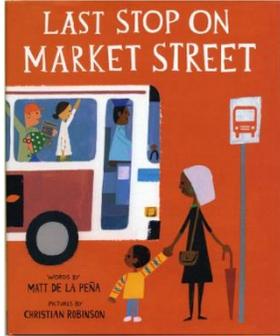


## Exploring Our Community - Home Learning Activities

Area/s of Development	Activity Name and Activity Description	What is your child learning?
<p><b>Social Studies</b> (understanding how people live, simple geographic knowledge)</p> <p><b>Math</b> (explores and understands spatial relationships)</p> <p><b>Cognitive</b> (uses symbols and images to represent things)</p>	<p><b>Block Mapping</b> – Take a walk through your neighborhood and ask your child to notice both the natural environment (e.g. trees, hills) and the built environment (e.g. buildings, roads). What do you notice about our neighborhood? What do the homes look like? Do you know who lives in them? Why might it be important to know who lives around you? How many different types of plants do you see? What might the plants need to live? Do you see potholes or bike lanes in the streets? Are there sidewalks and curb cuts? How did those get there? When you get home from your walk, work with your child to make a map of your neighborhood and include the things you saw.</p>	<p>Your child will be learning simple geography as they explore different elements in your neighborhood. Noticing where things are in relation to one another (e.g. in front of, next to, around the corner) and representing them on a map hones their spatial skills and symbolic thinking. They will also be engaging their critical thinking skills and language when considering those how/why questions.</p>
<p><b>Social Studies</b> (understanding how people live, explores change related to people or places, knowledge about self)</p> <p><b>Cognitive</b> (makes connections)</p>	<p><b>The Land We Are On</b> – Work with your child to learn about the place where you live. What is the Indigenous name of the land you live on? What are some important geographic features (e.g. rivers, mountains) near you? Who are the Native peoples of the area? What are the Native languages? Explore the stories, songs, and traditions through resources such as <a href="https://tulaliplushootseed.com/">https://tulaliplushootseed.com/</a> or <a href="http://www.indian-ed.org/">http://www.indian-ed.org/</a>. Talk about your own family’s journey to this land – where did your ancestors come from? What was their/your migration story? Your child can illustrate the journey using drawings or collages, or you can record them retelling the story.</p>	<p>Your child will cultivate an understanding of the histories of both where they came from and the place they are at now. This helps them get a sense of their connection to the land and to the people who came before them. Through comparing their lived experiences with others, they can explore both their uniqueness and their relationship to others.</p>



<p><b>Social Studies</b> (understanding of people and how they live)</p> <p><b>Literacy</b> (appreciates books)</p>	<p><b>Last Stop on Market Street-</b> Read or listen to <i>Last Stop on Market Street</i> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkNmaBe7SGA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkNmaBe7SGA</a> by Matt De La Peña.</p> <p>In the story, CJ and his Nana explore their community, and Nana encourages CJ to see the beauty in all their interactions and experiences. You and your child can take time to explore the beauty in your own neighborhood. Have a discussion or draw pictures to connect with each question as you discuss. Who are the people in your neighborhood? Where do you find beauty in your neighborhood? How do you show kindness to people in your neighborhood? What makes your neighborhood special?</p> 	<p>Your child will be exploring their community through literature and discussion. The book can also be used as a starting point for discussing the variety of people and jobs in the neighborhood, ways to help in the neighborhood, and the different ways that neighborhoods are special.</p>
<p><b>Social Studies</b> (who are community helpers and how do they help us)</p> <p><b>Language and Literacy</b> (new vocabulary and discussion)</p>	<p><b>Community Helpers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who are the community helpers your child has a relationship with? Who are the community helpers that your child does not have a relationship with? How can we show appreciation for these community helpers? Discuss and ask questions about the job each person performs. Why are some of these jobs so important for the community in general?</li> <li>• Create some specific ways to show appreciation for the community helpers in your neighborhood.</li> </ul>	<p>The importance of all jobs and how we can work to show appreciation for each job that people do in the community.</p>
<p><b>Science</b> (demonstrates knowledge of the earth)</p>	<p><b>How can we respect and care for our world?</b></p> <p>Explain where to dispose of trash and why we use the recycle and compost. Offer children the opportunity to reuse materials and participate in the process of recycling and using the compost bin. As you walk</p>	<p>Your child will be learning about the larger environment and world and thinking of ways to respect and care for the environment.</p>

<p><b>Math</b> (sorting and classifying)</p>	<p>through your neighborhood, point out areas where the environment is respected and cared for. “When we finish drinking our water, we can reuse the bottle and fill it up at a water fountain. That way we don’t have to throw away the bottle. How can we reuse that plastic baggie from your lunch? Yes! If we wash it, we can put your cars in it to keep them safe.” Have your child come up with a list of things that might be recycled that could be reused around the house!</p>	
<p><b>Social Studies</b> (participates in making decisions and understand that people depend upon one another)</p> <p><b>Creative Arts</b> (express and represent what they observe, think, imagine and feel)</p> <p><b>Social/Emotional</b> (understands the feelings of others)</p>	<p><b>Act of Kindness</b> Encouraging children to take action. Discuss ways you can support and help others during difficult times. Brainstorm ideas with your child and follow their lead. Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rock Painting – paint and decorate rocks, place rocks in a container and set it out front for others. You can leave a sign, “Please take one!”</li> <li>• Hearts – cut-out hearts and write a kind message and send it to someone you care about.</li> <li>• Paint/draw - use a large sheet of paper and create an image, place your art on a window or door for others to see and appreciate. You can also draw encouraging pictures/messages on your driveway or nearby sidewalks using chalk. What message do you want to share with others in your community?</li> </ul>	<p>Your child will be able to express ideas and understand the feelings of others. Your child will act as a member of the community and cooperate with social expectations and be able to offer a simple act of kindness.</p> 

**Online resource of the week:** [Greater Good Center parenting videos](#) – short videos on promoting skills such as perseverance and compassion.

**Article of the week:** [Parents’ Guide to Coping with the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Crisis](#) – simple strategies to nurture, refuel, and re-center yourself.