

PICTURES FOR SENIORS

A big part of social awareness is understanding and reflecting on who is living in your community. This activity helps children think outside of who and what is in their world. Senior citizens play a big role in the community. They offer wisdom, experience, and advice that can be hard to find. For this reason, it's important to teach children how to respect the older population and value their presence in the community. Many are in nursing homes, and in a time such as now, can feel very isolated. Many are in need of encouragement and to know that they are not alone. This activity teaches children how to recognize the needs of others and uplift members of their community.

In-person: Discuss the above with the group. Include questions for the Littles like: Why do you think senior citizens are important? How do they add to our community? In what ways do you think they struggle? What do you think it's like to live in a nursing home? What are some ways you can show that you care about and are thinking of, the elderly? Have them break off into their matches to discuss with their Bigs what they thought about the discussion. Instruct the matches to draw a picture that they think will brighten a senior's day.

Virtual: Instruct the Bigs and Littles to discuss the above. Give them the above question examples to facilitate discussion. Have the Little draw the picture while they discuss with their Big what they are drawing and why. These can be mailed to BBBS staff that can then be distributed to various nursing homes. Another option is to have the Big and Little write a letter together that can be emailed to BBBS staff. Depending on ability of Little, this can be written by the Big or Little, with the words coming from primarily the Little.