, and there was enough for everyone in the village to have a feast. They all had more food and more fun than they had had in a long, long time. Everyone agreed, “My goodness. This stone soup is so good. YUMMY!!”