



TOOLBOX

**A resource guide for creating change
in your community**

www.DRIVEOutHungerProject.org

Welcome to **DRIVE OUT HUNGER**

Welcome to **DRIVE Out Hunger**, a service initiative created to empower individuals and communities to take action against food insecurity. Through leadership, education, volunteering, and community engagement, we work together to make a meaningful difference for families experiencing hunger.

This handbook will guide you through the D.R.I.V.E. framework: **Donate, Reach Others, Impact Communities, Volunteer, and Educate**, and provide ideas for service projects to help you create real, lasting impact.

I'm so excited to have you join me in this mission. My passion for fighting food insecurity began in Georgia when I was seven years old, decorating lunch bags for a summer feeding program. What started small grew into years of packing meals, delivering food, and volunteering with organizations like Meals by Grace and the Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center, where I helped establish Little Free Pantries to support families in need.

Those experiences taught me that change often starts with something simple: a meal, a donation, or a few hours of service. When we choose to give back, we're not just providing food, we're offering hope, dignity, and care.

Through DRIVE Out Hunger, I hope to inspire others to take action through the D.R.I.V.E. pillars. Every effort matters, and together, those small acts create powerful change.

Thank you for being part of this mission and helping **DRIVE Out Hunger, one act of service at a time.**

With gratitude,

Ansley Lyons

Royal International Miss Southern States Role Model

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DRIVE OUT HUNGER OVERVIEW

DRIVE Out Hunger is a year-round community service initiative dedicated to raising awareness about food insecurity and inspiring meaningful action to reduce hunger locally and globally. The program empowers participants to create real impact in their communities through service, education, and outreach.

At the heart of the initiative is the **D.R.I.V.E. Mission**, which guides all service efforts:

D - Donate

Collect and provide essential items such as food and hygiene products to support families and local food assistance programs.

Examples: Host a food drive, organize donation collections at school or work, gather items for families in need.

R - Reach Others

Raise awareness and encourage others to take action against hunger.

Examples: Speak to groups, partner with organizations, and share information through social media or community events.

I - Impact Communities

Create meaningful change through hands-on service and community-based projects.

Examples: Organize service events, collaborate with nonprofits, or lead awareness campaigns.

V - Volunteer

Give time and energy to organizations that fight food insecurity.

Examples: Work at food banks or pantries, pack meal boxes, or assist community meal programs.

E - Educate

Teach others about food insecurity and how they can help make a difference.

Examples: Create presentations, share resources, or host discussions on hunger and solutions.

Through DRIVE Out Hunger, participants are encouraged to donate, reach others, volunteer, impact communities, and educate those around them. The goal is to build a culture of compassion and service while empowering individuals to take action that leads to lasting change in the fight against hunger.

PARTICIPANT EXPECTATION

Drive Out Hunger participants are encouraged to be active leaders in the fight against food insecurity throughout the year. Service can take many forms, and participants are invited to use their creativity, passion, and local connections to make a meaningful impact in their communities.

The goal of this initiative is not just to complete a single act of service, but to build a habit of giving back and raising awareness about hunger. Participants can contribute in ways that fit their age, schedule, and community opportunities while still supporting the overall mission of Drive Out Hunger.

Participants are encouraged to work toward the following service goals during their year of involvement:

Complete multiple service activities.

Participants should look for opportunities to serve throughout the year rather than focusing on a single project. This may include organizing donation drives, assembling meal kits, hosting awareness events, or supporting local food programs.

Participate in volunteer opportunities.

Hands-on service is an important part of understanding and addressing food insecurity. Participants may volunteer at food pantries, food banks, soup kitchens, community meal programs, or other organizations that serve individuals and families in need.

Help raise awareness about food insecurity.

Education and awareness are powerful tools for change. Participants are encouraged to share information about hunger issues through social media, school presentations, community events, or conversations with friends and family.

Collect food or essential item donations.

Donation drives are a great way to involve the community in helping others. Participants may collect nonperishable food items, snack packs for children, meal kits, hygiene items, or other essential supplies that local organizations need.

Document service work and community impact.

Tracking service activities helps measure the impact of the program and celebrates the difference participants are making. Participants should keep records of their service through photos, donation counts, volunteer logs, or reflection pages.

Drive Out Hunger recognizes that every community is different. Programs and coordinators may adjust expectations based on age divisions, available service opportunities, and local needs. The most important goal is that every participant contributes in a meaningful way and helps move the mission of fighting food insecurity forward.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What if there is no food pantry nearby?

No problem! You can still make a difference. Consider:

- Donating directly to local community centers, churches, or shelters.
- Setting up a Little Free Food Pantry in your neighborhood or school.
- Organizing a community food drive to collect and deliver items to those in need.

2. Can school food drives count?

Absolutely! School food drives are a fantastic way to engage your peers and collect meaningful donations. Make sure to:

- Track the number of items collected.
- Document your planning, organizing, and volunteer hours.
- Take photos or videos if possible to share with your DRIVE Out Hunger report.

3. Can financial donations be included?

Yes! Monetary contributions are valuable because they allow food pantries to purchase items in bulk, pay for delivery, or provide fresh food. Keep a record of the donation and indicate how it was used in your documentation.

4. How do I document service activities?

Documenting your work is simple:

- Keep a log of hours spent volunteering.
- Record the number and types of items collected.
- Include photos, receipts, or thank-you notes from recipients or organizations.

5. What kinds of items are most needed?

Focus on nutritious, shelf-stable, and easy-to-prepare items. Examples include:

- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Pasta and rice
- Peanut butter and beans
- Granola bars and cereal
- Personal hygiene items (soap, toothpaste, shampoo)

Check the Top 25 Most Needed Pantry Items section for a full list.

6. Can I involve my friends or family?

Yes! DRIVE Out Hunger encourages teamwork. You can:

- Organize a group collection in your neighborhood, school, or church.
- Host a mini food drive among friends, teammates, or classmates.
- Volunteer together at a local food pantry.

7. How do I stay safe while volunteering?

- Always follow guidelines from the food pantry or organization.
- Wash hands frequently and use gloves when handling food.
- If delivering items, don't enter homes unless instructed by the organization.
- Keep personal information private when interacting with recipients.

8. Can virtual or creative service projects count?

Yes! You can contribute even if you cannot be physically present:

- Promote awareness campaigns on social media.
- Design posters, flyers, or graphics encouraging donations.
- Create DIY meal kits or recipe guides for families.

9. How do I get recognition for my participation?

Document all activities, hours, and donations. Submit your report according to your delegate handbook guidelines. Outstanding contributions may be highlighted in program newsletters, social media, or during events.

10. Where can I find more resources or ideas?

Check:

- The DRIVE Out Hunger Project Handbook sections on meal bags, donation guides, and seasonal initiatives.
- Local food banks and pantry websites for donation lists and volunteer opportunities.
- Online platforms for youth-led food drives or virtual volunteering.

UNDERSTANDING FOOD INSECURITY

What is Food Insecurity?

Food insecurity means not having consistent access to enough nutritious food for a healthy, active life. Families experiencing food insecurity often **skip meals, rely on less nutritious foods, or run out of groceries** before the next paycheck or assistance.

Hunger Myths vs. Facts

Myth: Hunger only affects people who are unemployed.

