

Who ELSE MATTERS?



TOOL 6C: HELPING HANDS

LINKED TO:

- Sections 1.6, 2.11, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6 & 6.9



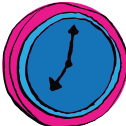
WHY?

- To help the child identify some of the important people and supports in their lives
- To celebrate their connections to others
- To assist workers finding formal and informal supports for the child and their family over time



WHO WITH?

- Children aged 5 to 14 years
- One-on-one, in groups or families



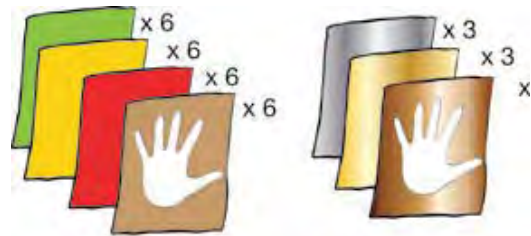
TIME?

- This activity can be fiddly so make sure you give it at least ½ hour. It can be run over a number of sessions if necessary

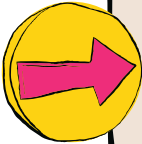


YOU'LL NEED?

- 12" Styrofoam wreath (available from craft shops)
- Assorted paper (ie metallic, coloured and textured)
- Black marker
- Coloured craft sticks
- Glue
- Scissors
- Photos of the child's family (optional)



Who ELSE MATTERS?



WHAT TO DO:

1. Make a hand pattern by drawing around the child's hand or by using the pattern given. Trace on thick cardboard as a template and cut out.
2. Trace around pattern then cut 6 each green, yellow, red and brown paper hands. Cut 2 each silver and gold and 3 copper hands from metallic corrugated paper.
(NOTE): Trace pattern onto back of corrugated paper.)
3. Starting at the outer edge of the Styrofoam wreath, glue one row of hands around the edge in the following order: red, yellow, green and brown. Glue a second row of hands around the inside edge of the wreath. Glue a third row of hands in metallic colours on top of the first two rows in the following order: silver, copper and gold. Carefully push the coloured craft sticks into the outer edge of the wreath.

4. As the kids to answer the following questions by writing the names/drawing a picture or sticking a photo to the hands at the top of the pile. You might want to use them all or just a few:

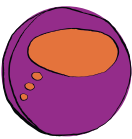
WHO I GET HELP FROM:

- When I feel sad
- When I'm doing my homework
- When I'm lost
- When I'm lonely
- When I need a laugh
- To help my family
- To talk to my Mum/Dad
- At school
- When I don't feel safe
- When I need to know what's going on
- When I hurt myself
- When I need a hug



SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

- Rather than using the wreath, make a collage by sticking the hands on a large piece of cardboard dispersing them with photos of people important in the lives of children / families, words about helping cut from magazines. This makes a positive piece of artwork that can be hung in a child's room to increase a sense of ownership while reminding them of those special people in their lives.



TO THINK ABOUT:

- It is important that while children who are in our services feel as if they are well connected with their workers. However, it's also important that we use the relationships we develop with kids as a way of linking them to others so that when they leave our programs the progress you've made can continue. Constantly reflect on how successful you are being in bolstering the number of supportive adults kids have in their lives.



HAZARD ZONES:

- This activity can highlight children's loss and can bring feelings of grief to the fore. Allowing children to feel these emotions is important as is working with parents to maintain and reconnect children to those who helped them in the past. When relationships are maintainable, working with kids to form new relationships (with new friends, supportive adults etc) is also essential.

Hand template

