

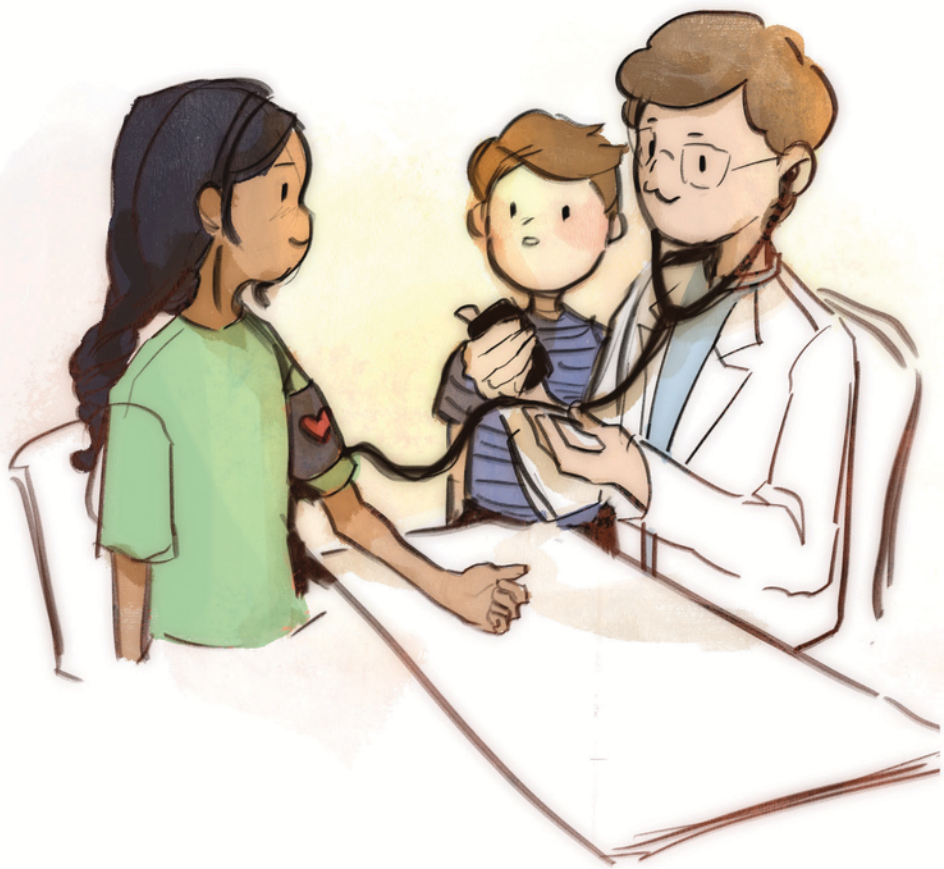
YOU'RE NEVER TOO YOUNG TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



An activity book inspired by John Fenton, a lifelong
supporter of Yonge Street Mission

This is a story about a kid just like you. His name is John. He's a grandpa now, but when he was your age he was probably a lot like you... He went to school every day, hung out with his friends, did homework, and thought about what he would be when he grew up





John's dad was a doctor. Sometimes he would go with him on medical calls.