Fact: Millions of people who work full-time still struggle to afford enough food.

Myth: Food insecurity is only a problem in cities.

Fact: Hunger affects rural, suburban, and urban communities alike.

Myth: Kids always have enough to eat at school.

Fact: Many children rely on school meals, and may go hungry when school is closed for summer or holidays.

How Hunger Affects Children and Families

Food insecurity can impact:

Children's growth and development - leading to poor nutrition and delayed physical or cognitive growth.

School performance - children who are hungry may struggle with concentration, learning, and behavior.

Family stress - parents may skip meals to feed their children, creating long-term health challenges.

Overall health - limited access to healthy foods can increase the risk of chronic illnesses.

Common Causes of Food Insecurity -

- Low income or job instability
- High cost of housing and healthcare
- Lack of access to grocery stores or transportation
- Unexpected emergencies or disasters
- Limited nutrition education and resources

Worldwide Food Insecurity Key Statistics -

- Over 34 million Americans experience food insecurity.
- About 1 in 6 children in the U.S. struggles with hunger.
- Nearly 40% of food-insecure households include at least one working adult.
- Hunger can affect academic performance, physical health, and emotional well-being.

- **Global hunger:** Over 828 million people worldwide experience hunger. (FAO, 2023)
- **Child hunger:** Nearly 149 million children under age 5 suffer from stunted growth due to malnutrition.
- **Food insecurity prevalence:** About one in ten people globally do not have enough food to eat regularly.
- **Women & girls:** Women are disproportionately affected, making up the majority of adults living in food-insecure households in many countries.
- **Conflict & crisis:** Armed conflicts and climate-related disasters push over 60 million people into acute food insecurity each year.
- **COVID-19 impact:** The pandemic increased global food insecurity, adding over 100 million people at risk of hunger between 2019–2022.
- **Food waste vs hunger:** About 1/3 of all food produced globally is wasted, yet millions remain food-insecure.
- **Children & education:** Hungry children are more likely to miss school or perform poorly, impacting lifelong opportunities.
- **Economic burden:** Food insecurity costs countries in lost productivity, healthcare, and social services, with billions of dollars annually.

Why This Matters:

Understanding food insecurity is the first step to making a difference in your community. Through initiatives like DRIVE Out Hunger, delegates can raise awareness, collect food, and provide essential resources to families in need, showing how small acts of service create a big impact.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Optional Printable Resources:

- Food Drive Flyers - Promote your collection at school, church, or in your neighborhood.
- Donation Bin Labels - Clearly mark bins for specific items (canned goods, hygiene, kids' snacks).
- Most-Needed Items Posters - Highlight key foods and essentials for easy recognition.
- Monthly Checklists - Track your goals, donations, and volunteer hours.
- Challenge Ideas - Fun themes or competitions to engage peers and increase participation.

Additional Resources for Delegates:

- Meal Bag Guides & Recipe Cards - Provide step-by-step instructions for families using your collected food.
- Volunteer Log Sheets - Record hours, tasks, and activities for documentation.
- Donation Tracking Sheets - Keep an organized record of items collected and distributed.
- Awareness & Education Materials - Fact sheets on food insecurity, hunger myths vs. facts, and global statistics.
- Social Media Graphics & Templates - Promote your food drive and inspire community participation online.
- Thank-You Cards Templates - Show appreciation to donors, volunteers, and partner organizations.
- Safety Guidelines - Tips for safe food handling, delivery, and volunteering.
- Local Pantry & Organization Directory - Quick reference list of food banks, shelters, and community centers.
- Printable Pillars of DRIVE Out Hunger Posters - Reinforce Donate, Reach Others, Impact Communities, Volunteer, Educate for visual reminders.
- Inspiration & Motivational Quotes - Encourage delegates and their teams throughout the project.

Tip: Having a centralized folder (digital or physical) with all these resources makes it easy for delegates to plan, execute, and document their projects while keeping volunteers and participants engaged.

U.S. - BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Feeding America

Website: www.feedingamerica.org

Instagram: [@feedingamerica](https://www.instagram.com/feedingamerica)

No Kid Hungry (Share Our Strength)

Website: www.nokidhungry.org

Instagram: [@nokidhungry](https://www.instagram.com/nokidhungry)

Meals on Wheels America

Website: www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org

Instagram: [@mealsonwheelsamerica](https://www.instagram.com/mealsonwheelsamerica)

Bread for the World

Website: www.bread.org

Instagram: [@breadfortheworld](https://www.instagram.com/breadfortheworld)

The Farmlink Project

Website: www.farmlinkproject.org

Instagram: [@thefarmlinkproject](https://www.instagram.com/thefarmlinkproject)

Rise Against Hunger

Website: www.riseagainsthunger.org

Instagram: [@riseagainsthunger](https://www.instagram.com/riseagainsthunger)

Hunger Free America

Website: www.hungerfreeamerica.org

Instagram: [@hungerfreeamerica](https://www.instagram.com/hungerfreeamerica)

Global FoodBanking Network

Website: www.foodbanking.org

Instagram: [@foodbanking](https://www.instagram.com/foodbanking)

World Relief

Website: worldrelief.org

Instagram: [@worldrelief](https://www.instagram.com/worldrelief)

Feed My Starving Children

Website: www.fmssc.org

Instagram: [@feedmystarvingchildren](https://www.instagram.com/feedmystarvingchildren)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

World Food Programme (WFP)

Website: www.wfp.org

Instagram: [@worldfoodprogramme](https://www.instagram.com/worldfoodprogramme)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Website: www.fao.org

Instagram: [@fao](https://www.instagram.com/fao)

World Central Kitchen

Website: www.wck.org

Instagram: [@wckitchen](https://www.instagram.com/wckitchen)

Action Against Hunger (Action Contre la Faim)

Website: www.actionagainsthunger.org

Instagram: [@actionagainsthunger](https://www.instagram.com/actionagainsthunger)

CARE International

Website: www.care.org

Instagram: [@careorg](https://www.instagram.com/careorg)

Save the Children

Website: www.savethechildren.org

Instagram: [@savethechildren](https://www.instagram.com/savethechildren)

World Vision International

Website: www.worldvision.org

Instagram: [@worldvision](https://www.instagram.com/worldvision)

Heifer International

Website: www.heifer.org

Instagram: [@heiferinternational](https://www.instagram.com/heiferinternational)

Feed the Children

Website: www.feedthechildren.org

Instagram: [@feedthechildren](https://www.instagram.com/feedthechildren)

HOW TO HOST A FOOD DRIVE (IN PERSON)

1. Choose a Location

Pick a high-traffic area such as your school, church, or community center.

2. Ask for Permission

Get approval from the facility or organization before setting up.

3. Set Up Donation Bins

Label bins clearly for specific items (food, hygiene, kids' items).

4. Promote the Drive

Use flyers, social media, and word-of-mouth to spread the word.

5. Sort and Count Donations

Organize items by type and check expiration dates.

6. Deliver Items to a Local Organization

Take donations to a food pantry, shelter, or community center.

7. Document the Results

Track the number of items, volunteer hours, and take photos to share your impact.

HOW TO HOST A FOOD DRIVE (ONLINE)

1. Choose a Platform

Pick where you'll host your drive (Instagram, Facebook, etc).

