The Big Issue Classroom is a social enterprise that provides education about social issues. Our primary school workshops provide age-appropriate materials on homelessness and disadvantage, using stories and activities to encourage students to think about life choices.

**About homelessness and disadvantage: appropriate for grade 1-3 students**

- Activity that explores the causes and impacts of disadvantage
- Storybook reading of *Josh’s Story*, a book by The Big Issue about someone who became homeless and was able to get back on his feet
- Discussion about how The Big Issue’s enterprises help people help themselves
- Q&A with students

**Learning about homelessness and disadvantage: appropriate for grade 4-6 students**

- Activity that explores causes of disadvantage and homelessness in *James’s Story*
- Activity that encourages students to think about life choices
- Explanation of The Big Issue’s programs and how they help people help themselves
- Q&A with students

*Workshops are interactive and include teacher and student packs with follow up activities.*

*Both 1 hour workshops are presented by a specialised facilitator of The Big Issue Classroom and can be run onsite at schools or at The Big Issue Classroom’s locations in central Melbourne and Sydney.*

### VELS relevance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>Through activities such as reading, discussion and role-play, students learn to recognise and describe the feelings and emotional responses of others. Students learn to recognise that their actions have consequences for both themselves and others in social contexts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>Students develop strategies to use when they are feeling uncertain about their learning, such as seeking assistance from their teachers. They begin to recognise that learning from mistakes is an important attribute of being a good learner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 4</td>
<td>Students compare their beliefs and values with others, and consider how these influence feelings and behaviour. Through discussion and activities such as role-play, they reflect on inclusion, belonging and tolerance. They consider how it feels to be excluded from a group. They explore the impact of bullying on people’s sense of self-worth and are assisted to identify, discuss and use different strategies to reduce, avoid and resolve bullying. Students begin to recognise and discuss the influence that peers can have on their behaviour and consider response options.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Contact

Danya Sterling, Program Coordinator  
dsterling@bigissue.org.au  
(03) 9663 4533  
www.thebigissue.org.au