Before beginning any of the lessons below, make sure to discuss what the Empty Bowls project is and how it will help your community.

Remember: All money raised under the name “Empty Bowls” must go towards fighting hunger.

For more information, please visit www.emptybowls.net.

1. **COMMUNITY TABLECLOTHS**
   - Discuss what a community is and how students fit into their communities.
   - Have students brainstorm different parts of their communities.
   - Have students create community buildings out of construction paper, decorating with collaged elements and drawing materials.
   - Glue all of the buildings onto long pieces of roll paper to create tablecloths for your Empty Bowls event.

2. **COMMUNITY PLACEMATS**
   - Discuss what a community is and how students fit into their communities.
   - Have students brainstorm different parts of their communities.
   - Show students Romare Bearden’s *The Block*. Examine the shapes in his work. Explain how a collage is made.
   - Have students create collages with community buildings, trees, parks, etc. on placemat-sized papers. Then, have students add extra details with drawing materials.
   - Use the finished placemats at your Empty Bowls event.

3. **CLAY FOOD DECORATIONS**
   - Discuss Pop Art and look at the work of Claes Oldenburg.
   - Have students brainstorm their favorite foods and do some sketching.
   - Demonstrate simple clay techniques and show how they can be used together to create food items.
   - Have students create their favorite food out of clay. After firing, have them add color with glaze or paint.
   - Display the clay food at your Empty Bowls event for decoration.

4. **HELPING HANDS ARTWORK**
   - Discuss what a symbol is and show work from artists that use symbols in their work.
   - Discuss different ways we can use our hands to express emotion and different ways we can use our hands to help others.
   - Have students trace their hands onto 12” x 18” paper. Then, have them decorate in and around their hand shape with symbols that show how they use their hands.
   - When finished drawing, have the students add color with the media of your choice.
   - Display the finished works at your Empty Bowls event.

5. **EMPTY BOWLS**
   - Talk about functional art. Explain the Empty Bowls project and tell students they will be creating bowls to be given away at the event.
   - Have students roll out slabs of clay. Using an upside-down styrofoam bowl as a template, have them trace and cut out a circle from the clay slab.
   - Have students drape their slab into the bowl and press it down gently. Then, have students decorate the bowl.
   - After the clay is dried and fired, glaze with a food-safe glaze.
   - Use the bowls for soup at the event or give them away to your attendees.