RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS

Poverty can be a challenging topic to teach and discuss with children. There are numerous existing, developmentally appropriate resources to help kids learn about this issue:

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**LEARN**

Spent, an online simulation game appropriate for older children, Spent simulates the hard choices that low-income families have to make each day.

**TEACH**

For educators, there are lots of places to start working this into your curriculum.

- Teaching Tolerance and Primary Source have great resources
- Cult of Pedagogy has compiled a list of organizations to help teach poverty in the classroom.
- The librarian toolbox has several good recommendations.

**VOLUNTEER**

Many low-income people are food insecure and depend on food pantries and places serving hot meals to make ends meet. Often these are non-profits working with small budgets, so they need all the help they can get. A website like https://www.volunteermatch.org/ can help you find organizations.

**ORGANIZE A SUPPLIES DRIVE**

Reach out to your local homeless shelter. Many homeless shelters have specific needs that don’t get met by regular donations, like socks and deodorant. You can organize a supplies drive at your school based on those needs.

**SHARE FACTS WITH FRIENDS**

Many people (especially those who haven’t experienced poverty themselves) don’t know much about how our country helps those in need. For example, many people that receive government benefits work - but their wages are too low, or hours too few, for them to make a living wage.