

OrangeSky  
— Australia —



**Activity Pack**



# One Idea'

Orange Sky is the world's first free mobile laundry service for people experiencing homelessness – an idea founded in the garage of 20-year-old Brisbane mates, Nic Marchesi and Lucas Patchett.

In 2014, the two installed a couple of washing machines and dryers in the back of their old van and visited parks around Brisbane to wash and dry clothes for free. What started as an idea to improve hygiene standards for people doing it tough has evolved into something much bigger and more powerful.

We hope your students enjoy this Activity Pack to learn more about Orange Sky, homelessness in Australia and the power of genuine connection.

I'm Lucas

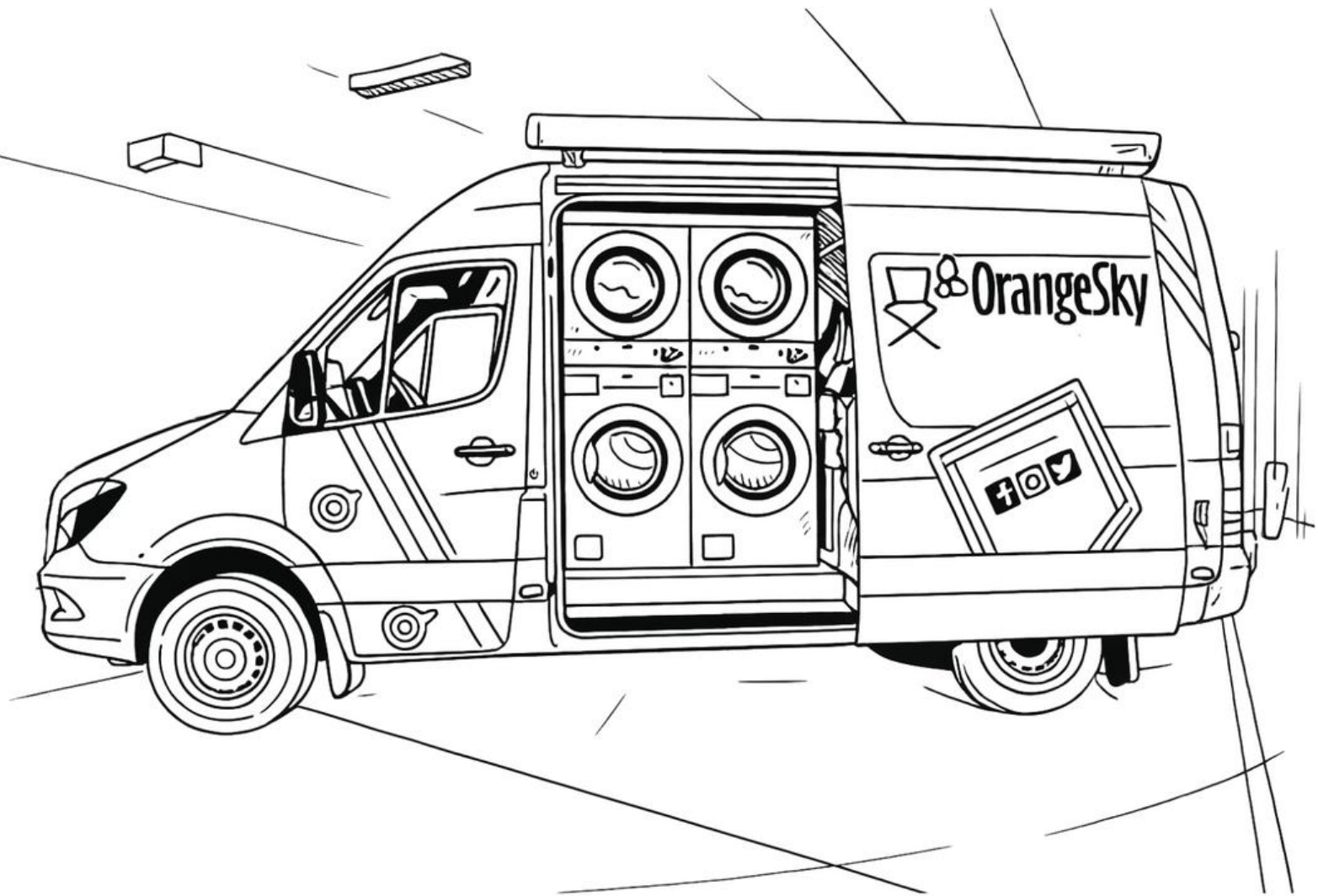
I'm Nic





# Colouring In

**Get out your favourite colouring in pens or pencils and colour in one of our famous Orange Sky vans!** All our vans are in our favourite 'juiced' orange colour...



## Did you know?

Vans like the one above are our 'hybrid' vans - they have 2 washing machines and dryers in the side door, and a shower in the backdoor!





