

befriended buddies

Local churches
bringing
people
together

Find out more about us at
www.befriended.org

smile
with a
friend

Dear parents

How you and your children are getting on with having school at home?

Here at **Befriended**, we are hoping that your children can use some of their new "school time" to connect with some of the older people in our community and help them feel less lonely and isolated, while at the same time giving your children a really worthwhile educational experience.

We expect that many of your children's schools are sending home different kinds of work and probably links to lots of different sites with activities too. It's great for children to take part in these and it will help them to feel connected with their school even though they can't go there physically.

You have probably noticed that what often makes learning really come alive for your children is when they are studying a topic that really grabs their attention. In school time, the topic will be set by the class teacher, and everyone studies the same thing.

Now is the opportunity for your child (ren) to choose their own topic and share what they find out with an older person. Having a real audience can make all the difference to a child's enthusiasm.

What we would love you to do, is to agree on a topic with your child and then help them to research it in a way that's appropriate to their age. They can then present what they have found out in whatever way they want to be shared with an older person who would really appreciate receiving this at this time.

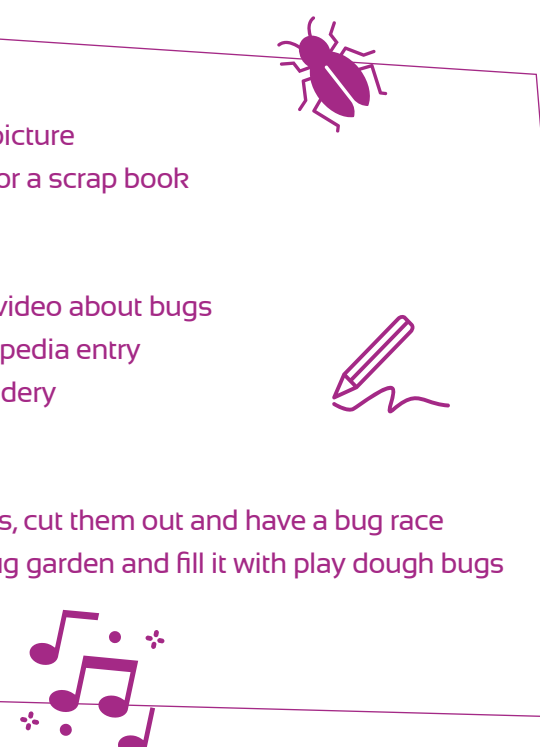
I'm a
befriended
buddy

See next page for ideas.

For example, if they are interested in bugs, they could go on a bug hunt in the garden or out on their daily walk. When they get back inside, they can then do further research on line and you can help them to decide what they are going to do next.

They could

- Draw or paint a picture
- Make a booklet or a scrap book
- Create a cartoon
- Write a story
- Make their own video about bugs
- Write an encyclopedia entry
- Do a bug embroidery
- Write a poem
- Write a play
- Make paper bugs, cut them out and have a bug race
- Make a duplo bug garden and fill it with play dough bugs
- Sing a song



Of course, bugs may not be your child's thing at all, but you can go with whatever it is that they are interested in. Here are some of our ideas:


- Space
- Football
- Gymnastics
- The rainforest
- Cars/trains
- Lifeboats
- Windmills
- Famous explorers
- Communication
- My family tree
- My village/town/city
- Ballet
- My pet

These are just a few ideas, I'm sure you can think of loads more.

Your child might want to collaborate with a friend to do their research and produce what they find out.

What to do next:

- ask your child to write a short message for the older person which explains what they have been learning about. You might want to help them with this
- send us the message and whatever they have made or done, or just photos or videos if that is more sensible



Details on how to do this can be found on the next page.

Message:

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Age:

My name:

Email:

Address:



As the child's parent/carer, I give consent for these contact details to be used



Use extra paper if required.



You can email your work – scanned, photos or videos and we will upload them to a google drive for you to access if you want to see what others have done.

buddies@befriended.org

or

send it by post and we will post it on to our older people who do not have access to the internet.

Post your 'buddy work' to
**Spiresview, 9 Maude Singer Way,
Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex, BN6 9GF**

Some folk may be able to send a reply, which will be great, and some won't be able to do this, but you can be sure that the connection with your child will bring some sunshine into their lives at this difficult time, as well as providing a real learning experience for your child.

We will make sure that we take all the right steps to comply with infection control before passing them on to our older friends.



Befriended is resourced by trained volunteers from local churches. Our aim is to reduce loneliness and help people feel more connected.

Registered charity no. 1175623



My
buddy
work

Use this space to write a prayer, write a poem,
tell a story or just be creative!