2. Set a Goal

Decide what you're collecting and how much.

3. Choose Where Donations Go

Pick a local pantry, shelter, or family to receive the items.

4. Set Up Donations

Create an easy way to give (drop-off, pickup, or wish list).

5. Launch & Promote

Post your drive details and share regular updates.

6. Engage & Track Progress

Thank donors, respond to messages, and update totals.

7. Sort, Deliver & Share

Organize items, deliver them, and share the impact.

DONATION GUIDE

Suggested non-perishable food and hygiene items for food pantry donations. Please ensure all items are unopened and not expired.

Provide guidance on collecting items:

- Most requested pantry foods
- Items not recommended for donation
- Kid-friendly food options
- Seasonal donation needs

Fruits

- Canned peaches (in juice)
- Canned pineapple
- Canned pears
- Applesauce cups or jars
- Fruit cups
- Dried raisins
- Dried cranberries

Vegetables

- Canned corn
- Canned green beans
- Canned carrots
- Canned peas
- Canned mixed vegetables
- Canned diced tomatoes

Protein

- Canned tuna
- Canned chicken
- Peanut butter
- Almond or sunflower seed butter
- Canned beans (black, kidney, pinto)
- Chili with beans
- Shelf-stable milk
- Canned soup with protein

Whole Grains

- Brown rice
- White rice
- Oatmeal packets
- Whole grain pasta
- Macaroni and cheese
- Whole grain crackers
- Pancake mix
- Cornbread mix

Other Helpful Pantry Items

- Pasta sauce
- Chicken broth
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Cooking oil
- Salad dressing
- Honey or syrup

Kids' Items

- Granola bars
- Applesauce pouches
- Peanut butter crackers
- Shelf-stable chocolate milk
- Individual cereal cups
- Fruit snacks

Personal Hygiene Items

- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Bar soap
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products

Seasonal Favorites

- Hot cocoa mix
- Holiday cookie mix

TOP 25 MOST NEEDED FOOD PANTRY ITEMS

These are high-demand staples that help families build complete meals.

1. Peanut butter
2. Canned chicken
3. Canned tuna
4. Canned beans (black, kidney, pinto)
5. Chili with beans
6. Canned soup
7. Pasta
8. Pasta sauce
9. Rice
10. Macaroni and cheese
11. Instant mashed potatoes
12. Oatmeal or instant oatmeal packets
13. Cereal
14. Pancake mix
15. Syrup
16. Canned vegetables (corn, green beans, peas)
17. Canned fruit (in juice)
18. Applesauce
19. Crackers
20. Shelf-stable milk
21. Granola bars
22. Cooking oil
23. Chicken or vegetable broth
24. Salad dressing
25. Jelly or jam

MEALS IN A BAG IDEAS

Spaghetti Night

Ingredients in Bag

- 1 box spaghetti
- 1 jar pasta sauce
- 1 can green beans

Directions

1. Bring a pot of water to a boil and cook spaghetti according to package directions.
2. Heat pasta sauce in a small pot.
3. Drain pasta and mix with sauce. Heat green beans and serve on the side.

Taco Night

Ingredients in Bag

- 1 taco seasoning packet
- 1 box taco shells or tortillas
- 1 can black beans
- 1 packet Spanish rice mix

Directions

1. Prepare the Spanish rice according to package directions.
2. Heat black beans in a small pot and add taco seasoning.
3. Fill taco shells with the seasoned beans and enjoy with rice.

Chili Dinner

Ingredients in Bag

- 2 cans chili beans
- 1 can diced tomatoes
- 1 chili seasoning packet
- 1 box cornbread mix

Directions

1. Combine chili beans, diced tomatoes, and seasoning in a pot.
2. Simmer for 10–15 minutes.
3. Prepare cornbread mix according to package directions and serve with chili.

Soup and Crackers

Ingredients in Bag

- 2 cans hearty soup
- 1 sleeve crackers
- 1 canned fruit

Directions

1. Pour soup into a pot and heat until warm.
2. Serve with crackers on the side.
3. Enjoy canned fruit for dessert.

Tuna Helper Meal

Ingredients in Bag

- 1 box tuna helper
- 1 can tuna
- 1 can peas

Directions

1. Prepare Tuna Helper according to package instructions.
2. Add drained tuna while cooking.
3. Heat peas separately and serve on the side.

Mac and Cheese Meal

Ingredients in Bag

- 1 box mac and cheese
- 1 can tuna or chicken
- 1 can green beans

Directions

1. Prepare mac and cheese according to package instructions.
2. Stir in drained tuna or chicken.
3. Heat green beans and serve on the side.

Ramen Bowl Dinner

Ingredients in Bag

- 3 ramen packets
- 1 can chicken
- 1 can mixed vegetables

Directions

1. Boil water and cook ramen noodles according to package directions.
2. Add drained chicken and mixed vegetables to the pot.
3. Stir well and heat through.

Rice and Beans Bowl

Ingredients in Bag

- 1 bag instant rice
- 1 can black beans
- 1 can corn
- Taco seasoning packet

Directions

1. Cook rice according to package directions.
2. Heat black beans and corn together with taco seasoning.
3. Serve the bean mixture over rice.

Breakfast for Dinner

Ingredients in Bag

- Pancake mix
- Syrup
- Canned fruit

Directions

1. Prepare pancake batter according to package instructions.
2. Cook pancakes in a skillet until golden brown.
3. Serve with syrup and canned fruit.

Baked Potato Style Meal

Ingredients in Bag

- Instant mashed potatoes
- 1 can chili
- 1 can green beans

Directions

1. Prepare instant mashed potatoes according to package directions.
2. Heat chili in a pot or microwave.
3. Serve chili over the potatoes with green beans on the side.

Chicken and Rice

Ingredients in Bag

- Chicken flavored rice mix
- 1 can chicken
- 1 can carrots

Directions

1. Cook the rice mix according to package instructions.
2. Stir in drained chicken while cooking.
3. Heat carrots and serve on the side.

Sloppy Joe Night

Ingredients in Bag

- Sloppy Joe sauce
- Canned beef or alternative protein
- Buns or bread

Directions

1. Heat the sloppy Joe sauce and meat together in a pan.
2. Simmer for 5–10 minutes.
3. Spoon mixture onto buns or bread.

Alfredo Pasta

Ingredients in Bag

- Pasta
- Jar Alfredo sauce
- Canned chicken

Directions

1. Cook pasta according to package instructions.
2. Heat Alfredo sauce and stir in drained chicken.
3. Combine with pasta and serve.

Red Beans and Rice

Ingredients in Bag

- Red beans and rice mix
- Canned sausage or ham
- Canned vegetables

Directions

1. Prepare red beans and rice mix according to package instructions.
2. Stir in diced sausage or ham while cooking.
3. Heat vegetables and serve on the side.

Vegetable Pasta Soup

Ingredients in Bag

- Small pasta
- Canned mixed vegetables
- Canned diced tomatoes
- Bouillon cube

Directions

1. Bring 4 cups of water to a boil and add bouillon cube.
2. Add pasta, tomatoes, and vegetables.
3. Simmer until pasta is tender.