# Orange Sky Washing Line

**Start conversations with an Orange Sky washing line. Cut out the shapes, colour them in and hang your washing line up to spark a conversation!**

While Orange Sky provides a laundry and shower service, it's the connection and conversations that happen on our shifts that have the greatest impact. We hope your washing line can start some conversations!



## For extra fun or big groups

Photocopy the template page to make lots of individual washing lines, or one big one!

## How to make it

### You'll need

- One or more sheets of A4 or A3 paper
- Colouring in pencils or pens
- Safety scissors
- 1.5 metres of ribbon or string
- Sticky tape or pegs

### Steps

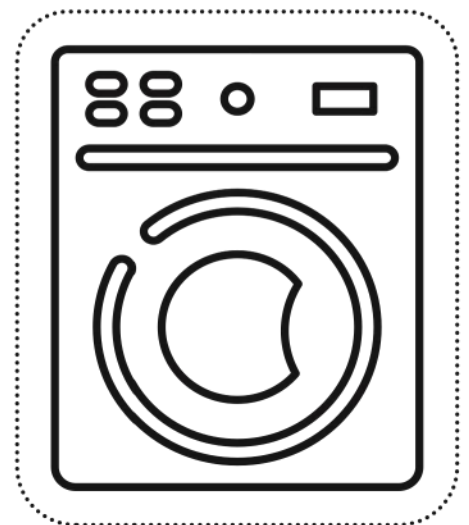
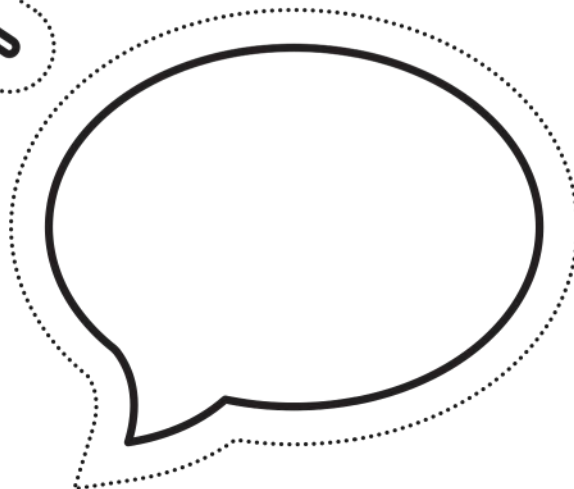
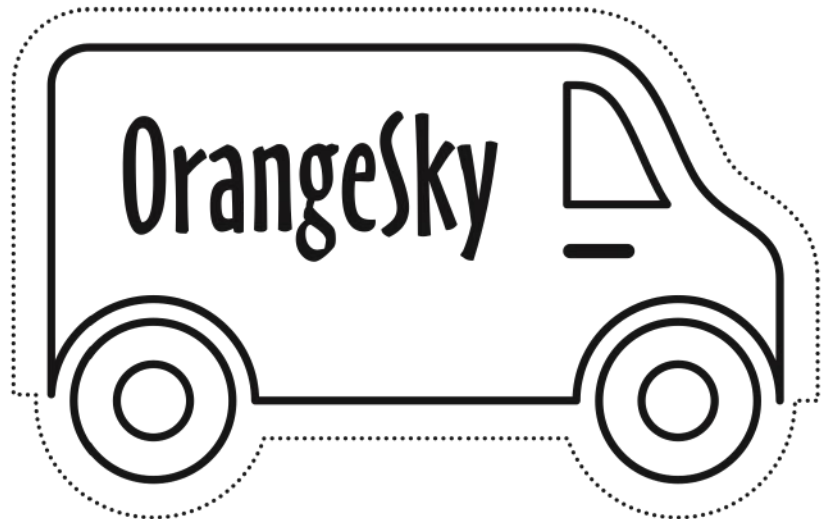
- 1 Print the Orange Sky Washing Line template on the next page on a sheet of A4 or A3 paper.
- 2 Colour in the Orange Sky shapes from the template.
- 3 Carefully cut out each shape following the solid outlines on the template.
- 4 Spacing your out shapes evenly, carefully attach them to your piece of ribbon or string using sticky tape or pegs.
- 5 Hang your amazing new Orange Sky washing line!

See  
next  
page





# Orange Sky Washing Line



Cut around  
the dotted  
lines





# Conversation Starters

**Use our conversation starter cards at the bottom of the page to get the conversations flowing at home or in the classroom to start chatting about homelessness.**

People who experience homelessness are often disconnected from their community and that's why Orange Sky's mission is to positively connect communities. Every week our volunteers have thousands of hours of genuine, non-judgemental conversation with people from all walks of life doing it tough.

## Using our conversation starters

- 1 Print and cut the conversation starter cards.
- 2 Discuss the rules; be kind to each other, it's okay to 'pass' if you're not sure!
- 3 Take turns to draw a conversation card and read it aloud to the group.
- 4 Discuss the question on the card.
- 5 Adults should guide the conversation where needed.
- 6 Repeat until all cards have been used!



