

Activists in Action

Make your voice heard! What do you advocate for? What change do you want to see in the world? Draw a portrait of yourself, write a statement about what you advocate for, and share your voice with the world! Once you've made your poster, think about what you can do to make this change real!



Materials:

- Paper
- Drawing and writing utensils
- Time for a complex conversation
- 3-D materials such as fabrics, felt, pom poms, pipe cleaners, beads, etc. (optional)

Steps:

1. Draw a big square on a piece of paper that takes up about half of the page.
2. Imagine yourself as an advocate and activist
 - a. An **Advocate** is a person who publicly supports or stands up for a particular cause, like making sure everyone has a safe place to sleep at night or making sure that everyone can go to the doctor if they're sick.
 - b. An **Activist** is a person who takes action in order to work towards important change, such as making sure that if bad things happen to members of the community it gets noticed by everyone and changes are made so it doesn't happen again.

Activists and advocates are community members like you and me!
3. Draw yourself standing up for change inside your square. Think about a cause that you care a lot about. What do you want to make sure other people know?
4. Below your portrait, write a sentence stating what you advocate for.
5. Add on other textured materials to your drawing if you want to make it 3D (optional).

6. Share your Activists in Action portrait with friends and family and encourage them to create their own!
7. Hang your Activists in Action portrait somewhere you will see it often as a reminder to work towards making the change you want to see in the world a reality.

Caregiver Tip:

Use this activity as a way to start conversations with your child about what is happening in the world and about what they are seeing in the news. Invite them to be open and take the time to answer their questions in simple and digestible ways, even if it is uncomfortable or difficult. It is very important that children feel that they are able to talk to their caregivers openly about what is happening.

Allow time for your young learner to process information and then ask follow up questions that encourage the sharing of thoughts and emotions. It is always okay to confirm that something is sad or negative. Bringing the conversation back to advocacy can be a helpful way to offer hope and encourage resilience.

For more advice and examples for how to talk to young children about hard topics such as racism and prejudice in the world, see the resources on our racial justice page.

<https://creativity.org/racialjustice/>