

Story Bones – Stone Soup



A family arrives in a small village where everyone takes care of themselves. They set up camp in the park.

A girl greets them and sees them start making soup with only water and a stone. Can you do that? The father of the family replies that it would be better with a little salt and herbs.

The girl helps them collect various additional ingredients in the village. Some villagers are happy to share more ingredients, some don't give away any ingredients, and some have no food to share but can share musical instruments or bowls and spoons.

In the end, everyone participates in different ways, shares what they have, and together they create a wonderful soup that everyone shares in the park in the middle of the village.

Playing Possibilities - Make groups of students choose their own

- **Soup Pot Collage:** Create a big paper soup pot. Each student adds a drawing or word showing what they would “add” to the soup (food, talent, kindness, a skill, etc.) or give each student a smooth stone to paint something that represents what they bring to the “community soup.”
- **Act Out the Story:** Assign roles: the family, the girl, villagers, musicians. Let students use simple props or costume pieces and create their own lines.
- **Villager Freeze Frame:** Create a freeze frame of different villagers. Have others guess what they are feeling or thinking. Then let the “statues” speak their inner thoughts.
- **Kindness Theatre:** In groups, invent short skits showing different ways people can share or help — not just with food but time, care, or skills.
- **Make a Soup Soundtrack:** In small groups, create sound effects for the story (boiling, music, laughter, footsteps, stirring, etc.). Perform live during a storytelling session.
- **Music Sharing Circle:** Have a music circle where each student contributes a sound or beat — building a song like building the soup!
- If the school has the resources (i.e. a safe kitchen space), the class could bring the ingredients and cook it at school and then eat it as a community, just like in the story. Alternatively, the kids can go home and prepare a “Stonesoup” without real stones with their parents, and write about it or take a photo of it and print it out for decorating the classroom.