Lend a Hand

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

**Themes:** Community Service, Acts of Kindness, Relationships

**Book Brief:** This book offers a collection of poems showcasing everyday examples of simple acts of kindness.

**Author:** John Frank

**Illustrator:** London Ladd

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**TIME TO READ!**

**Before reading, make predictions:** What does it mean to “lend a hand”? Have you heard that phrase before? What do you think is going on between the people on the cover? Why do you think the author chose this title?

**While reading, look for the story:** This book works best if you read one or two poems at a time. As you read each poem, ask your child what story it’s telling.

**How does the act of kindness shown in each poem connect with the title Lend a Hand?**

**After reading, ask questions:**
- What were you able to infer, or guess, about the characters in each poem?
- What are some acts of kindness that you have done?
- Has anyone ever done something nice for you for no reason?
- Why is it important to do kind things for others?
- How does it make you feel when someone does something nice for you?

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**RELATED ACTIVITIES**

- **SANDWICH - SHARE A SQUARE**

  Ingredients: bread, sandwich toppings, plate, knife

  Invite a friend or family member to help you make a sandwich. Once the sandwich is finished, cut it into four squares. Share a square (or two) and enjoy the snack together!

- **EXPLORER - IMAGINE THAT!**

  Pick a favorite story to read with a friend or sibling. After the story, imagine that you are both characters in the story and that you have been transported to a different time and place. Act out the story with each other as you let your imaginations take you on new adventures.

- **NO CHARGE - LEND A HAND**

  Are there people in your neighborhood who could use a helping hand? Think of some simple ways that you could lend a hand at no charge. Here are a few ideas to get you started:
  - carry in groceries or packages for someone
  - help watch a younger child while dad or mom cooks dinner
  - take a newspaper up to the door for a neighbor
  - watch a neighbor’s pets while they’re away
  - clean up trash in your neighborhood

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**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

**OTHER BOOKS ABOUT MAKING A DIFFERENCE**