## Classroom Idea

Place cards on random students' chairs. Ask the students who find the cards to come to the front of the classroom to read out the questions for a class discussion.





**WHAT ARE SOME  
COMMON STEREOTYPES  
ABOUT HOMELESSNESS?**

**HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT  
YOUNG PEOPLE WHO  
MIGHT BE EXPERIENCING  
HOMELESSNESS?**

**WHAT WOULD IT FEEL  
LIKE TO WEAR THE  
SAME CLOTHES  
EVERY DAY?**

**WHY IS  
CONVERSATION SO  
IMPORTANT?**

**HOW DO YOU FEEL WHEN  
YOU SEE SOMEONE  
EXPERIENCING  
HOMELESSNESS?**

**HOW OFTEN DO YOU  
WASH YOUR  
CLOTHES?**

**IF YOU WERE DOWN  
TO YOUR LAST \$10,  
WOULD YOU SPEND  
IT ON LAUNDRY?**


**WRITE  
YOUR  
OWN!**





# Orange Sky Quiz Time

## How well do you know Orange Sky?

Research Orange Sky via our website: [www.orangesky.org.au](http://www.orangesky.org.au),   
then take the quiz and see how much you've learnt!



### True or False?

Test your knowledge by ticking the answer 'true' or 'false'!

- |   | True                  | False                 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Orange Sky was the first free mobile laundry service in the world. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. Sudsy was Orange Sky's first van.                                  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Orange Sky originated in New Zealand.                              | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. Orange Sky's laundry vans each have four washers and four dryers.  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. 'Orange Sky' comes from the name of a song.                        | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. There are Orange Sky vans in every capital city of Australia.      | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 7. It takes Orange Sky a year to build a van.                         | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 8. Orange Sky has special vans with both showers and laundry in them. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 9. Friends can't wash their beddings or towels with Orange Sky.       | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 10. Orange Sky has a van in Ballarat, Victoria.                       | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

SCORE:      / 10  
.....

Check your  
answers in  
a couple of  
pages!





# Write a Letter to a Friend

**There's no doubt clean clothes make us all feel better about ourselves, but Orange Sky's impact doesn't just rely on washers or dryers. Through the conversations taking place on our six orange chairs, our volunteers connect with our friends through genuine and non-judgemental conversation.**

We'd love your help to connect our communities. Why not write a letter of support to someone who might be experiencing homelessness?



## Things to think about...

For most people, homelessness is a temporary experience and not a definitive label.

Not all people experiencing homelessness are sleeping on the street - it's actually a small percent.

The majority of friends we help are living in shelters, boarding houses, temporary accommodation or severely crowded homes.











# Additional Resources

## Share Your Creations

We'd love to see your amazing creations! Follow Orange Sky and don't forget to tag us in your posts!

-  **Website** [orangesky.org.au](https://orangesky.org.au)
-  **Youtube** [youtube.com/c/OrangeSkyAU](https://youtube.com/c/OrangeSkyAU)
-  **Instagram** [@orangeskyau](https://www.instagram.com/orangeskyau)
-  **Facebook** [@orangeskyau](https://www.facebook.com/orangeskyau)

## Get Involved

Want to help Orange Sky support people experiencing homelessness? We'd love to hear from you.

## Want To Raise Funds For Orange Sky?

Contact our team at [hello@orangesky.org.au](mailto:hello@orangesky.org.au) to chat about how you can fundraise for Orange Sky at home, at school, or in your community.



## Take on The Sudsy Challenge!

Want to expand on your learning? Why not take on The Sudsy Challenge in September! Or get your school involved anytime throughout the year. The Challenge yourself is to wear the same clothes for three days, talk about the issue of homelessness and raise funds for Orange Sky. Find out more at

[www.thesudsychallenge.com.au](http://www.thesudsychallenge.com.au)

## Answers from Orange Sky Quiz Time (no peeking!)

**True** - we're innovative like that!

**True** - our founders, Nic and Lucas, built Sudsy in their garage!

**False** - Orange Sky started in Brisbane, Australia in 2014 then moved to New Zealand in 2018.

**False** - Orange Sky's laundry vans have two washers and two dryers.

**True** - the song is by Alexi Murdoch and inspired Nic and Lucas as it talks about 'loving your brothers and sisters'.

**True** - we're now in over 45 locations in Australia including every capital city.

**False** - it only takes us around 2 to 5 weeks to build our vans.

**True** - our hybrid vans are awesome as they have both washing and shower facilities.

**False** - friends can certainly wash bedding and towels at our shifts.

**False** - Orange Sky has a laundry pod, not a van, in Ballarat.





# OrangeSky

— Australia —

If you'd like to find out more about Orange Sky, visit our website to learn about what we do, why we do it, and stories from our friends.

[www.orangesky.org.au](http://www.orangesky.org.au)