

## For Parents

### 1. Explore Solutions

### 2. Notice and celebrate differences: two links and one photo

### 3. Make a Wonder Wall: sample and posters to print

1. **Explore solutions:** Rethink the concept of helping others (through service learning projects or other volunteer opportunities) to include discussions with children about the inequities that contribute to the problem and [consider actions](#) that can address it. For example, while it's useful to provide food to homeless people, we want to deepen the conversation to convey a social justice perspective and a wider lens with children. Therefore, discuss the stigma and stereotypes of homeless people, learn about unfair housing policies, and reflect on solutions that will reverse the problem in a lasting way and encourage students to take action.

2. **Celebrate differences:** It's also important that adults in children's lives do not perpetuate the idea that we should be "colorblind" to racial differences or shush them when they notice someone with a disability. Sometimes adults do this out of their own discomfort with talking about differences, or because they think noticing differences somehow makes you biased. We want to encourage children to notice differences because they do so naturally, yet at the same time, honor people's identities without judging or discriminating based on differences. In other words, noticing people's differences is natural, but when adults assign judgments or value to these differences, bias can develop in young children.

Compare pictures on these links:

<https://www.goodnet.org/articles/these-20-kids-rooms-across-world-will-teach-you-humility>

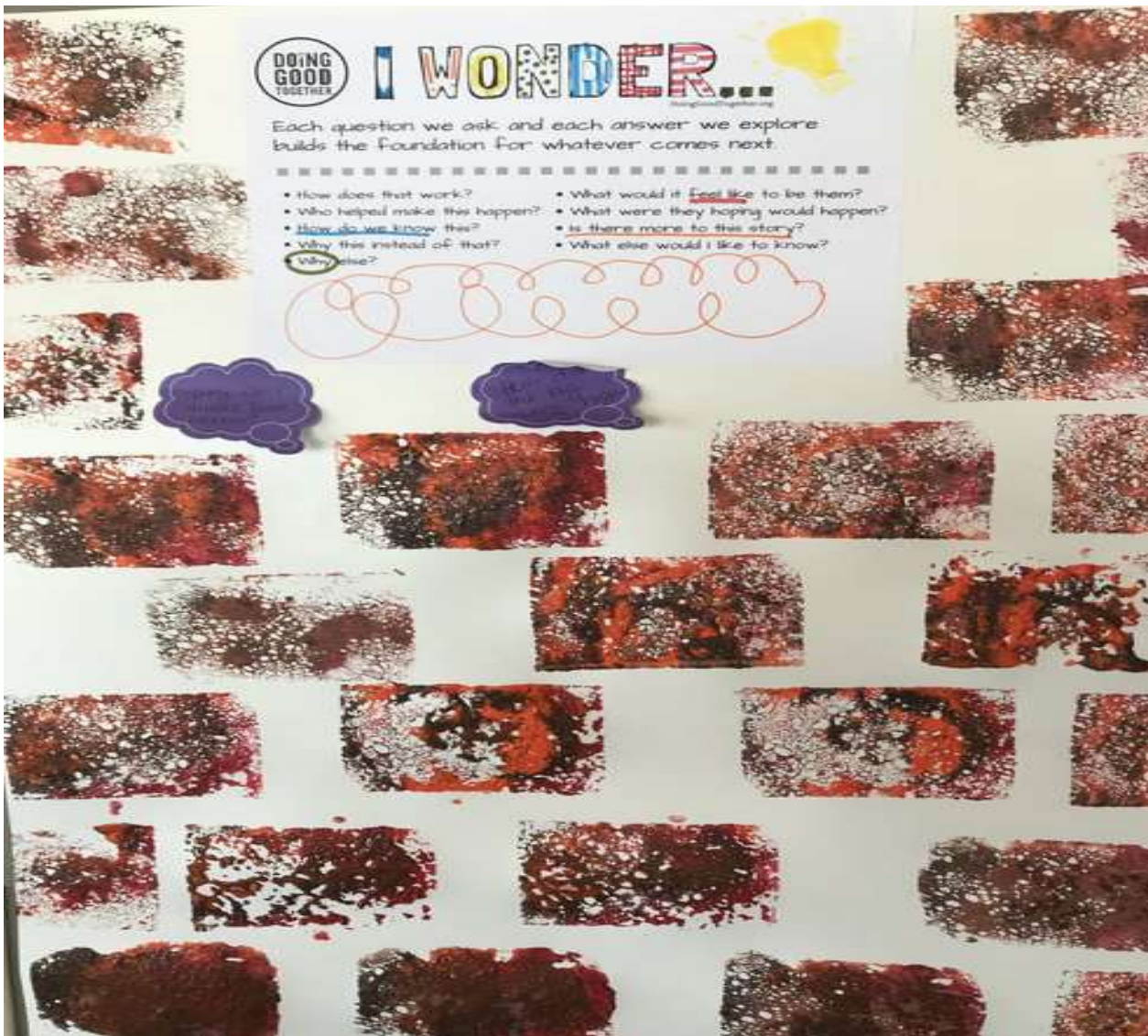
<https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/the-beautiful-game-soccer-around-the-world-2/>

Compare faces and hairstyles on the photo on next page.