Peanut Butter Sandwich Meal

Ingredients in Bag

- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Crackers or bread
- Applesauce

Directions

1. Spread peanut butter and jelly on bread or crackers.
2. Serve with applesauce.

Quesadilla Meal

Ingredients in Bag

- Tortillas
- Canned chicken
- Canned corn
- Taco seasoning

Directions

1. Mix chicken, corn, and taco seasoning in a bowl.
2. Place mixture inside tortillas.
3. Heat in a skillet until warm and lightly crisp.

Pasta Salad Meal

Ingredients in Bag

- Pasta
- Italian dressing
- Canned olives or vegetables
- Tuna

Directions

1. Cook pasta and allow it to cool.
2. Mix pasta with tuna, vegetables, and dressing.
3. Stir well and enjoy.

Rice and Chicken Soup

Ingredients in Bag

- Instant rice
- Canned chicken
- Chicken broth
- Canned carrots

Directions

1. Pour broth into a pot and bring to a boil.
2. Add rice, chicken, and carrots.
3. Simmer until rice is tender.

Simple Bean Soup

Ingredients in Bag

- 2 cans beans
- 1 can diced tomatoes
- Seasoning packet
- Crackers

Directions

1. Combine beans, tomatoes, and seasoning in a pot.
2. Simmer for 10–15 minutes.
3. Serve with crackers.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SNACK KITS

Many children rely on school meals for breakfast and lunch. Snack packs provide easy, ready-to-eat food that children can enjoy anytime.

Snack packs should:

- Require no cooking
- Be kid-friendly
- Be easy to open
- Include a balance of protein, grains, and fruit

Steps:

- Set up ingredient stations.
- Give each student a gallon or quart-size bag.
- Students add 1 item from each station.
- Seal the bag and place in a collection box.

Kids can also:

- Decorate the bags with stickers
- Add encouraging notes
- Draw pictures

Power Snack Pack (Balanced energy snack)

- Applesauce pouch
- Granola bar
- Cheese crackers
- Pretzels

Rainbow Snack Bag (Colorful + fun foods)

- Fruit snacks
- Dried fruit
- Goldfish crackers
- Mini cookies

Game Day Snack Pack (Perfect for after-school activities)

- Pretzels
- Popcorn
- Granola bar
- Trail mix

Sunshine Snack Bag (Happy, bright snacks)

- Fruit cup
- Crackers
- Mini cookies
- Applesauce

Lunchbox Snack Kit (School lunch additions)

- Juice box
- Granola bar
- Crackers
- Fruit snacks

Teddy Bear Snack Bag (Cute and comforting snacks)

- Teddy grahams
- Applesauce
- Fruit snacks
- Crackers

Rocket Fuel Snack Pack (Energy snacks)

- Trail mix
- Granola bar
- Applesauce
- Pretzels

Camp Snack Pack (Campfire treats)

- Graham crackers
- Trail mix
- Granola bar
- Mini chocolate squares

Creative Kids Snack Pack (Fun snack mix)

- Crackers
- Fruit snacks
- Granola bar
- Popcorn

Star Student Snack Pack (Encouragement for school days)

- Applesauce
- Granola bar
- Pretzels
- Cheese crackers

VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Feeding America

How to Find Virtual Opportunities:

1. Go to the homepage.
2. Click “Take Action” in the top navigation menu.
3. Select:
 - “Advocate” for policy and awareness campaigns
 - “Fundraise” for virtual food drives and online donation campaigns
4. Use the “Find Your Local Food Bank” tool to locate additional remote or hybrid volunteer opportunities in your area.

No Kid Hungry

How to Find Virtual Opportunities:

1. Open the homepage.
2. Click “Take Action” at the top of the page.
3. Explore:
 - “Start a Fundraiser” for virtual campaigns
 - Advocacy pages supporting child nutrition legislation
 - Awareness resources and downloadable campaign materials
4. Visit the “Resources” section for school and student engagement ideas.

World Food Programme

How to Find Virtual Opportunities:

1. Visit the homepage.
2. Click “Get Involved” in the top menu.
3. Browse:
 - Advocacy and awareness campaigns
 - Educational resources
 - Global emergency response initiatives
4. Search “campaigns” or “advocacy” in the website search bar to find current digital opportunities.

Rise Against Hunger

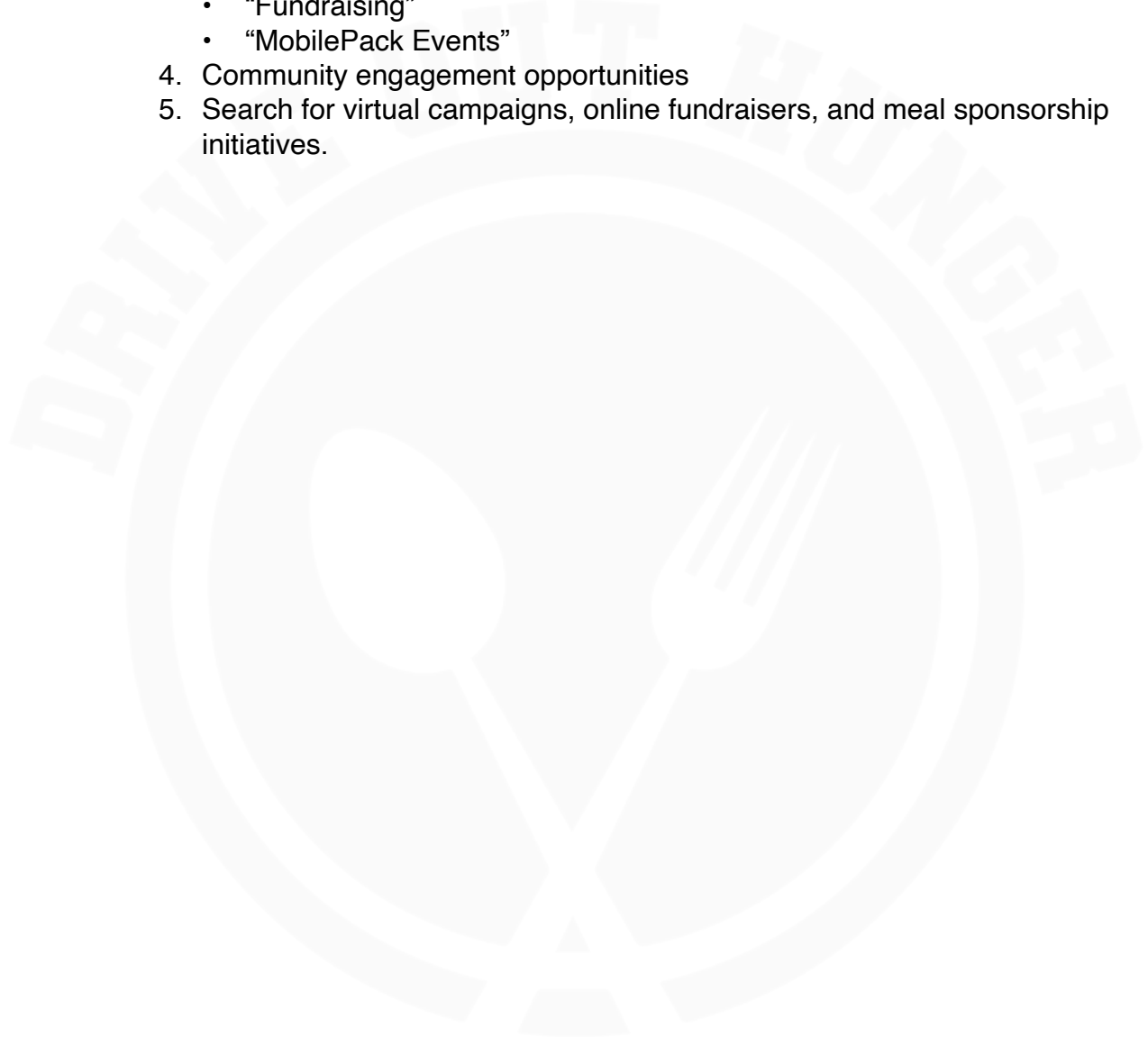
How to Find Virtual Opportunities:

