



## TENDER BRANCHES CURRICULUM

### Week 06 - Helpfulness

#### 10:00 a.m. Songs

Review songs from prior weeks.

#### Helpers

Sung to: "Skip to My Lou"

Helpers play and share their toys  
With the other girls and boys.  
Helpers put their toys away.  
Kind and happy words they say.

#### 10:10 a.m. Puppet

#### HELPING OUT

CAST: Toby (puppet), Mum (real person).

PROPS Broom, mop, bucket and any other cleaning tools you can find. Some clothes to put behind the stage and throw out

SCENE: Mum is sweeping the floor with her broom in front of the puppet stage. Toby comes on stage

TOBY: Mum. Mum! (LOUDER) MUM!!

MUM: (EXASPERATED) Yes Toby, what is it?

TOBY: Mum, I think you should read me a story. I've finished playing with all my toys and I'm bored now. Have you got any new story books you can read to me?

MUM: (MORE EXASPERATED) Toby, I really don't have time right now to stop and read stories to you. Can't you see how busy I am at the moment? I've got to finish sweeping this path, then there's the floors to mop, and all the beds to make. Then by that time, it'll be time to start getting dinner ready so I'll need to set the table and do the cooking then clean up afterwards. You remember we've got visitors coming over tonight? Sorry Toby ... maybe tomorrow we'll have time.

TOBY: So you're saying you don't have time today then?

MUM: Yes Toby – that's exactly what I'm saying. I've just got too much to do today. We might have some time tomorrow or the next day.

TOBY: Ohh Mum! But I'm bored! I need a story!

MUM: Sorry Toby but these jobs won't get finished by themselves. I've got to keep going OK. You go back and imagine some new voices for your toys or something – they'll seem like new toys then. (MUM GOES OFF TO ONE SIDE, SWEEPING).

TOBY: Man! This is not fair. How come I have to play with the same old toys all the time and mum can't even read me one little story. "These jobs won't get finished by themselves," she says. What is she trying to say? It's not fair. (THEN TOBY SEES THE ANSWER) Hang on a minute! "These jobs won't get finished by themselves," but if I do some of them, then she'll have some extra time – maybe even enough time to read me a story perhaps. Now what were those jobs she said – I can't remember ... does anyone out there remember? (ASK THE AUDIENCE UNTIL ONE REMEMBERS MAKING THE BEDS).

That's it! Now there's something I could do – and that takes just about the right amount of time for a quick story too! OK! Where is my bed? (TOBY DISAPPEARS FROM THE STAGE) Just got to get these clothes off it (THROWS SOME CLOTHES OUT THE TOP OF THE STAGE). Whoa teddy! Where have you been? Haven't seen you in ages! (TOBY RUMMAGES AROUND BEHIND THE STAGE, BANGING THE STAGE, GRUNTING & GROANING ETC). There! All finished! Now where did mum go? Hey mum! Mum. MUM!

MUM: Yes dear, what is it now? You're not still trying to get me to read you a story are you? I just told you I don't have time for those. I've got so much to do today.



TOBY: No mum ... look!

MUM: (MUM LOOKS DOWN BEHIND THE CURTAIN) Toby – you've made your bed! And I didn't even ask you to do it! WOW! You've never done this before. Are you OK? (PUTS HER HAND ON HIS FOREHEAD).

TOBY: Mum! Of course I'm OK. I was just thinking about how you said you don't have enough time because the jobs won't get finished by themselves. So I thought I would finish some for you so that you'll have enough time to read me a story. So what do you think? Can we? Can we?

MUM: Well, since you've been such a good boy and helped me without me even asking you to, I think a story would be OK.

TOBY: Yippee! Thanks mum! I should do this more often!

MUM: Hmmm ... not a bad idea! How about if I go and get you a drink and some snacks and we'll go and sit on the floor and I'll read you a story. What do you think?

TOBY: Double Yippee!

MUM: OK, we'll I'll go and get those things and meet you there. You're a good boy Toby and I really appreciate you helping me out. Thank you so much.

TOBY: No worries mum – I think I'll help you more often! (DISAPPEARS).

## **10:20 a.m. Elmo says...**

### **Helpfulness Poster Points**

Have the puppet Elmo to go over poster points to parents for ways to encourage helpfulness and set a positive example.

- Notice when someone needs help.
- Do a service without being asked.
- Give people what they need, not always what they want.
- Listen to someone who needs to talk.
- Care for your own needs.
- Ask for help when you need it.

## **10:30 a.m. Stories**

### **How Can I Help?**

Learning cooperation and responsibility is an important part of our development

An illustrated book showing helpful behaviors.

### **Pooh Helps Out**

Parents allowing their children to help out with household chores, even when the help may seem more of a hindrance, are teaching their children valuable skills and routines, and preparing them to be expert navigators in their social development

### **Who Will Help?**

Give puppets to each of the children. Read the text of the Mouse and then have children with their puppets, read the part, "Notme" and Me". Have the following puppets for the children. Dog, Frog, Alligator, Teddy Bear, Mouse, Rooster. Practice the text to



have the children perform for adults.

## **10:45 a.m. Multi-cultural Activity**

### **Trung Thu**

In Vietnam each year the children have a special celebration called Trung Thu where the children celebrate the beauty of the moon. The moon this time of year is brighter and whiter than any time of the year. The children get lots of treats and moon cakes from their parents. Make the Moon Walk Lantern and Cymbals for the children to pass around and look at.

## **10:50 a.m. Snack**

## **11:00 a.m. Games**

### **Help Your Friend Game**

Have children take turns in pairs (or child and parent) balancing books on their head and walking from one end of room to other. The person who is walking is not allowed to pick up the book and the friend has to help put the book back on head. Encourage the children to be good friends.

### **Helpful Friends**

Pair up the children. Sit back to back with one another. Clasp their arms together they have to help each other to get up.

### **Helpful Smileys**

Using the smiley prop, the children indicate a happy face for helpful behaviors and a sad face for not being helpful.

- Is it helpful to offer to help your friend carry some books if he has a lot of books in his arms?
- Is it helpful to make fun of someone who is crying and needs a helpful friend?
- Is it helpful if your brother or sister spilled some milk and you help them to clean it up?
- Is it helpful to help your friend up after they fell down?
- Is it helpful to run away from your mother or father and continue playing with your toys after they have nicely asked for help with setting the table

### **Who Will Help?**

Have the children go behind the puppet theatre with their puppets. Have one adult in back to supervise children.

Dog, Frog, Alligator, Teddy Bear, Tiger, Mouse, Rooster

## **11:15 a.m. Arts & Crafts**

### **Helpful Hands**

Trace the children's hands onto green paper. Cut out the traced hands and have the children glue onto another paper. Have "Helpful Hands" written on the top of paper. Write onto each finger the ways that child is helpful. Have flower stickers for children to add to paper.