

Dear Parent/Carer

This is a time to think about being good neighbours. Talk with your child about the importance of people being kind and friendly to each other. Think about your own neighbourhood. Who are your neighbours? What are their needs right now? Are there safe ways you and your neighbours can help each other?

Topic 1

Caring
about our
neighbours
8 - 9 years



Your Neighbours

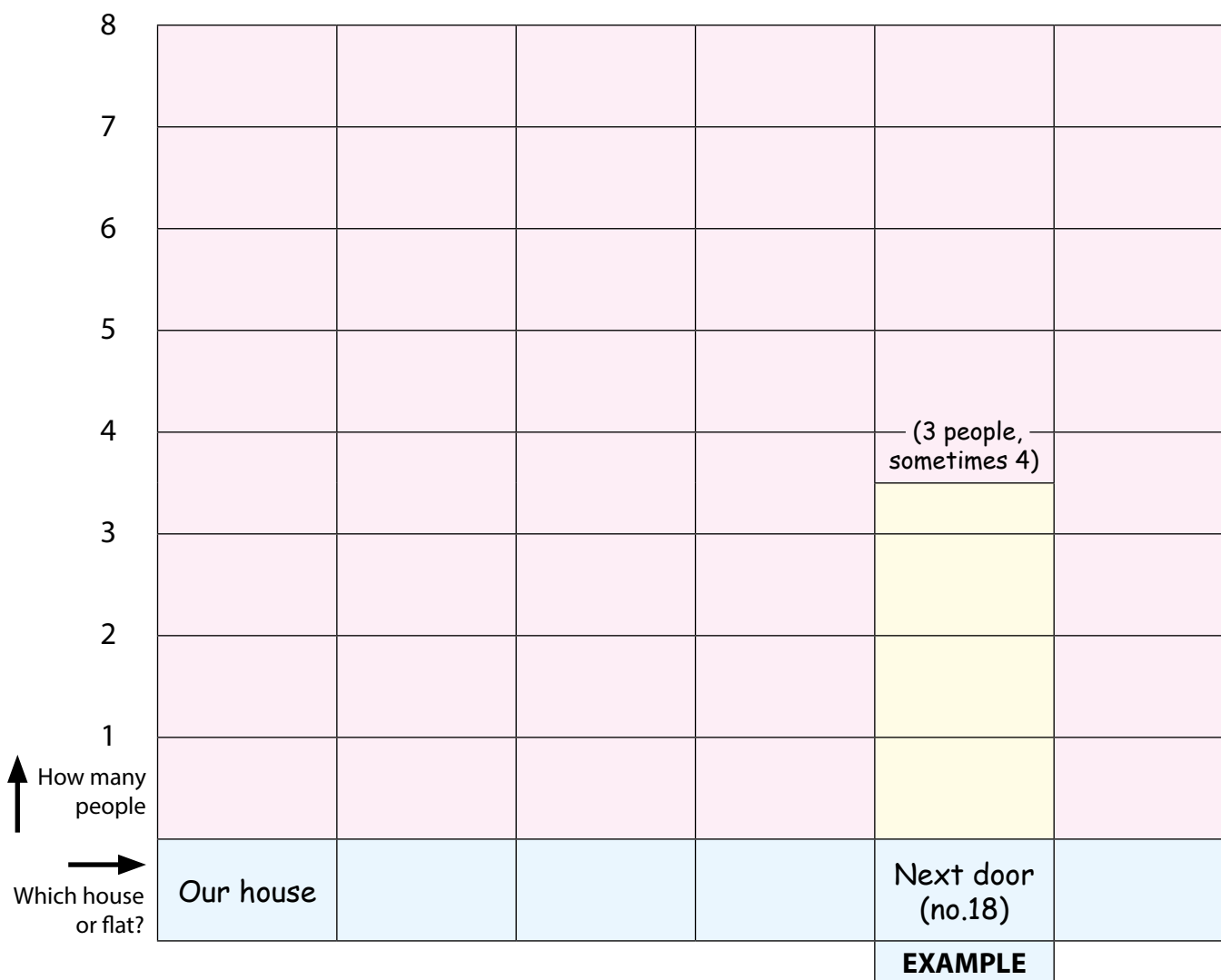
Does your child know how many people live in some of the houses or flats near you? If they do, help them to draw a graph showing how many people.

As you do this, talk about these neighbours:

- Do you know their names?
- Do you know what they normally do?
- Can you think of any ways you could help your neighbours?

What makes a good neighbour?

This is how you can make the graph (start with your own house):





Topic 1

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8 - 9 years



What if ... ?

Read these neighbourhood scenarios with your child and discuss them. Think about what you as a family would do to help in normal circumstances and what you could do now.

Talk about how and when to offer help to the people who live near you.

