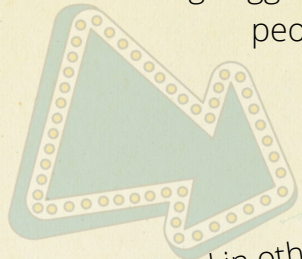




## Refugee Week

### Activities For Children

The following suggestions could be used in a children's program, worship or at home to help connect with people who may have come to Australia as an Asylum seeker or Refugee.



#### Culture:

Being interested in other cultures can help us to be welcoming to new friends from different places. You might want to learn a few words (like 'hello', 'welcome', 'please', and 'thank-you') in other languages.

People who are born in countries other than Australia might be used to wearing different types of clothes. Ask your leaders if you could have a multi-cultural day where everyone can have the opportunity to wear traditional clothes from other countries (many schools already do this).



#### Craft – Friendship Bands

One way to welcome new friends is by giving and receiving gifts. We also show that we are including others and accept them when we do things together with them. One way to do this is by making friendship bands. Instructions are found below for a very simple version, but a quick google and you can find quite elaborate designs made from a variety of materials.

<https://www.makefilmpay.com/kids-crafts/simple-braided-friendship-bracelet/>

- Cut three strands 80cm in length of your chosen colours of knitting wool.
- Fold in half and tie a loop.
- Sort the same colour threads together.
- Pull the left-hand threads over the centre threads.
- Pull the right-hand threads over the centre threads.
- Pull the left-hand threads over the centre threads.
- Pull the right-hand threads over the centre threads.
- Repeat the following steps until you have reached your desired bracelet length.
- Tie an end knot.
- Split the ends into two groups and tie to loop







# Refugee Week

## Activities For Children

The following suggestions could be used in a children's program, worship or at home to help connect with people who may have come to Australia as an Asylum seeker or Refugee.

### Games

Another way to show unity and acceptance is by playing games together. It might be by choosing someone to be on your team, or letting them be "Captain". It's also the process of teaching one another and learning the rules. Hopefully it's a way to have fun and a few laughs. In the story we looked at before, Akram said that he missed playing games with his friends from the camp. If you have a new friend who has moved to Australia from another country, you might like to ask them what types of games they like to play. You might even discover that you already know the same games but with different names. Maybe they can teach you a new game to play together. Here are some examples of a few games that you might like to play with your new friend:

- Hopscotch
- Football (Soccer)
- Basketball
- Marbles
- Hacky sacks



### Food

Sharing food is a great way to build friendships and make everyone feel like they belong. Often we have to be really brave to try something new, but it is important to remember when refugees first arrive in Australia, they might not have tried any of our food, and they have to be really brave to try new food each day!

- (If COVID-19 restrictions allow) Have a selection of international foods for the children to try (be aware of any allergies in the group). Explain that although we may not like some of these "new" foods, some of our "normal" foods are new and not very nice for our friends. If you try something that you don't like, give your new friends a 'fist pump' for being brave enough to try new foods in Australia. Ask them what foods they don't like to eat. (If COVID-19 restrictions don't allow for this, consider a "take home and try" bag, and a note for parents to lead the discussion.)
- Recipe cards: Create a Corps recipe book. Give each child a page to take home and write a recipe on with the help of a parent (including title, ingredients, method, food country of origin if known or family country of origin, and contributing person's name and email). Prompt and have spare pages to provide any and all members of the corps to include a recipe. Type, collate and email out the recipe book to anyone who would like a copy (do not include individual email addresses in the recipe book).
- Invite your new friends to tell you about the types of food they like to eat, or a meal that their family likes to eat on special occasions. Maybe you could ask them to teach you how to make it. You can also talk about the types of food your family likes to eat. You might even like to invite them for dinner one day (check with parents/guardians first).