

# Little Neighbors

Building a Better World Together

## Using These Resources

As a caring adult, you can help little ones discover their power to make your communities—and the world—a happier, healthier, safer place for everyone.

Sesame Street and PSEG have created these materials to support you in this all-important work of nurturing children’s early understanding of communities—and helping them grow up to be resilient, responsible, engaged, and active citizens! Here are ways to implement this program at events (even virtually).

- » **Choose** an activity (or a combination) that meets your particular needs. For instance, a community garden group might distribute the “Environment” activity page.
- » **Invite** a community helper such as a firefighter, crossing guard, food bank worker, or animal shelter volunteer to talk about their work.
- » **Set up** play areas to keep younger children engaged as you work with older ones. You might include blocks (to build neighborhoods) and books on safety, the environment, helping, or neighborhoods. Add stuffed animals and props such as play food and large and small boxes (so children can play “food drive”).
- » **Make** a “C is for More Than Cookies!” Mural: On a large sheet of butcher paper, create a mural. Write, paint, or draw the following seven words on the paper and have participants add handprints, drawings, or written thoughts (perhaps using sticky notes) with examples near each word.
  - community
  - citizenship
  - caring
  - change
  - contributing
  - cooperating
  - celebrating

## PROJECT GOALS

With the support of caring grown-ups, children can:

- » **Begin** to see themselves as active community participants and feel empowered to make a difference;
- » **Learn** to understand and appreciate others and gain empathy; and
- » **Expand** this appreciation to the larger world, developing an awareness of environmental responsibility.



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## Sharing the Materials

### The Videos

Have the videos playing in a common space such as a lobby or waiting area. Watch a video as a group and ask, "How was \_\_\_ being a good neighbor? Have you ever done anything like this?" You might have children act out the stories on their own.

### The Storybook

Read the storybook aloud, focusing on the pages most relevant to your participants, event, and community. Depending on your focus, spend extra time on particular pages and ask how each character was feeling, what children might do in a similar situation, exactly how the character was being a good neighbor, and so on.

### The Activity Pages

Consider which activity pages best suit your needs, print and copy a stack, and set them out on tables with crayons and pencils. Grown-ups can help children complete the pages. Depending on the space, display children's finished work.

### SPREADING THE MESSAGE

If you have permission from parents, share photos of the event, and children's work, on social media. Send follow-ups to participants with actionable suggestions (such as safety tips and information about upcoming food drives, marches, rallies, or fundraisers).