As well as discussing ways of helping, talk with your child about behaving well in the neighbourhood. What do you tell them about this?

Situation 1

Mrs Lees lives across the road. She is elderly person, and lives by herself. One day you see that her curtains are not drawn back, and there is a pint of milk on the doorstep.

Situation 2

Mr Jones has difficulty walking and uses a stick to help. You don't know him very well. One afternoon you see him struggling along the road with a heavy bag of shopping.

Situation 3

Mr and Mrs Brown don't have any relatives living near. They are both elderly and don't go out.

Situation 4

The lady next door has been taken into hospital. She has a cat.



Dear Parent/Carer

In the previous topic we thought about our neighbours nearby and the help we can give each other. There are other people in our local community who help and support each of us. Some of this is done on a voluntary basis – can your child think of examples?

In addition, we know that some people in our community need extra help because they have special needs – can you both think of anyone?

Topic 2

People we
need in the
community

8 - 9 years



At work

Play 'Guess Who?' with your child. Take turns to mime jobs done by people who help us, e.g. nurse, bus-driver, refuse collector.

Many children don't know what their parents do. Discuss your own jobs (past or present) and what they involve.



Ask your child to draw a picture of someone in the family at work. Draw the person in the centre and things to do with their work in a border around them.

Helpers in our town or village

Have a quiz with your child. Ask if they know what all these people do (see the list below). Ask where they would see these people working. If they're not sure explain.

What does this person do?

Where might you see them working?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Dentist | <input type="radio"/> Vicar or religious leader |
| <input type="radio"/> Vet | <input type="radio"/> Youth worker |
| <input type="radio"/> Street cleaner | <input type="radio"/> Traffic warden |
| <input type="radio"/> Electrician | <input type="radio"/> Meals on wheels helper |
| <input type="radio"/> Playgroup leader | <input type="radio"/> Local shopkeeper |
| <input type="radio"/> Refuse collector | <input type="radio"/> Plumber |
| <input type="radio"/> Police Officer | <input type="radio"/> Paramedic |



Topic 2

People we
need in the
community

8 - 9 years



Jobs people do

Together, try to think of a job for each letter of the alphabet, without looking back to the previous page. They do not have to be jobs done locally.

A	
B	
C	Clown
D	
E	
F	
G	
H	
I	
J	
K	King Kitchen worker
L	
M	

N	
O	
P	
Q	
R	
S	
T	
U	
V	
W	Window cleaner
X	Takes X-rays Xylophone maker
Y	
Z	

Ask your child to draw a picture of the job they would most like to do. Discuss what they would like about the job they have drawn.

Dear Parent/Carer

You and your family will be aware that there are a range of facilities available in your local area and that many are paid for through our taxes. Explain to your child that community facilities cost a lot of money and we need to take care of them.

Topic 3

Local facilities
8 - 9 years



A windfall

Imagine your local area has been given a lottery grant to improve facilities.

Together, talk about which of the following are needed – you might think of some others to add to the list.

	Priority (1 = most needed)
a better bus service	
a new youth club building	
better play areas	
a Citizens Advice Bureau	
more activities for senior citizens	
an all-ages 'drop in centre'	
more sports facilities *	
a new swimming pool	
cycle paths	
a library or more books for the library	
a skateboard area	
more re-cycling facilities	
What else?	
*Which sports would you like to see developed in your area?	



Topic 3

Local facilities
8 - 9 years



An imaginary walkabout

How aware of the local facilities is your child? Can he/she think where the things on the list below are? (You may need to give them some clues.) Are there any other facilities?

Who uses the facilities? Who provides and looks after them?
Talk about these and other facilities available to people in your community.
Are there some other things it would be good to have?

	How many are there?	Who uses them?	Who looks after them?
Post box			
Bus stop or shelter			
Litter bin			
Road signs			
Ramps into buildings			
Hedges and trees			
Seats or benches			
Fences			
Flower beds			
Street lights			
Telephone box			
Dog bin			
.....			
.....			

Do people take care of the facilities? If not, discuss what has happened to them and why.

Dear Parent/Carer

Children know that there are reasons for rules (even if they sometimes forget them) and how they help us.

Explain to your child that

- there are different rules in different situations
- rules may be written or unwritten
- rules help us to respect people, property and animals

Talk about which rules you as an adult have to follow, e.g. no smoking, traffic laws, sending your child to school. Discuss what happens if you don't follow them.

Talk about the 'rules' you have at home. Why do you have them?

Topic 4

Rules for everyone

8 - 9 years



What a mess!

Ask your child what can happen if they ignore 'rules' or requests for tidying up.

What jobs would you have to do to tidy this up?





Rules in the community

With your child discuss what 'rules' we need for the situations listed below.

Get your child to match the rules to the situations.

