

MY IDEA OF A HOME ACTIVITY GUIDE

Overview

This activity encourages children to think about what makes a home special — not just in terms of things, but also feelings, people, and safety. It helps build empathy and awareness of those who may not have these basics.

Children will draw, build, or describe their dream home, then reflect on the essentials that everyone needs in a home.

Steps for the activity

1. Discuss the concept of home:

- Start with a short conversation: “What makes your home special? Who lives there? What do you love most about it?”
- Key themes to draw out: people, pets, comfort, warmth, safety.

2. Provide materials:

Offer different creative options depending on time/setting:

- Drawing/Painting: Paper, crayons, markers.
- Building: Lego, building blocks, cardboard boxes.
- Crafts: Collage with cut-outs, stickers, coloured paper.
- Imaginative play: Build a fort/den with blankets, cushions, or classroom materials.

3. Encourage creativity:

- Let children design anything — castles, rocket ships, treehouses, or ordinary homes.
- Ask them to add details like their bedroom, favourite things, or pets.
- For older children: encourage writing a list of what’s inside their home.

4. Share and discuss:

- Invite children to present their home: “Tell us what makes it special.”
- Then introduce reflection:
 - Imagine you didn’t have a home for a while — what would be the most important things to have?
 - Children often shift to basics like warmth, safety, food, family, and a toilet.

Tips for making it engaging

- Focus on imagination: No right or wrong answers — big, bold ideas are encouraged.
- Mix formats: Drawing, building, role play — give children choice.
- Incorporate sensory fun: e.g., water painting outdoors, or decorating their den.
- Keep it simple: The goal is creativity + empathy, not a polished final product.
- Link to Framework

Wrap up by explaining:

- Some people don’t have the basics of a home — Framework helps people find safe, warm homes with the essentials they need.
- Connect it to fundraising: children can donate £1 to take part, or the group can make a class contribution to support Framework.