



Giving to Grow!

A classroom guide for volunteer parents

Helping your child's school host a Socks'n Undies Sunday donation drive is simple, easy, and fun!

Below is a quick guide to help you introduce the program and its purpose in the classroom. The six short sections will help you facilitate a spirited talk about socks: the simple but important role they play in our lives, and what happens when they get worn-out.

The lead-in allows you to gently introduce the reality that some people need our help to enjoy these basic comforts – and you can then challenge the group to help!

Each section includes questions you may ask the children, and offers examples of contributions you may make as the class leader to encourage participation. Please include your own questions and share your experiences as you talk through these important life lessons.

And to help ensure your donation drive is successful and fun for the children, parents, and teachers, Socks'n Undies Sunday provides continuous support and assistance to all volunteers.

Donation Drive Kick-Off!: Prepare the children for a brief talk about the donation drive. You will need a donation box, and a Socks'n Undies Sunday Tool Kit, which includes a *Shopping List* and visual aids of the items to be collected.

Socks!

1. How many pairs we have, what they look like, and how they feel.	
<i>Example Questions</i>	<i>Class Leader Contribution</i>
· Can you tell me how many pairs of socks you have?	<i>Show your own socks to the children. Share the color of your favorite pair of socks.</i>
· What color are your socks?	
· How do your socks feel on your feet?	
2. Why we wear them and when we pull them on.	
<i>Example Questions</i>	<i>Class Leader Contribution</i>
· Why do we wear socks?	<i>Mention that you put on clean socks every morning after a shower.</i>
· When do you put on your socks?	
· Do you put on clean socks after your bath or shower?	
3. How we feel when we wear clean socks.	
<i>Example Questions</i>	<i>Class Leader Contribution</i>
· How do your feet feel when you put on your socks?	<i>Share a time when your feet were very cold and you ran to find some socks or slippers.</i>
· When you are not wearing socks, how does the floor feel?	
· Do you wear socks when it's cold outside? Why?	

4. What happens when socks get worn-out?

<u>Example Questions</u>	<u>Class Leader Contribution</u>
· What happens to your socks when you play in the sand?	<i>Explain that when socks get old, sometimes your toe shows through the top because they are so worn-out. And no matter how many times you try pulling the sock over your toe – it still shows through and is cold.</i>
· Do your parents wash your socks to get them clean?	
· Have you ever had a hole in your sock?	
· Do you think that one pair of socks would get worn out quickly if you wore it every day?	

5. Clean socks make all the difference!

<u>Example Questions</u>	<u>Class Leader Contribution</u>
· What have we learned about socks today?	<i>Reiterate that socks help keep our feet warm, dry, and comfortable. And helps us to be more prepared to take on the day!</i>
· Are socks important? Why do we wear them?	
· Is it helpful to have more than one pair of socks? Why?	

6. Helping others

<u>Example Questions</u>	<u>Class Leader Contribution</u>
· Do you think we could help collect some socks for people that only have one pair?	<i>Explain that although it's hard to understand, some children and adults only have one pair of socks. And they may get worn-out quickly and not keep them warm and dry.</i>
<i>* Propose that the students and their families work together to find new, warm socks for others.</i>	
<i>* Present the Socks'n Undies Shopping List, talk about each of the items that will be collected (using the visual aids), and show the children where the collection bin is located in the classroom.</i>	

Giving to Grow! Classroom Activities

Counting Donations: When the donation drive is over, count all the undergarments and toiletries as a group. Socks'n Undies provides a discussion tool for the classroom that lists all of the items with a corresponding picture to help encourage vocabulary development and help the non-reader.

- A teacher or parent may tally the number of items collected for each category. Counting the items out loud can be a fun numbers lesson. And asking students to separate and organize the socks by color or size, or children and adults, may help encourage participation and turn-taking.
- You may also use the tool kit to create a list that summarizes the total number of items that the classroom collected – and ask each student to sign the list. This may help them to feel proud of their collective accomplishments and understand that the items will be sent to children and families in need.

Packaging Donations: Older children may enjoy packaging their collections for delivery. Socks'n Undies can help facilitate the packaging of the items, or the teacher or class parent can help the students package their donations by size and gender. The program provides bags and stickers to package items in Socks'n Undies Sunday's signature style.

To start a collection or ask a question, please contact:



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Socks'n Undies Sunday collects and distributes undergarments and toiletries to men, women, and children who are homeless by partnering with community members, non-profits, and faith-based organizations.

www.socksnundies.org