1. Open the homepage.
2. Select “How I can Help”
3. Click:
 - “Fundraise” for virtual meal-packing support campaigns
 - “Events” for school and community engagement opportunities
4. Explore impact tracking tools that allow groups to monitor meals funded through online campaigns.

Feed My Starving Children

How to Find Virtual Opportunities:

1. Visit the homepage.
2. Click “Get Involved.”
3. Explore:
 - “Fundraising”
 - “MobilePack Events”
4. Community engagement opportunities
5. Search for virtual campaigns, online fundraisers, and meal sponsorship initiatives.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Building strong community partnerships allows Drive Out Hunger participants to make a greater impact by working alongside organizations already serving families experiencing food insecurity.

How to Find Local Food Programs

Participants can partner with many types of organizations that support food access in their communities.

Places to look for partnerships:

- Local food banks
- Food pantries
- Soup kitchens
- Churches with outreach ministries
- Community centers
- School backpack food programs
- Little Free Food Pantries
- Homeless shelters
- Nonprofit organizations focused on hunger relief

How to search:

- Search online for “food pantry near me” or “food bank in [city/state].”
- Use websites such as Feeding America to locate partner food banks.
- Ask local churches or schools about existing food assistance programs.
- Visit community Facebook groups where organizations often post needs.
- Contact city community outreach departments or nonprofit directories.

Tips for choosing a partner:

- Look for organizations that welcome volunteers or donations.
- Choose a program that serves families, children, or vulnerable populations.
- Make sure the organization aligns with your service goals and values.

SAMPLE OUTREACH EMAIL

Subject: Partnership Opportunity - Drive Out Hunger Service Project

Dear [Organization Name],

My name is [Your Name], and I am a participant in the Drive Out Hunger initiative, a service project dedicated to raising awareness and collecting food donations to help families facing food insecurity.

I would love the opportunity to partner with your organization to support the incredible work you are already doing in our community. Possible ways I could assist include organizing food drives, assembling snack packs or meal kits, volunteering, or helping raise awareness about your programs.

If your organization is open to partnering, I would be grateful to learn more about your current needs and how I can best support your mission.

Thank you for the important work you do for our community. I look forward to the possibility of working together.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
Drive Out Hunger Participant
[Email]
[Phone]
[Your Name]
[City, State]

SAMPLE PHONE SCRIPT

Hello, my name is [Your Name].

I'm calling because I participate in the Drive Out Hunger initiative, a service project focused on helping families experiencing food insecurity.

I'm looking to partner with local organizations that support hunger relief, and I was hoping to learn more about your program and see if there might be an opportunity for me to help through food drives, volunteer work, or donation collections.

Is there someone I could speak with about partnership opportunities or your current needs?
Thank you so much for the work you do in our community.

PARTNERSHIP REQUEST LETTER TEMPLATE

[Email]

[Date]

[Organization Name]

[Contact Person]

[Organization Address]

Dear [Contact Name],

I am writing to introduce myself and express interest in partnering with your organization through the Drive Out Hunger initiative.

Drive Out Hunger is a service project dedicated to raising awareness about food insecurity and collecting donations to support individuals and families in need. Through this initiative, participants organize food drives, create meal and snack kits, volunteer with food programs, and educate their communities about hunger issues.

I greatly admire the work your organization does to serve our community and would be honored to support your efforts. I would love the opportunity to partner with your organization through activities such as:

- Organizing food donation drives
- Assembling meal or snack kits for families and children
- Volunteering at distribution events
- Promoting your organization's needs on social media

Please let me know if there is an opportunity to collaborate or if there are specific needs I could help support.

Thank you for the important role your organization plays in helping families facing food insecurity.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

SOCIAL MEDIA RESOURCES

Social media is a powerful way for Drive Out Hunger participants to inspire others, share their impact, and raise awareness about food insecurity. By posting about their service activities, participants can encourage friends, family, and their communities to get involved and help support those in need.

Participants are encouraged to highlight their efforts in ways that celebrate service, showcase creativity, and amplify the mission of Drive Out Hunger. Examples of posts may include photos of donation drives, assembled snack packs or meal kits, volunteer events, or reflections on the importance of fighting hunger.

Suggested hashtags for social media posts:

#Drive_outhunger
#findyourfire
#everyoneshouldbeafoodhero
#foodinsecurity
#foodinsecurityawareness

Social Media Handles:

Facebook: Drive Out Hunger Org
Instagram: @driveouthungerorg

Important guidelines for posting:

- Always respect privacy and avoid sharing personal information about others, especially children or vulnerable populations.
- Follow community standards on social media platforms, ensuring content is appropriate and respectful.
- Highlight the service and impact rather than focusing on individuals' identities.
- Using social media responsibly helps participants spread the message of hope, service, and community impact while inspiring others to take action in their own communities.

Suggested social media captions:

- Every action counts in the fight against food insecurity. DRIVE Out Hunger is dedicated to raising awareness and inspiring meaningful change in communities everywhere. Join us by learning more and sharing our mission with others at @driveouthungerorg.
- Hunger is a challenge that affects millions of families. DRIVE Out Hunger works to educate and empower others to take action. Take the first step by getting involved and spreading awareness in your community through @driveouthungerorg.
- Through service, education, and outreach, DRIVE Out Hunger is building stronger communities and creating pathways toward a hunger-free future. Support the mission by volunteering or starting a service project with @driveouthungerorg.

- Small efforts can create a lasting impact. When we come together, we can help ensure more families have access to the food they need. Get involved today by donating or organizing a local food drive with @driveouthungerorg.
-
- DRIVE Out Hunger believes awareness leads to action. By learning and sharing, we can inspire others to join the movement to end food insecurity. Help spread the message by sharing and engaging with @driveouthungerorg.
- Every student, volunteer, and supporter plays a role in creating change. Together, we can make a difference one meal, one family, one community at a time. Take action by signing up to volunteer through @driveouthungerorg.
- Ending hunger starts with understanding the needs of our communities and taking action to meet them through service and compassion. Learn how you can help and commit to taking one meaningful step today with @driveouthungerorg.
- DRIVE Out Hunger is committed to helping individuals and communities take meaningful steps toward reducing food insecurity and building hope for the future. Get involved by donating, volunteering, or starting awareness efforts in your school or community through @driveouthungerorg.

Download Social Media Toolkit Resources

Help spread awareness and inspire action for DRIVE Out Hunger! Click the buttons below to download ready-to-use social media graphics, branding, and promotional materials to share across your platforms.

