

14. What Can You Give?

This activity supports the example of one small person taking responsibility and action to help – this time helping a neighbour.



Materials Needed:

Book *“Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge”* by Mem Fox

Read *“Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge”* by Mem Fox.

Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge is a little boy who lives next door to an “old people’s home.” He is a friend with all the residents, but his favourite is Miss Nancy Alison Delacourt Cooper. One day, Wilfrid hears his parents talking about how Miss Nancy has lost her memory. Wilfrid doesn’t know what a memory is so he decides to ask everyone he knows. When he is finished, he sets out to find something to fit each of the explanations that he received. When he gives them to Miss Nancy, she gets her memory back.

Use this story to make “text to self” connections.

Discuss how the family, school and neighbourhood provide basic needs and learning experiences. Identify examples of how individuals learn from the family, school and neighbourhood.

- Why do you think Wilfrid decided to help Miss Nancy find her memory again?
- What kind of difference did he make in Miss Nancy’s life?

Wilfrid gave Miss Nancy the gift of memory. He worked hard to do this. Discuss with students whether they have neighbours who need some help.

- What kind of help do they need?
- What kinds of things could students do to help their neighbours?
- What kinds of differences could they make in the lives of their neighbours?
- Could they do it? Could they get involved, help and make a difference?
- Would it be easy to help?
- If it wasn’t easy to help, would you still try?