



*Good People Helping Good People*

## EDAS Connects with the new curriculum

### Career and Education

Leadership represents good planning, goal-setting, and collaboration

Leadership requires listening to and respecting the ideas of others

Family and community relationships can be a source of support and guidance when solving problems and making connections

Strong communities are the result of being connected to family and community and working toward common goals

### Art

Through art making, one's sense of identity and community continually evolves.

### English

Synthesizing the meaning from different texts and ideas helps us create new understandings

Exploring and sharing multiple perspectives extends our thinking

Exploring stories and other texts helps us to understand ourselves and make connections to others and to the world

Questioning what we hear, read and view contributes to our ability to be educated and engaged citizens

## Discuss-Inquire-Connect

How do we truly change the world?

What is leadership?

What is the power of kindness?

What is homelessness?

What causes homelessness?

Who can become homeless?

What is poverty?

How can we help those in poverty?

How can we end poverty?

What is empathy?

What is compassion?

How do you live a compassionate life?

## Vision

We are an organization devoted to inspiring, transforming, and connecting citizens worldwide, one local community at a time, through powerful leadership, kindness, generosity and love.

## Project Goal

To provide students with an opportunity to cultivate active citizenship and to inspire kindness, love, and connection in their local communities.

## About Us

Everybody Deserves A Smile (EDAS)

What started in 2003, as a grass-roots local community project, has now grown into a not for profit organization that connects students and local communities with those homeless. The intention of the EDAS project is to educate others on the value of living life through the lens of compassion.

### History

Over a decade ago from one feeling four people gathered with a simple intent: to make people living on the street smile at Christmas. They put together 88 care packages and ran down the back alleys of downtown Edmonton. They hung them from garbage bins to let people know that they were not alone. Overnight 88 bags disappeared, and EDAS was born.

### Today

Today, with the help of local community members EDAS reaches thousands of people living on the streets. Each gift bag is hand painted, and is filled with; a homemade Christmas card, fresh baked cookies and warm clothing. EDAS partners with various school districts across British Columbia, to inspire students to lead their communities to love and connect with those homeless.

## Teacher's Guide

- About Us
- Cultivating Discussion
- BC curriculum Big Ideas
- Activities
- Additional Information



## Definition of Homelessness and Educational Links

Definition of Homelessness  
[www.homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/COHh\\_omelessdefinition.pdf](http://www.homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/COHh_omelessdefinition.pdf)

The Homeless Hub  
<http://homelesshub.ca/>

## Activities

### In My Shoes:

Students are placed into groups and asked to step into the role of a homeless person. The students are asked the following questions:

#### 1) What does my life look like as a homeless person?

Negatives - I am: cold, wet, lonely, low self esteem, hungry, insecure, afraid, don't know where I am sleeping, depressed.

Positives - I am: resilient, courageous, resourceful, creative.)

#### 2)How can you help me as a homeless person?

Say hello, truly see me, and acknowledge my self-worth. Listen to my story, and see me as an equal. Carry soft food items. Buy somebody a coffee and show somebody you care.

#### 3)How can society help me as a homeless person?

Create low income housing, sufficient access to social programs, and community-based projects that spread empathy, kindness and love.

### Going Further:

Have the students discuss, represent and role play a day in the life of somebody homeless. Follow up with a visualization and a discussion on how it would feel to be homeless.

## How are we different? How are we the same?

Primary & Intermediate

### Language Arts:

Students fold a large piece of paper in half , labeling the top half with the words "My Life." Students then make a drawing of all that represents their life (ex. food, clothing, shelter, family, etc..). On the bottom half, students would label it with the words "Someone Homeless." They would then draw a picture that represents the life of somebody who is homeless.

### The teacher would follow up with these questions:

- 1) How is your life different?
- 2) How is your life the same?

### Going Further:

Students could then brainstorm items that are missing from a homeless person's life. They would draw and cut out these items, add them into the homeless persons life as a wish for a better life for their homeless person

### Reflections:

Preproject Reflection  
What makes a home?  
What opens a heart? What opens your heart?

Post Project Reflection (Writing Assignment)  
I have learned that those experiencing homelessness ...  
This project has helped me ...

## Additional Links

Sesame Street What I am: (Personal Empowerment)  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cyVzjoj96vs>

History of Everybody Deserves a Smile: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U4Qkul44d9k>

Local EDAS School Project Day (Port Alberni):  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1\\_hLb8\\_PJyw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1_hLb8_PJyw)

Their Stories: <http://www.upworthy.com/they-scribbled-their-lives-onto-a-bucket-full-of-love>:  
A bucket full of love: <http://www.themindawakened.com/2014/07/a-young-man->

Free Hugs: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hN8CKwdosjE>

### Books:

Have You Filled a Bucket Today?, By Carol McCloud  
The Smallest Girl in the Smallest Grade, By Justin Roberts

Lily and the Paper Man, By Rebecca Upjohn  
What to do with an Idea, By Kobi Yamada