[Banners](#)

[Posts](#)

[Reels](#)

[Stories](#)

[Captions](#)

[DRIVE Out Hunger Branding](#)

TIPS FOR QUEENS

1. Start Small, Think Big

- Even a few items or a small donation can make a meaningful impact. Every effort counts when combined with others in your community.

2. Plan Ahead

- Schedule your food drive or volunteer activity in advance.
- Make a checklist of items you want to collect.
- Coordinate with local pantries, shelters, or community centers for drop-off instructions.

3. Be Creative

- Host a themed food drive (e.g., “Breakfast for Dinner,” “Snack Attack”) to make participation fun.
- Use art, social media, or videos to raise awareness and inspire others to give.
- Encourage friends, family, and classmates to participate in group projects.

4. Focus on Nutritional Value

- Include protein, whole grains, and fruits and vegetables whenever possible.
- Avoid items that are expired or damaged.
- Personal hygiene items and basic toiletries are always appreciated, too.

5. Document Your Impact

- Record hours spent volunteering, items collected, and people helped.
- Take photos, videos, or notes to share in your DRIVE Out Hunger report.
- Keeping detailed records helps you track your impact and inspires others.

6. Connect with the Community

- Learn about the organizations you’re supporting.
- Share information with family, friends, and classmates about food insecurity.
- Listen and respond to community needs - sometimes small adjustments can make a big difference.

7. Be Safe

- Follow all safety guidelines from food pantries or organizations.
- Use gloves and hand sanitizer when handling food.
- Avoid delivering items alone to unknown locations; always have an adult or team member present.

8. Lead by Example

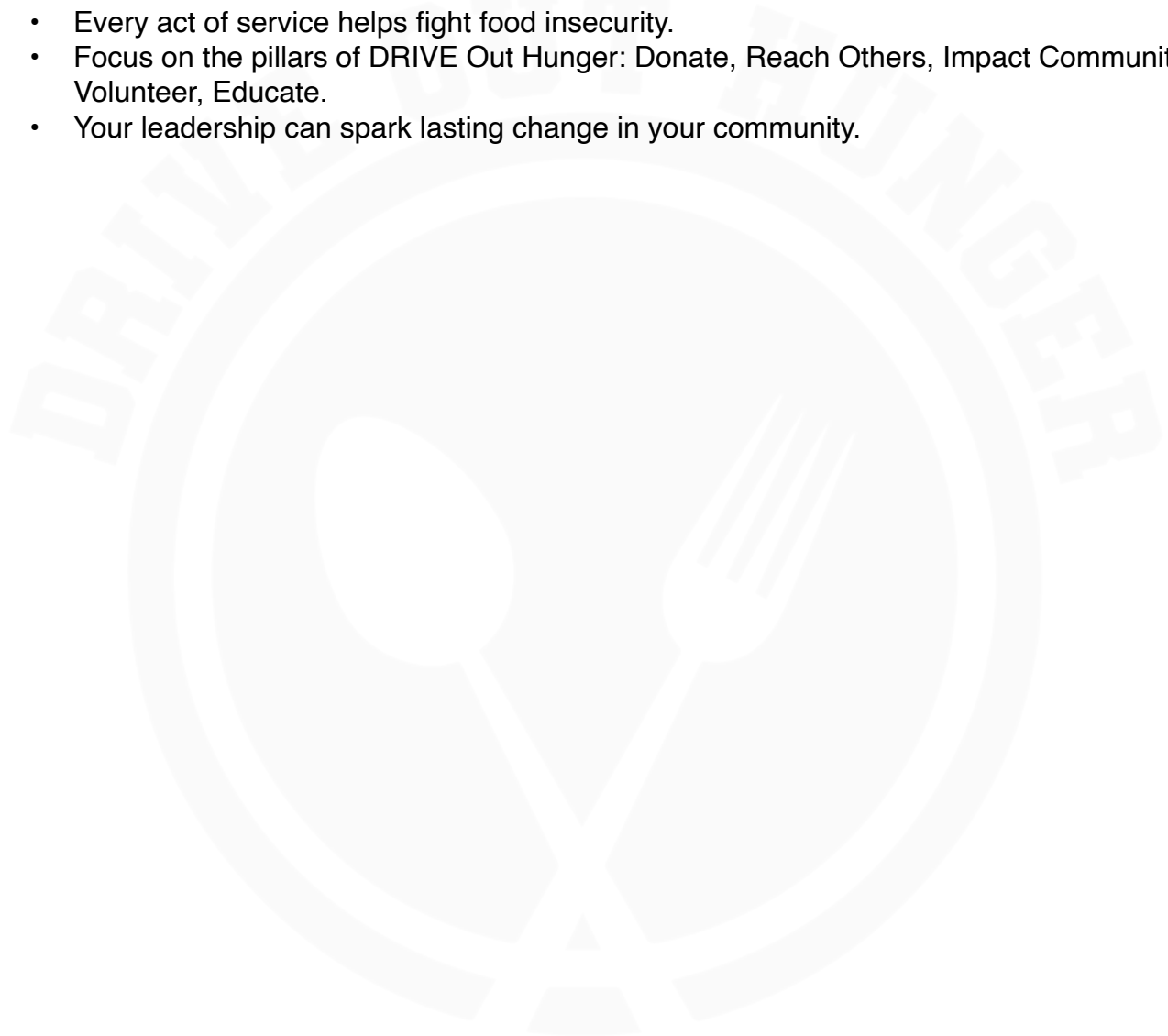
- Encourage others to donate and volunteer.
- Share your experience and inspire your peers to take action.
- Remember: being a delegate means being a role model in service and leadership.

9. Keep it Fun and Engaging

- Celebrate milestones, like reaching a donation goal.
- Create themed events or competitions to keep momentum.
- Show gratitude to volunteers, donors, and the community for their contributions.

10. Remember Your Mission

- Every act of service helps fight food insecurity.
- Focus on the pillars of DRIVE Out Hunger: Donate, Reach Others, Impact Communities, Volunteer, Educate.
- Your leadership can spark lasting change in your community.



SCHOOL VISITS RESOURCES

Elementary & Middle School Resources

[Kawartha Lakes Food Source Teacher Resources:](#)

- Offers downloadable lesson plans by grade level on food security, food systems, and growing/seasonal produce — includes elementary and middle school options.

[Arkansas Foodbank Education Resources:](#)

- Free elementary and middle/high school lesson plans on food insecurity, plus downloadable activities and handouts.

[FoodCorps Lessons \(Grades K–5\):](#)

- Hands-on food education lessons focused on healthy food, growing food, and food community connections.

[Atlanta Community Food Bank:](#)

- Our education and outreach team has a menu of tools for groups of all ages and sizes, everything from online resources, interactive workshops, tours, and youth offerings.

Middle & High School Curriculum

[FoodSpan \(High School Curriculum\):](#)

- Free, comprehensive curriculum exploring food systems, equity, and actions students can take — includes multiple lesson plans and projects.

[World Hunger News Lesson Index:](#)

- Curated list of publicly available lesson plans on hunger and food insecurity appropriate for middle and high school.

