This week, explore community helpers and how they help us along with Daniel Tiger and his friends.

**ACTIVITY: MONDAY, MAY 2 – SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL LEARNING**

Discuss with your child what community means—a place where people live, work, and play. People in a community have different roles and jobs. You can explain that community helpers are people who help or serve others (i.e. police officers, firefighters, teachers, health care, sanitation, and postal workers) or help provide us with “goods” that we need to live such as food, clothing and other supplies (i.e. farmers, grocery, store and delivery workers). Ask your child: “Who are the helpers in our neighborhood? What do they do to help us?” After discussing community helpers, encourage your child to think of ways they can be a helper too—at home, at school and/or in the community.

**ACTIVITY: TUESDAY, MAY 3 – MATH THINKING**

Create a “Look for the helpers” game by making a simple map of your neighborhood together. On paper, you can draw or use cut-out pictures of places and buildings where you live, or you can use building blocks to build a three-dimensional map of your neighborhood or an imaginary one. Is there a fire station, police station, library, hospital/clinic, post office, school, etc. near where you live? Once you map out these community locations, play games looking for the helpers.

Provide clues or story scenarios about different helpers and encourage your child to find them on the map. Try picking a location without saying it aloud and give directions using positional words (i.e. near, under, above, next to, between, etc.) to guide your child to that location. Can they guess where they are going before they arrive at the location? Then let your child have a turn and give you directions.

**ACTIVITY: WEDNESDAY, MAY 4 – EARLY LITERACY**

Ask your child to think of someone who has helped them or your family recently. It could be a family member, friend, neighbor, or a community helper. What can you do together to show them your appreciation? Maybe it’s making a homemade thank-you note from supplies you have at home. Encourage your child to help write or draw pictures to express their gratitude. You could send it by mail, deliver it by hand or leave it for your helper to find. Some examples: “Thank you for helping me!” “Thank you for smiling at me.” “Thank you for bringing me food.” “Thank you for making me feel better.”

**ACTIVITY: THURSDAY, MAY 5 – SCIENCE THINKING**

Next time you are at a store, library or post office, ask your child to observe what the workers are doing. How are they helping others? What do they do with the grocery items, books and/or mail pieces? Then set up a pretend store, library, or post office. You can use real items such as grocery items and canned goods, books and magazines, and/or letters, envelopes and junk mail. Tell your child that they are ___ (i.e. store worker, librarian, postal worker) and it’s their job to sort the items. Encourage them to sort the items by size or color. Then take turns role playing the worker and the customer.

**ACTIVITY: FRIDAY, MAY 6 – THE ARTS**

Talk about different community helpers in your neighborhood. What do they do to help you and others? Then play “Which community helper am I?” game by taking turns acting out different community helpers and providing clues about what they do to help people. For example, if you are a firefighter you can say as your first clue, “I help people when they have an emergency”. Followed by other clues such as: “I wear a uniform” and “I drive a fire truck.”