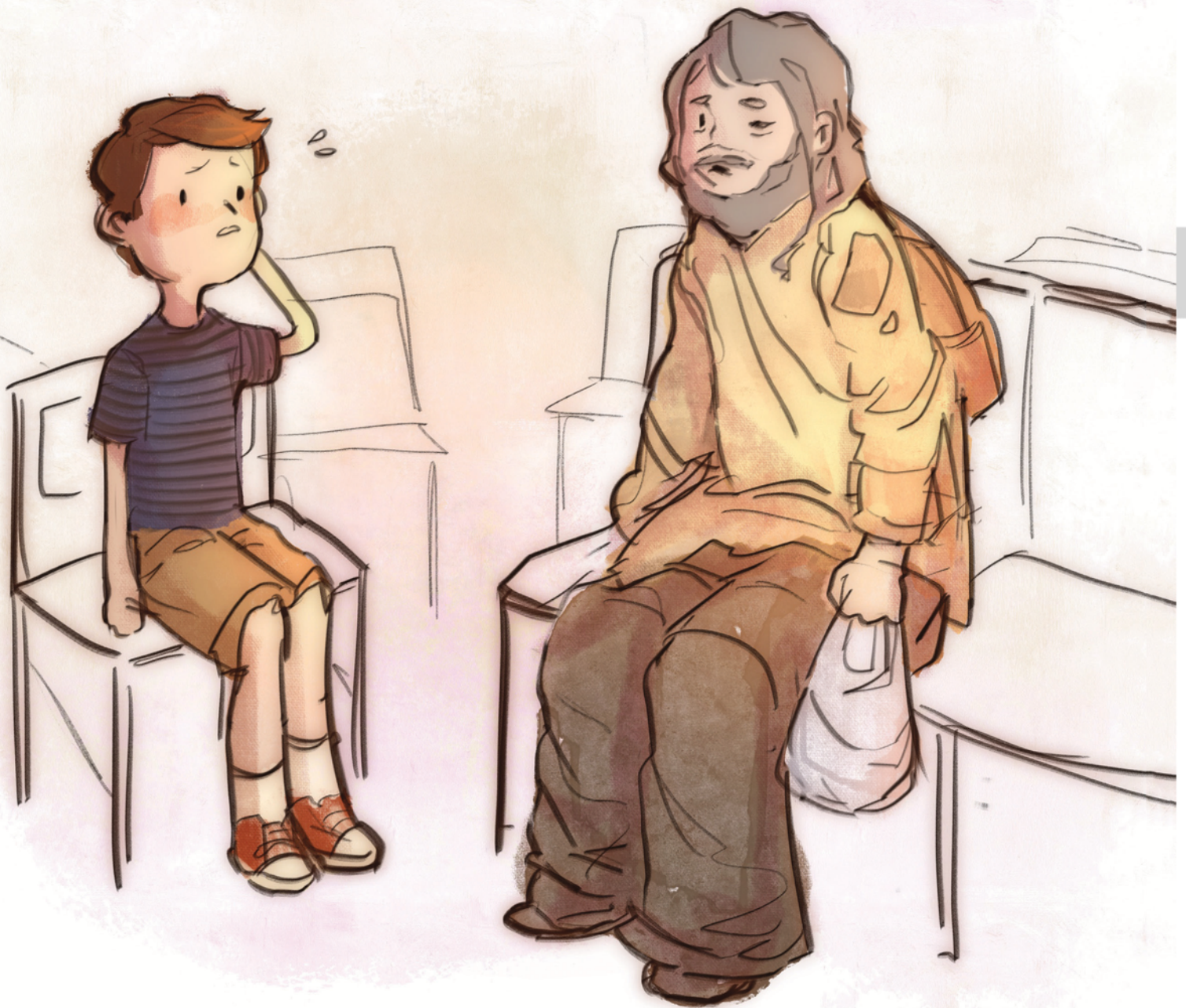
John really admired his father, as he was a man who cared deeply about people and would sometimes even bring people in trouble home with him and arrange care for them.

Although doing so could seem scary, John saw the importance of taking care of people.

