



## Mini Vinnies new starter meetings

### Meeting 2 – Starting the mission: See

#### Aim of session:

- To help the children identify the needs in their local community.
- To learn about the impact the SVP has on the people they help.
- To relate their mission of being a Mini Vinnie to the actions of Jesus.

#### What you will need for the session:

- A *Fruit Pastille Moment* worksheet (1 copy per child)
- 1 large piece of paper to create your map of the local area with the children
- Pens and pencils
- *Minutes of the Meeting* template for the Secretary (see website)

#### Procedure:

- Invite the President or another child to read the opening prayer from their handbook.
- Show the children the agenda for the meeting and explain that for every meeting you will help the Mini Vinnies create their agenda as this helps the flow of the meetings.
- Give each child a worksheet and give the children a few minutes to answer the two questions: What was the last kind thing that someone did for you? How did it make you feel?
- Encourage the children to share their answers. Let them lead the conversation.
- Reflect together on Roberta's story on the worksheet.
- Explain that a big part of the Mini Vinnies' mission is to see who might need their help.
- Get the children to create a map together of the school and local area to identify where there might be a need for help. For example, the playground where some children might be lonely, or there might be litter on the ground.
- Once they have gathered their ideas, explain that in the next meeting you are going to think about what Jesus would do to help in these places.
- Finish this session by getting the children to think of a small action they can do for someone else that day as a 'Fruit Pastille' moment. This could be for a friend, family member, teacher at school or some other relevant person. Get them to write this down on their worksheet.
- The President closes the meeting with a prayer (this could be the one in the handbook or an alternative) and ensure the children know the date and time of their next meeting.
- Encourage the Secretary to write up the minutes of the meeting to keep a record of what they did in their session.



St Vincent  
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# A 'Fruit Pastille' moment

As a Mini Vinnie, you might never know what impact your small actions have on those you are helping, but if you read Roberta's story below, you'll hear just one example of how your small actions can make a big difference to someone else's life.

What was the last kind thing that someone did for you?

How did it make you feel?

Can you think of a small action you can do for someone else today that will be their 'Fruit Pastille' moment?



I was inspired to join the SVP and to serve for a number of years after two rain-soaked men visited the hospital in the North East in which I was a patient. I was in pain and depressed. They made me laugh and gave me some Fruit Pastilles. During lockdown, I got offers of help from the SVP and a beautiful handmade card from the young 'Vinnies' at St Marie's School. I get a plant at Christmas from the SVP too. I can't express how much these actions have brightened my life and lifted my soul. Long may their good works continue. Roberta



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As a Mini Vinnie, part of your mission is to see who needs your help.

Create your large map of the local area with your group and then identify five places where people might need your help. What might the need be there?



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