



HOW ARE WE DIFFERENT, HOW ARE WE THE SAME?

Activity sheet for families

1. Spend some time talking about what you have done today, thinking about every detail, and write them down in the table on the following page.
 - Did you wake up at home?
 - Did you brush your teeth?
 - Did you eat breakfast?
 - Did you play sports, dance, go to an activity?
 - What did you eat today?
 - How did you feel during the day?
 - Did you speak to your family or friends today?
2. Then take some time as a family to think about what a homeless person your age may have done today and write these down on the other half of the table.
 - Where might they have woken up?
 - What might they have done this morning?
 - Did they eat?
 - Did they speak to their family or friends today?
 - Are they warm?

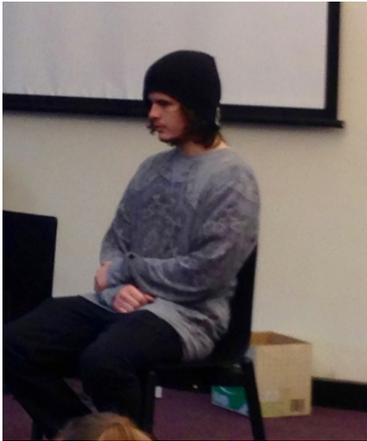
Note to parents: Let your children lead the way, allow their ideas to be noted even if you think it may be different. Let them fill out the columns with you and then talk them through the example given on the following pages.

Ask them to think about the loneliness a homeless person might experience. Although at times they may not like answering all the questions parents ask, how would they feel if no one was asking how their day was?

What did we do today?	What did a homeless person do today?



3. **Read this information about a homeless boy living in Melbourne.** Talk to your children about how his day is different to ours. Now have another go at completing the columns in the table provided. Can you find any similarities?



This is a homeless boy.

He is 19 years old.

His journey to homelessness could not have been avoided and he has been homeless for the past 3 years.

He has completed his VCE whilst living on the streets and works one day a week in a training café in the city.

He describes his day like this:

- Early wake up with the sun
- Pack up bedding and hide my belongings in dumpsters
- Go to a drop in centre for breakfast and a shower
- Head into the State Library to use a computer
- Look for cash in hand work on Gumtree
- Catch public transport to the worksite
- Work for a few hours
- Do not eat lunch
- Go to Lygon Street after work to look for food
- Take leftover food to my sleep spot
- Get my gear out of the hiding spots
- Bunker down for the night
- Sleep early as I wake early
- Most days I do not speak to anyone, at the café when its my workday, I get to speak to other people but usually during the day no one speaks to me.
- I do not live with other homeless people, it can be dangerous on the streets
- I love skating and drawing, so sometimes if I can't find work, I will go skating, or sit and draw
- I am a positive person and I know my situation will change, with a bit of hard work it won't be long before I have a house and money and can go to University. Education is so important.

What did we do today?	What did a homeless person do today?