They could write, or print, the cards then cut them out and match them.

Situations	Rules
Playing in the park	Be quiet <input type="radio"/>
Playing outside your house	Look both ways <input type="radio"/>
At the swimming pool	Be polite <input type="radio"/>
At a service in a religious place	Take care using equipment <input type="radio"/>
In a shop	Listen <input type="radio"/>
Crossing the road	Respect the neighbours <input type="radio"/>
In a library	Take care getting in the water <input type="radio"/>

Which rules are important for safety?

If you have made cards colour the circles red.

Dear Parent/Carer

Topic 5

In this topic we think about valuing nature and taking a pride in the local environment, both natural and man-made. Point out to your child that it is everyone's responsibility:

**Looking
after our
surroundings**
8 - 9 years

- to deal with waste paper, wrappers, cans
- not to damage trees or plants
- not to do graffiti

Ask your child what is meant by 'nature' and whether there are areas of 'nature' nearby (including man-made green areas such as parks). Discuss what these areas are like and what you like to see there. How should these areas be cared for?



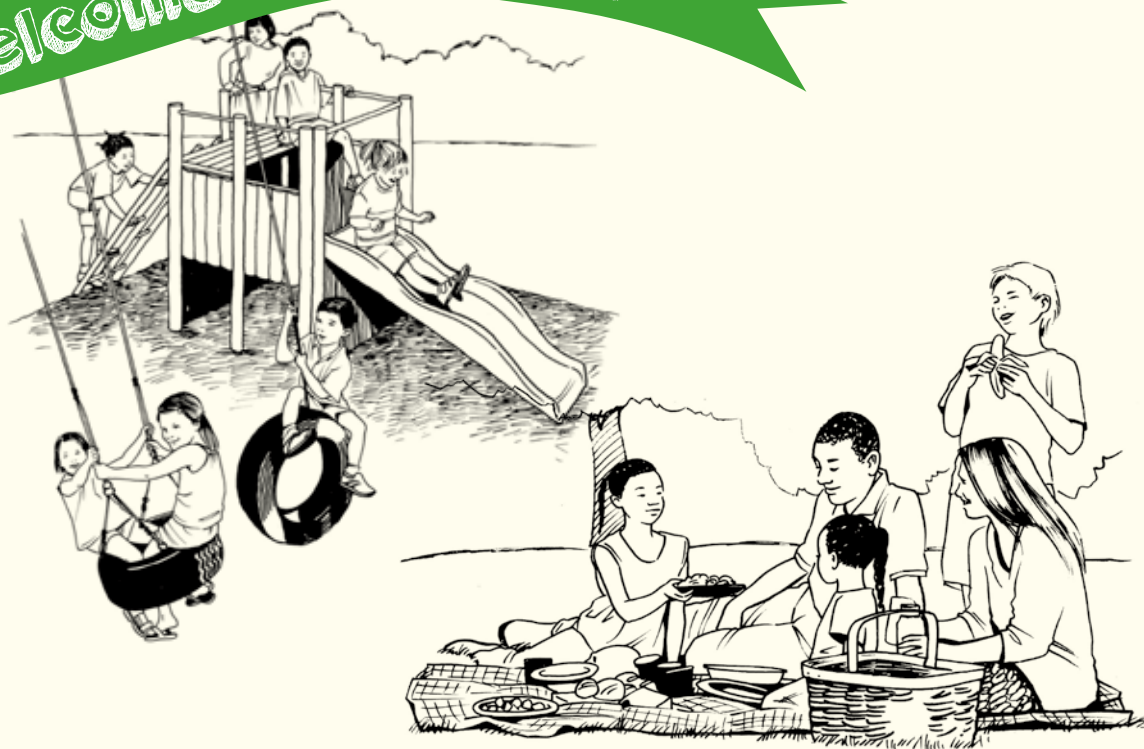
Plan a park

Your local council has asked children and young people for ideas for making a local area into a park. What would your child like to see in the park? Think about the different aged people who will use it.

Get your child to draw a map or picture showing their ideas. Don't forget to make the park accessible to people who use a wheelchair or push a pram.

How will you get visitors to take care of the park?

Welcome to our park



Topic 5

Looking
after our
surroundings

8 - 9 years



Our street

We may not be able to visit our favourite beauty spots at the moment but perhaps on your daily exercise, or in the garden, your child could spot some things in nature that we sometimes take for granted, such as a bird singing, a tree or shrub coming into flower, a butterfly sunning itself or a bee.

Are there any problems with litter in your area? Discuss what could be done to make the local area look better.



Then ask your child to draw a picture of your street. If appropriate, do this in two parts, as it is and how they would like to see it. Talk about any ways of making the street look more attractive? Together add your ideas to the picture.

Our street