Adult & All-Ages Resources

[No Child Goes Hungry Curriculum:](#)

- Free lesson plans designed for all ages, including preschool through adults, ideal for group discussions in schools, churches, or community groups.

[Food Insecurity Education Toolkit \(Adult Focus\):](#)

- A downloadable toolkit designed to help educators and group leaders discuss food insecurity sensitively and effectively.

LESSON PLANS

The following collection of read-aloud books is designed to help pageant titleholders teach students about food insecurity through meaningful, age-appropriate literature. Each text was carefully selected to connect with one of the five steps of the DRIVE Out Hunger framework—Donate, Resources, Inspire, Volunteer, and Educate—helping students build empathy while also developing awareness of real-world challenges and solutions.

These read-alouds are organized to help students move from awareness to action through the DRIVE Out Hunger framework. Titleholders may choose to read the books aloud themselves during classroom visits or use the hyperlinked prerecorded read-aloud versions provided for easy implementation. Following each story, students can participate in an engaging activity that reinforces the featured DRIVE Out Hunger value through discussion, reflection, creativity, or service-centered learning experiences.

If You Plant a Seed – Kadir Nelson

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Small acts of kindness can grow into big community change.

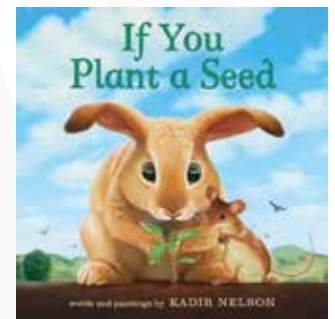
30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students create a “Kindness Garden.” Give each student a flower cutout to write or draw one act of kindness that could help someone in the community. Attach flowers to a bulletin board garden and discuss how kindness grows when shared.

Materials Needed:

Flower cutouts, scissors, markers, glue, bulletin board paper

Grade Level: K–2



[Youtube Link](#)

Growing Vegetable Soup – Lois Ehlert

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Food takes teamwork, time, and care to grow.

30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students design a paper class garden. Each student decorates a vegetable or fruit template and labels how that food helps families stay healthy. Combine all pieces into one classroom garden display.

Materials Needed:

Vegetable templates, crayons, glue sticks, construction paper

Grade Level: K–2



[Youtube Link](#)

The Invisible String – Patrice Karst

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Communities are connected through kindness and support.

30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Sit students in a circle and create a classroom “Connection Web.” One student holds yarn, shares one way to help others, then tosses the yarn to another student while holding onto part of the string. Continue until a web is formed to show how everyone is connected.

Materials Needed:

Yarn

Grade Level: K–2



[Youtube Link](#)

The Sandwich Swap – Queen Rania Al Abdullah

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Respecting different cultures and food traditions builds understanding.

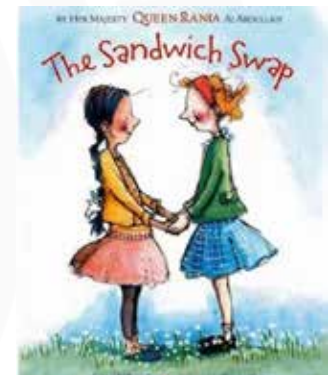
30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students complete a “Foods Around the World” coloring sheet featuring foods from different cultures. Students color the foods, choose one food they would like to try, and write or discuss why they chose it. Students can share how food helps people learn about different cultures and traditions.

Materials Needed:

Printable “Foods Around the World” coloring sheet, crayons or colored pencils, pencils

Grade Level: K–3



[Youtube Link](#)

Last Stop on Market Street – Matt de la Peña

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Gratitude helps us recognize ways we can support others.

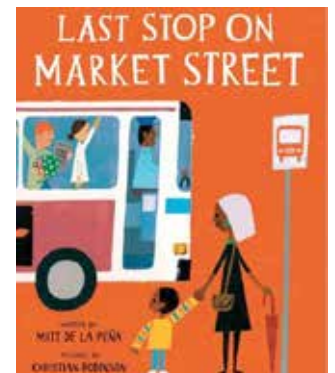
30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students write thank-you cards to food pantry volunteers, cafeteria workers, or community helpers. Encourage students to include specific ways these helpers make a difference for families.

Materials Needed:

Cardstock or folded paper, markers, crayons, stickers

Grade Level: 2-4



[Youtube Link](#)

Grade Level: 2-4

Those Shoes – Maribeth Boelts

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

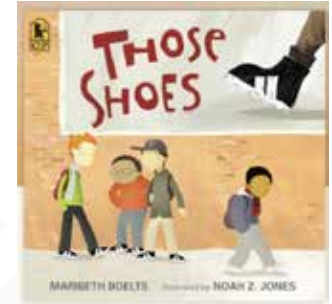
Understanding the difference between wants and needs.

30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students sort teacher-provided printed pictures into “needs” and “wants.” Create a large class T-chart and discuss why food is a need for every family.

Materials Needed:

Chart paper, printed pictures, scissors, glue, markers



[Youtube Link](#)

Grade Level: 2-5

Just a Dream – Chris Van Allsburg

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

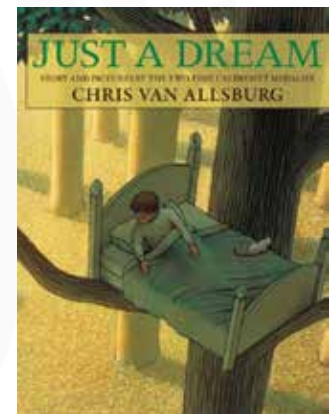
Waste impacts the future and communities around us.

30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students work in small groups to design posters encouraging students to reduce food waste in the cafeteria. Encourage slogans, drawings, and practical tips for saving food.

Materials Needed:

Poster paper, colored pencils, markers



[Youtube Link](#)

Grade Level: K–3

The Big Umbrella – Amy June Bates

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Everyone deserves inclusion, kindness, and support.

30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Create a classroom umbrella mural. Students write kind or inclusive actions on raindrop cutouts and glue them around a large umbrella shape to show how everyone belongs.

Materials Needed:

Bulletin board paper, raindrop templates, glue, markers



[Youtube Link](#)

The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear – Don Wood

Grade Level: K–2

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Hunger can create worry and uncertainty.

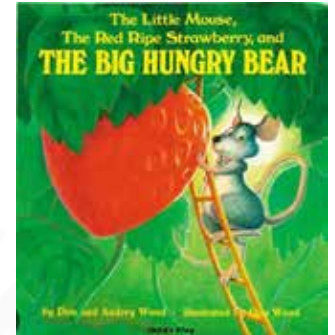
30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students draw a “Food Journey Map” showing how food travels from a farm to a grocery store or family table.

Students label each step in the journey.

Materials Needed:

Drawing paper, pencils, crayons



[Youtube Link](#)

Those Darn Squirrels! – Adam Rubin

Grade Level: K–2

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

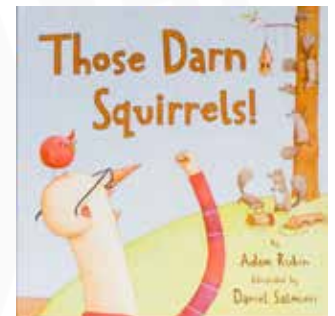
Sharing resources helps everyone.

