



## GROUP SERVICE PROJECT

Today's story was about working together and being responsible—even when you are young. For this activity, set aside some time for the children to pitch in and help. If you're meeting in a church, perhaps they can rake leaves or pick up trash outside. They could help wash dishes or clean up after a church meal. Have them all work together, and make sure everyone pitches in. If you're at home, or meeting in a non-church setting, see if there is a neighbor your child/children could help. Just make sure it's something everyone can do together—we work better as a team!

# HOME MADE SOAP

## Materials Needed:

White or light-colored bar soap  
Various shades of liquid food coloring  
Cheese grater  
Warm water

Plastic or Styrofoam bowls  
Wax paper/Paper towels  
Cookie sheet  
Spoon

## Instructions:

1. Grate the bar soap into a large bowl. (The children can do this themselves, or you can do it beforehand to save time.)
2. Split the shavings into smaller bowls—one bowl per child.
3. Have each child dip one hand into the warm water and shake it over the bowl of soap shavings. Add a few drops of food coloring, and stir with the spoon. More food coloring can be added if the child wants a darker shade. (If you are working with younger children, you might want to handle the food coloring yourself, as spills can result in very messy stains.)
4. Scoop the soap blob out of the bowl and knead it into a ball. Pull, knead, and play with it until it reaches the consistency of Play-Doh. (If it's too stiff, add a few more drops of warm water.)
5. The children can break off smaller pieces of their soap-dough balls and form them into shapes. These can be made into animals, cars, etc. (They can also be made into simple cylinders and used as bath crayons.)
6. Line the cookie sheet with wax paper/paper towels and place the soap shapes on it. Put in the freezer for ten minutes.
7. Place the tray in a cool, dry spot. The soap should harden for two days before being used. The children can either take it home and wait, or you can hold on to it and hand it out the next time you meet.

