

BAG LUNCHES

Divide the class into small groups or families. The number of families should correspond with the number of bags you have prepared. Each family should choose parents and children, a recorder, and a spokesperson.

The bags should be identical. Use large bags so that the contents are not identifiable. Students are not allowed to touch the bags or pick them up before selecting a bag. Let each family choose a bag. Inform the families that inside their bag is a typical dinner at their home. Allow the families time to eat their dinner.

The recorder records the names of family members and how each member feels.

After the families have finished eating, the spokesperson from each family tells the class how the family feels. As a class, discuss the implication of this activity. Include ideas and feelings of how children who have been neglected might feel. Discuss the impact on a child's social behavior, self-esteem, attitude, educational ability, etc.

Contents of bags:

1. Nothing
2. 1 bag of cookies
3. 1 bag of potato chips, 1 liter of soda pop, cups, and a coupon to get ice from the teacher.
4. 1 jar of peanut butter, 1 jar of jelly, 1 loaf of bread, 1 table knife, napkins.
5. 1 sharp knife, paper plates, napkins, 1 pancake turner, and a coupon to get a pizza from the teacher.

TEACHER NOTE: If your class is large, you may wish to prepare additional bags. If you teach more than one section, rotate the contents in the bags from class to class so that students do not know what is in the bags.