30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students complete a themed word search using vocabulary from the story, including words connected to sharing, nature, and community. After finishing the puzzle, students choose 2–3 words from the word search and discuss or draw how those words connect to helping others and sharing resources in their community.

Materials Needed:

Printed food cards, sorting mats, glue



[Youtube Link](#)

The Very Hungry Caterpillar – Eric Carle

Grade Level: K–2

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

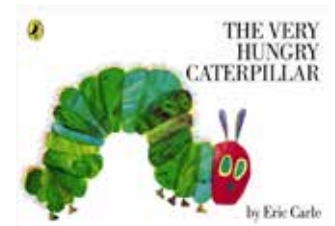
Hunger is a basic need everyone experiences.

30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students sequence pictures of foods from the story in order, then complete a simple class graph showing favorite healthy foods. Discuss why healthy food is important for growth.

Materials Needed:

Food cutouts, graph paper, glue sticks



[Youtube Link](#)

Maddi's Fridge – Lois Brandt

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Food insecurity can affect families quietly and kindness matters.

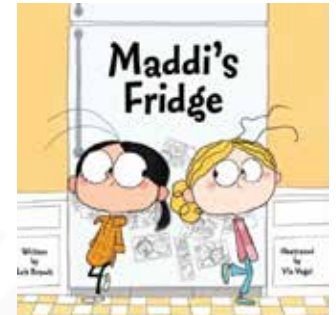
30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students write or draw one way they could help a friend or neighbor in need. Create a class kindness booklet by combining all student pages together.

Materials Needed:

Drawing paper, crayons, pencils, stapler

Grade Level: 2-4



[Youtube Link](#)

What Does It Mean to Be Kind? – Rana DiOrio

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Kindness can help people feel cared for and supported.

30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students create “Kindness Tickets” with simple actions like sharing, helping, or encouraging others. Place tickets in a class container and read examples aloud throughout the week.

Materials Needed:

Paper slips, markers, small container

Grade Level: K–5



[Youtube Link](#)

The Little Red Hen (Makes a Pizza) – Philomen Sturges

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Communities work best when everyone helps.

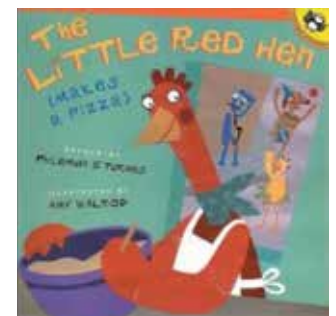
30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students create a paper pizza collage. Each pizza slice includes one way students can help their family, classroom, or community. Assemble slices into one large classroom pizza.

Materials Needed:

Construction paper, scissors, glue, markers

Grade Level: 1-3



[Youtube Link](#)

Stone Soup - Jon J Muth

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Small contributions together can meet big needs.

30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students decorate vegetable cutouts with foods they would contribute to help feed a community. Combine all vegetables into a large “Stone Soup” class poster and discuss how teamwork helps others.

Materials Needed:

Poster board, vegetable templates, crayons, glue

Grade Level: 2-5



[Youtube Link](#)

A Chair for My Mother – Vera B. Williams

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Communities can support families during difficult times.

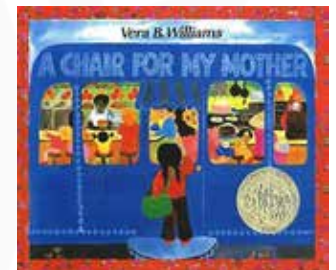
30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students brainstorm ways classrooms can help families in need, then create a class goal chart for collecting pantry items or completing acts of service.

Materials Needed:

Chart paper, markers, stickers

Grade Level: 3-5



[Youtube Link](#)

Saturday at the Food Pantry – Diane O’Neill

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Food pantries help families and strengthen communities.

30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students decorate paper grocery bags with positive messages and drawings that encourage kindness and hope. Discuss how these bags could brighten someone’s day during a food drive.

Materials Needed:

Paper grocery bags, markers, crayons, stickers

Grade Level: 2-4



[Youtube Link](#)

Don't Waste Your Food - Deborah Chancellor

DRIVE Out Hunger Discussion Focus:

Reducing food waste helps families and the environment.

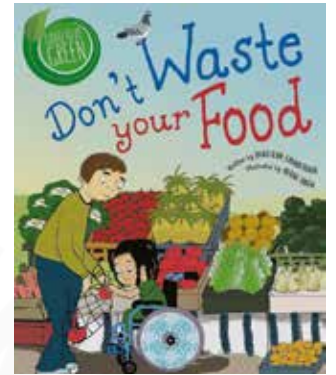
30-Minute Classroom Extension Activity:

Students complete a food waste-themed crossword puzzle using vocabulary related to saving food, recycling, composting, sharing, and reducing waste. After completing the crossword, students discuss simple ways families, schools, and communities can waste less food.

Materials Needed:

Printed food pictures, sorting mats, glue, chart paper

Grade Level: 1-4



[Youtube Link](#)

DRIVE OUT HUNGER CAMPAIGN BADGES

A simple, encouraging, and mission-centered badge system designed to celebrate both large-scale impact and small consistent acts of service.

	How to Earn It	DRIVE Mission Connection
Service in Action	Donate at least 25 food items OR Complete 5 hours of pantry, meal packing, or food drive service.	Donate / Volunteer
Community Impact	Complete 2 community hunger-relief project that benefits a school, church, shelter, pantry, or local organization	Resources / Volunteer
Advocacy & Awareness	Complete at least 5 awareness activities, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social media posts - Educational presentations - Posters or campaigns - School announcements - Community outreach events 	Inspire / Educate
Volunteer Milestone	Earn milestone levels through volunteer service hours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bronze: 10 hours Silver: 25 hours Gold: 50 hours Platinum: 100+ hours 	Volunteer
Creativity for a Cause	Decorate 50 brown paper lunch bags and/or create 50 encouraging cards for individuals and families experiencing food insecurity.	Inspire / Educate
Global Kindness	Complete 5 acts of kindness or inclusion that positively impact others locally or globally through compassion and service.	Inspire
Leadership Through Service	Lead at least 1 service project or volunteer initiative OR Recruit at least 5 additional volunteers or donors to participate in a hunger relief effort.	Inspire / Volunteer

Rising Impact	Demonstrate continued growth throughout the Year of Service by completing: Activities in at least 3 different badge categories AND Participating in service efforts during at least 3 separate months.	Supports overall DRIVE mission growth
Hunger Relief Partner	Partner with at least 1 food bank, nonprofit, school, pantry, or community organization AND Participate in a collaborative service effort or donation campaign.	Resources / Volunteer
DRIVE Out Hunger Ambassador	5 different badges AND Complete 50+ total service hours AND Participate in advocacy, volunteerism, and leadership activities throughout the year.	Represents all aspects of D.R.I.V.E.



Founder: Ansley Lyons
Email Address: anslyons@gmail.com
Phone Number: 678-773-0109

Instagram - @DRIVEOutHungerOrg
Facebook - DRIVE Out Hunger Org
Website - www.driveouthungerproject.org

We love hearing from you! Your questions, ideas, and feedback help DRIVE Out Hunger forward.
Don't hesitate to reach out, we're here to support you every step of the way.

