



# Meeting 15

## Helpers in My Neighborhood

Here are some fun activities that encourage Little Lambs to play and explore while learning about community helpers. Adapt the activities to meet the needs of your Little Lambs or create your own activities.



## MEETING LENGTH

### 60-80 MINUTES

- Gather the Flock (5 minutes)
- Lamb Tales (10 minutes)
- Activities (40-60 minutes)
- Good-baa Little Lambs (5 minutes)

## Gather the Flock

5  
MINUTES

Using a lamb puppet or toy lamb, greet each of the children by name and welcome them all to Little Lambs. Have the children sit in a circle.



Listen to a story about community helpers.

## STAR COMPLETED

COMMUNITY  
HELPERS



## Lamb Tales

10  
MINUTES

### COMMUNITY HELPERS

Begin the story by showing the children pictures of community helpers (police officers, firefighters, librarians, grocers, etc.). Then read the story. After the story, tell the children they will be learning about community helpers during Little Lambs.

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Pictures of community helpers
- *Corduroy's Busy Street* by Don Freeman (Viking, 2005) or a book of your choice





The following activities fulfill the requirement for My World III, which is to complete the Community Helpers star.

## Neighborhood Buildings

10  
MINUTES

### WHAT YOU DO

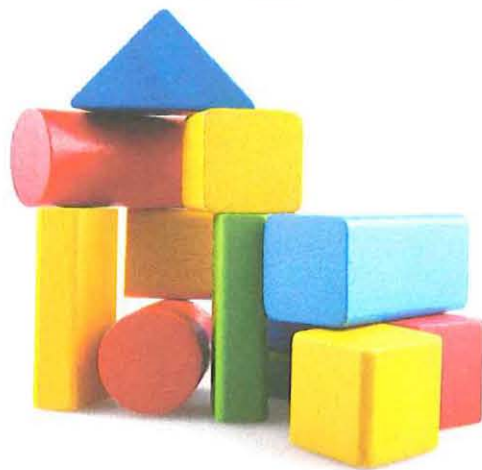
Ahead of time: Place pictures of neighborhood buildings (such as a police station, schools, fire stations, and stores) in the area where the children will be playing with the blocks. Fill several tubs with blocks or Legos.

Begin by showing the children the pictures of the buildings and ask them what helpers might work in them. Then stack several of the blocks together and tell them what type of building it is. Encourage the children to create their own buildings and play with the toy trucks, cars, and people.

### 1 ACTIVITY

#### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Pictures of neighborhood buildings
- Building blocks or Legos
- Toy cars, trucks, and people
- Tubs



## ACTIVITY

# 2

## Action Heroes

10

MINUTES

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Large cardboard boxes
- Small step stool
- Gym mat

Ahead of time: Place boxes end-to-end to create tunnels. Use a small step stool (one or two steps) and a mat for a jumping platform. Use plastic bottles with sand in the bottom for stability to make an obstacle course. Be creative and provide as many activities as you can think of for the movement center. Just make sure they are safe!

Share with the children that firefighters and police officers have to be able to run, crawl, and jump to help people. Then show them how to move through each activity. It's a good idea to have an adult at each activity. Then encourage the children to get moving.



# I'm a Helper

15  
MINUTES

## WHAT YOU DO

Ahead of time: Create a couple of community helpers centers. The centers should contain clothes so the children can dress up like the helper and objects to play with that represent things the helpers would use.

Depending on how many children you have, you can either let the children move from each activity center at their own pace or assign them to a center and then give them time to play. You will want to assign an adult at each center and the adults may need to role play with the children to get them involved. For example, at the restaurant the adult could first be the server and take orders from the children and then reverse roles and let the children take the orders.

## 3 ACTIVITY

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Items for role-playing centers

## Suggested Role-playing Centers & What You'll Need:

### Post Office

- Oversized blue shirts
- Junk mail that the children can sort into tubs and then deliver
- Shoe boxes as mailboxes
- Tote bags to use as mail bags
- Envelopes, paper, and crayons to use for writing letters
- Stamps (stickers)

### Restaurant

- Aprons and name tags
- Pads of paper and crayons to take orders
- Tables and chairs
- Plastic plates, forks, spoons, and cups
- Menus (Fold in half and write "Menu" on the front. Inside, draw pictures or use stickers of food the children can pretend to order.)

### Doctor's Office

- White oversized dress shirts to use as lab coats
- Stethoscopes
- Band-Aids
- Tongue depressors
- Bathroom scales

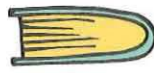
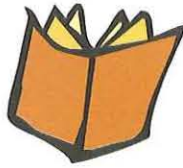
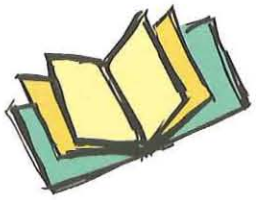
### Plumber

- Dark blue oversized shirts
- Plastic pipes
- Large nuts and bolts
- Wrenches, screw drivers

### Fire Fighter

- Yellow rain coats or yellow shirts
- Draw yellow and orange flames on the sidewalk
- Use water bottles to "put out" the flames





## ACTIVITY

# 4

# More Neighborhood Helper Stories

10  
MINUTES

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Books and DVDs about neighborhood helpers
- Suggested books: *Career Day* by Anne Rockwell (HarperCollins, 2000), *Jobs Around My Neighborhood* (English and Spanish) by Gladys Rosa-Mendoza, (me+mi, 2002)
- Suggested DVDs: *Amazing Heros* (First Look Pictures, 2003), *Heavy Equipment Operators* (Big Kids, 2003), *Zoo Crew: All The People Who Make A Zoo Work* (Big Kids, 1995)

### WHAT YOU DO

Ahead of time: Go to your local library and select several books or a DVD on community helpers from the children's section. If you decide to show a video, watch it first to make sure it is appropriate for the children in your club. Select a section of the video. You don't have to watch the entire video.

### TIP

You can order children's videos and DVDs at [bigkids.com](http://bigkids.com).

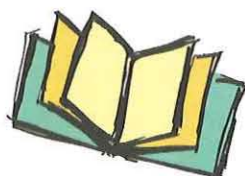
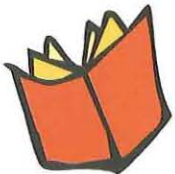
Gather the children into a half-circle, have them sit on the floor, and read the books to them or watch the selected DVD.



# Good-baa Little Lambs

5  
MINUTES

Gather the children into a circle and ask them a specific question about what they learned during Little Lambs. Example: Who are helpers in our neighborhood? Sing "Jesus Is My Shepherd" (p. 175) and then rejoin the rest of the Adventurers for your closing program.



**Star:** Community Helpers



**Requirement:** My World III