3. Next page: **Create a Wonder Wall**





If you like, make “bricks “ by mixing paint colors and printing with a sponge.

## Create an “I Wonder” Wall

Foster a habit of compassionate curiosity.

Kids are full of questions, but their timing can be tricky! Create an "I Wonder" display to hold those questions that pop up at inconvenient moments. Then, make time to search for answers together.

Our printable "I Wonder..." poster will help you ask questions that encourage empathy. By curiously asking "What would it feel like to be them" when talking about historical figures, adventures at school, or recent headlines, your family will practice understanding the way others experience the world.

Use post-it notes to put on questions.

## *Instructions*

### **First, decorate attached posters, and discuss the idea.**

- How can curiosity make the world a better place?
- Why is it good to ask questions and track down the answers?
- Why is it important to ask some of the suggested questions on this poster, questions like "What is it like to be them?"

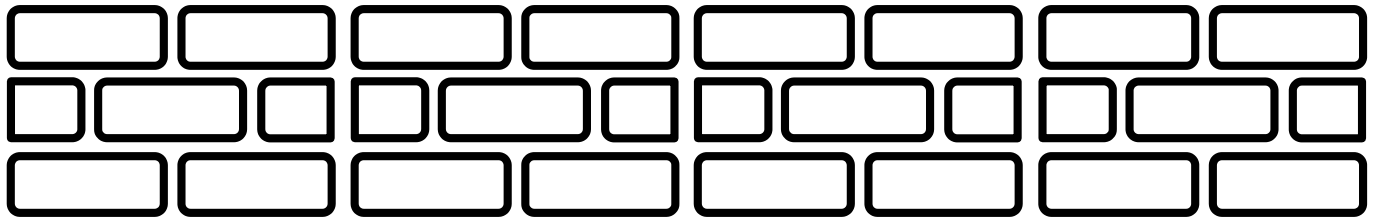
### **Next, decorate your wall.**

- Glue or tape your "I Wonder..." poster to the top of your poster paper.
- Sponge paint a brick pattern across your wall, as shown.
- Allow it to dry.
- Hang with masking tape.
- Place pens and sticky notes nearby, to record questions as they come up.

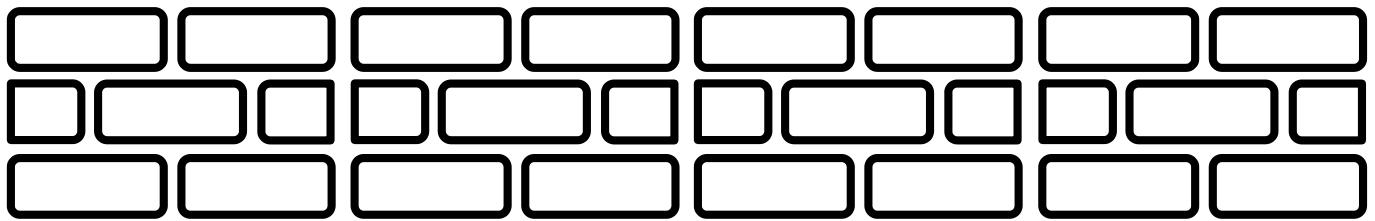
## *Reflection Questions*

- Let's read the suggested questions at the top of the poster. Which questions are your favorite? Why?
- What are you wondering right now? Let's add those to the poster!
- Have you ever had a big question but felt like no one was listening? Let's talk about some things you can do next time that happens. (Suggestions can include adding your idea to the wonder wall or letting someone know by saying "I have a question that is important to me. Do you have time to talk?")
- When should we plan to search for answers to our "I wonder" questions? Set a specific time, like just after family dinner or over pancakes on a weekend morning.

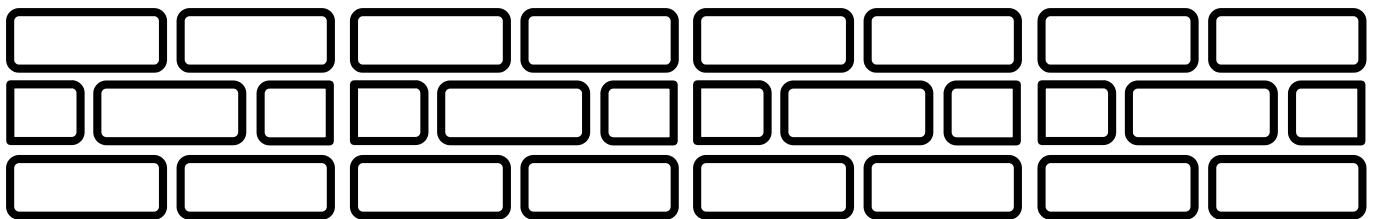
*Next page: two posters to print.*



I WONDER...



Curious about a question?  
Add it to our wonder wall!  
Search for answers when you  
have extra time to ponder.



Find more tools to raise kind kids at [DoingGoodTogether.org](http://DoingGoodTogether.org)



# I WONDER...

DoingGoodTogether.org

Each question we ask and each answer we explore builds the foundation for whatever comes next.



- How does that work?
- Who helped make this happen?
- How do we know this?
- Why this instead of that?
- Why else?
- What would it feel like to be them?
- What were they hoping would happen?
- Is there more to this story?
- What else would I like to know?