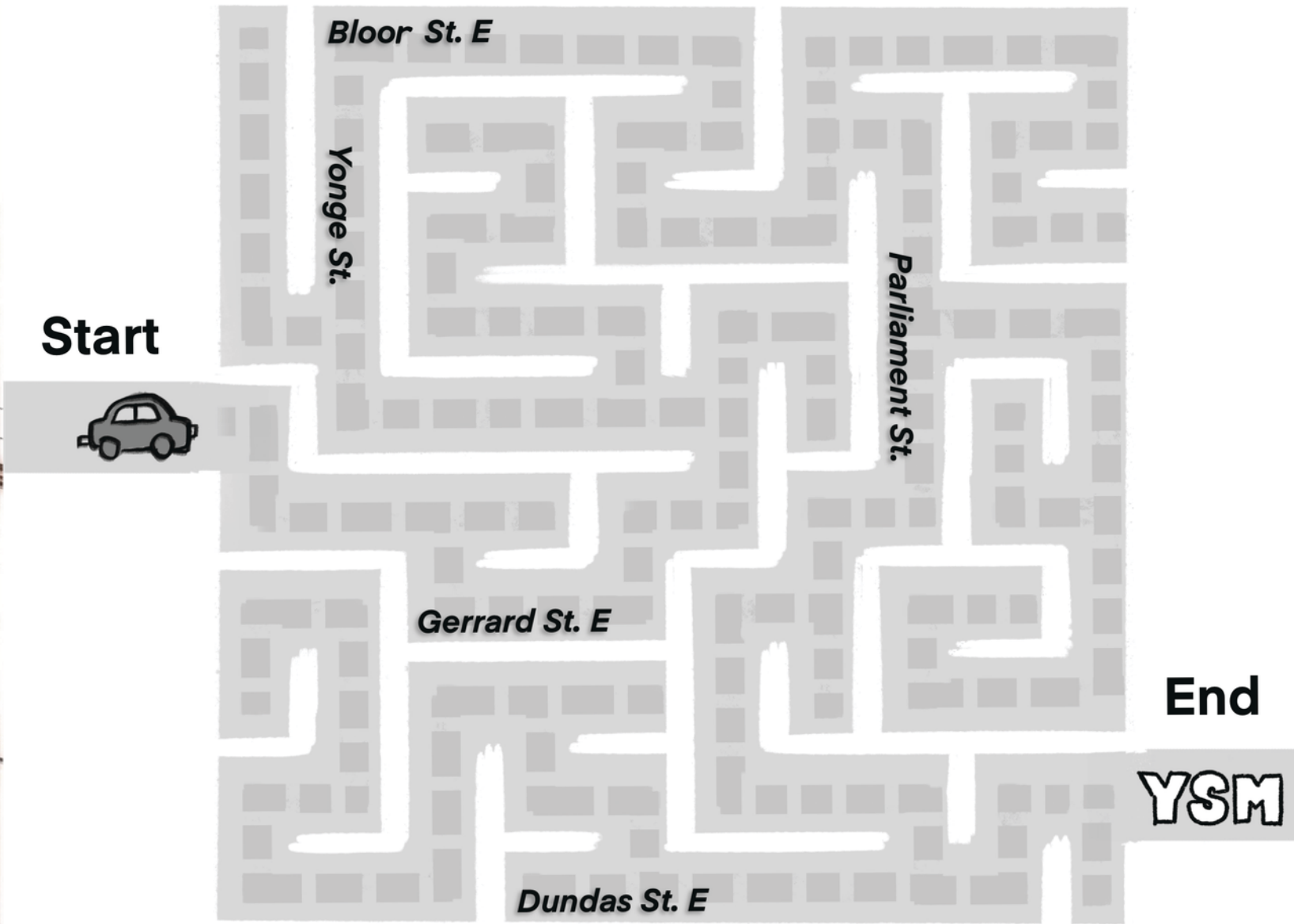




"My dad invited me to go to Yonge Street Mission. I had no idea what it was at the time. He showed me where to sit, in this little place that looked like a church. These men came and sat next to me. And you know, I was young. I remember being quite frightened because I've never been exposed to poverty."



Help John's Dad bring John to Yonge Street Mission by car.



For the first time in his life, John was witnessing poverty, which means not having enough money for basic needs such as food, drinking water, a home or clothing. He saw people who looked a little different from what he was used to, but they were gentle, kind and friendly to him. Watching his dad talking with them showed him that these were nice people just looking for someone to talk to and someone to help them.

It was at that moment that John made a decision. "Coming from a doctor's home, I never experienced any kind of poverty. I didn't even know what it was. But I was so impressed with what I saw [at Yonge Street Mission] and I couldn't help but think how I could help. After that day, whenever I earned some money, I supported YSM."



Word Search Activity

Through this word search learn about ways John made money to donate - that you can do too!



Words appear forward, backward, up, down, and diagonally

SHOVEL

BAKESALE

LEMONADE

MOWING

CARWASH

TUTOR

BABYSIT

DISHES

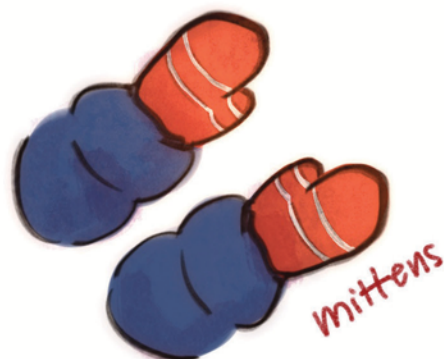
CHORES

Since that very first day, as soon as he could earn money, John has been giving to Yonge Street Mission in any way he can. Today, at 89 years old, he still volunteers, donates and supports Yonge Street Mission. He even walked in the annual Coldest Night of the Year fundraising walk, even though his legs hurt and he had to walk with ski poles to stay balanced. John has always believed that, regardless of age, "you can do something if you have the will and determination to try."



John is about to go out for the Coldest Night of The Year and needs your help - find the following items, and match them to where John needs to wear them to be ready for the Coldest Night of the Year.

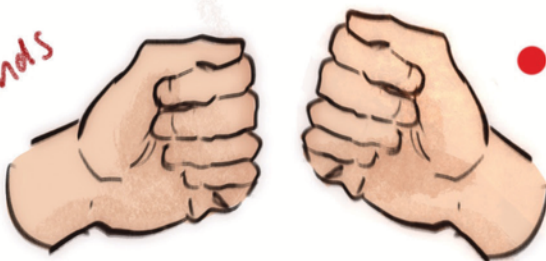
head



arms



hands



leg



From the moment John witnessed poverty for the first time, he understood he could do something and share. It didn't matter that he was "only" 11 years old. No matter how young or old you are, whether 11 or 89, John and many others continue to believe in the power of young people to create change. Today he wants to inspire you to do just that!





ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Abigail Wong is currently a 16 year old high school student that hopes to become an animator or illustrator in the future. She loves digital art, watching YouTube, napping, and playing games on her Nintendo Switch. You can find more of her personal work on her Instagram, @abowlofsoup4u!





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