LEARNING OUTCOME: I am aware that the RNLI is a charity that helps save lives at sea.
INTRODUCTION

This activity introduces children to the work of the RNLI lifeboat crews and lifeguards as one of the people in society whose job it is to help others.

DELIVERY

• Introduce the session by explaining that children will be learning about an organisation made up of people whose job it is to help us if we get into difficulty in the water. That organisation is called the RNLI. Explain that the RNLI is a charity, made up of many volunteers – expanding by saying that volunteering means to do something helpful without expecting or receiving a reward or getting paid.

• Find out if any children are familiar with the RNLI from trips to the beach / waterside. Perhaps they have even visited a lifeboat station.

• Use slides 2–11 to show a few images of RNLI volunteers wearing rescue gear and ask children what they notice about the volunteers and what they are wearing. Why do they think they are wearing the kit they are?

• Explain that lifeboat crew and lifeguards need specially designed kit to ensure they are dry, warm and visible when they are rescuing people. The materials the clothes are made from need to be warm and waterproof.

• Divide the group into pairs and print out one of the To the rescue templates for each pairing.

• Armed with their understanding of the RNLI’s work, children should write a range of words or sentences describing the work they do and why it is important.

• Templates can then be cut out, decorated and displayed in a class presentation.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

✔ To the rescue templates
✔ To the rescue slides

LOW TECH OPTION

✔ Print outs of To the rescue slides

DIFFERENTIATION

• You can simplify this activity by asking children to focus on single words, thinking about some of the words they feel sum up a crew member, such as: brave, strong, friendly, kind etc.

• A thesaurus can be used to help children research synonyms for some of the words they have thought listed.

ACTIVITY: TO THE RESCUE