Create a little Christmas cheer for someone in your community

Christmas can be a wonderful time to think about others and share a little kindness. Create a handmade Christmas card for someone living in a local care home and help brighten their day with a thoughtful message.

Materials

- Card or thick paper
- Coloured pencils, crayons or felt-tip pens
- Glue
- Child-safe scissors
- Stickers, stamps or other craft materials
- Optional: Christmas wrapping paper or recycled paper for decoration

How to play

1. Fold a piece of card or thick paper in half to create your Christmas card. Let your child choose how they would like to decorate it. They could draw a Christmas tree, snowman, stars, presents or anything they think will make someone smile.

2. Help your child write a simple Christmas message inside. You could write down their own words if they are too young to write independently.

3. Encourage your child to add their name or a little drawing inside the card. Talk about the person who might receive it and how they might feel when they open it.

4. Contact a local care home to ask whether they accept Christmas cards or handmade donations and find out how they would like them delivered. Take your cards along together or arrange for them to be collected.

How Does This Benefit Children?

Empathy and Compassion - Creating something for someone they may not know encourages children to think about other people's feelings and how small acts of kindness can make someone feel cared for.

Understanding Community - Children begin to understand that they are part of a wider community and that they can contribute to making it a kinder place.

Social and Emotional Development - Talking about kindness, giving and how others might feel helps children develop emotional awareness and empathy.

Creativity and Self-Expression - Designing their own card allows children to make creative choices and express their ideas through pictures, colours and decorations.

Fine Motor Development - Drawing, colouring, cutting, sticking and writing help develop hand strength, dexterity and coordination.

Language and Communication - Creating a message encourages children to think about what they would like to say and develop language around feelings, kindness and relationships.

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