



How far would you walk?

Walk against Want teachers support kit

www.oxfam.org.au/walk

Photo: Jerry Galea/OxfamAUS



Walk against Want teacher support kit



This kit contains detailed information on how to run your walk, promotional materials, as well as loads of pictures and some activities for you to use in and out of the classroom.

There are two activities including a task for children to complete at home.

Through Walk against Want your students will develop the following key skills and values, core to Oxfam's values to increase for Active Citizenship:

- Critical thinking
- Have concern for the environment and promote sustainability
- Empathise with others
- Understand that actions have consequences
- Understand that resource allocation and economic choices affect individuals, communities and the environment

What is it?

Walk against Want is an event that you can run at your school that gives your students the opportunity to learn about global issues, develop their skills and values as active global citizens, and make a difference to the world.

It is recommended that students walk or run 6kms around your school, which is roughly the same distance a child in a developing country walks to fetch water. It is suggested students fundraise through gaining online sponsorship as a class for each kilometre they walk. The experience will help them to empathise with young people in another part of the world, and raise money to help transform education for children in developing countries.

Where is it?

You could do ten laps around your school oval, organise a 'walk to school' day, or take a trip to the local park.

When?

Your walk can take place anytime that works best for your school.

Who?

It could be just a class, a year group or the whole school – whatever works best for your school.

How far?

Your walk can be anything between two to 10 kilometres. Older or more able children could also carry buckets of water for part of the distance (as per activity), to reinforce the connection with children in developing countries.

Fundraising

You can simply charge an entry fee or children can seek online sponsorship as a class for every kilometre they walk via our Everyday Hero page

Support

We'll help you every step of the way. If we haven't answered your question in this pack or the education kit please do not hesitate to contact us on walk@oxfam.org.au

Walk Against Want Themes

In recent years the following theme has been used: 'Take steps against poverty', 'Step up for walk against want' and 'Put your foot down against poverty and injustice'.

This theme is reflected in the promotional materials which we have provided you. Another theme that has

A LITTLE ABOUT OXFAM AUSTRALIA

Established in 1953, Oxfam Australia is now one of Australia's leading aid and development agencies.

We work to overcome poverty and injustice through long-term development projects, responding to emergencies and campaigning for a more just world. Our long term development projects aim to help those most in need. We work in partnership with community organisations, employing the skills of local people to enable communities to find lasting solutions to poverty.

Working closely with other Oxfams, we respond to emergency situations by providing urgent humanitarian assistance including food and clean water. We also help communities rebuild their lives and become better equipped to face disasters in the future. Our campaigns seek to address the root causes of poverty and injustice. We have a track record of tackling some of the biggest issues of our time, from fair trade to human rights.

Further Information

Check our website www.oxfam.org.au or call Oxfam Australia – the Walk against Want team on Freecall on **1800 034 034** or you can email walk@oxfam.org.au

been used to encourage animal-lovers to take part over the years is 'Wag against Want'.

This has been a successful and popular way of recruiting participants, and we encourage you to use it – unless your walk route goes through a National Park, which does not allow entry to dogs.

It is important that the theme of walk against want is kept consistent, therefore if you like to include other themes please consult us first.

Please refer to our FAQ section at the end of this Toolkit for any specific information about themes such as about Make Poverty History.

If you have any other great ideas please feel free to discuss them with the OAus walk team.

How your school fundraising helps

- **\$5.50** buys a 14 L plastic bucket, with lid and tap for a family in Timor Leste to collect water.
- **\$20** is enough to buy a blackboard, improving the quality of education in a poor community in Cambodia
- **\$26** provides an orphan with school fees for a year in Southern Africa
- **\$84** can give three children in South Africa meals for a week so they can grow and learn.
- **\$98** can provide a water tap to a school in Cambodia to help prevent disease and increases attendance at school.
- **\$135** goes towards providing a well for a village in Sri Lanka, supplying them with a reliable source of clean water.
- **\$186** can provide two orphans with school fees and food parcels for a year.
- **\$283** can provide a 5000-litre water tank to provide clean water to a school for orphaned children in South Africa.
- **\$600** can supply a school in Cambodia with a water tank.
- **\$800** can upgrade a Cambodian school's water system and toilets, ensuring students retain their health and ability to learn.

Facts

- More than 2.6 billion people lack basic sanitation facilities
- 1.1 billion lack access to safe water
- 10,000 steps (roughly 6km) is the average amount walked by people in the developing world for their daily water
- The average family needs to collect water in 19-litre containers, which can weigh about 20 kilograms. This is roughly the same weight as the domestic language allowance, and many women and girls suffer injuries from carrying so much weight every day
- 443 million school days are lost each year due to water-related diseases
- The average Australian home uses 277 litres of water a year, of which 23% is used to flush the toilet

Facts courtesy of National Geographic, Melbourne Water & WaterAid

Project examples

With education, children can become agents of change for their villages, sharing skills learnt at school with their families and the wider community.

Since taps have been installed (by Oxfam) in Mai Lee's village in Cambodia, they do not need to walk the 4km each day to collect water. The water from the taps is also much safer for the people in the village.

"This water we have now much cleaner, it's better for the children's health"

In many remote communities in Laos and Cambodia, children are continuing

to grow up without access to basic primary education. Their villages are incredibly difficult to access — impossible in the wet season when rivers break their banks — and the closest school can be hours away by boat.

For those villages with schools, keeping teachers is difficult. They don't want to live in harsh conditions, their salaries are low and they have to teach in small bamboo structures open to the elements. Sending children to school in these conditions is simply not an option for many ethnic minority people living the most traditional lifestyles. As a result, too many young people enter adult life illiterate, women lack the

confidence to run their own businesses in the same way as men, and communities are unable to move forward towards sustainable livelihoods.

Oxfam Australia's Mekong Education program extends across two countries — Laos and Cambodia — and reaches nine remote and traditional villages. Once complete, this program will ensure that approximately 520 boys and

440 girls receive a primary education.

In Laos, more than 80% of the entire population live in remote and mountainous areas, including riverside communities that are hard to reach. We are working in six villages in Ta Oy and Mune districts.

In Cambodia, more than half a million primary-aged children remain out of school. The majority of them come from poor families and also live in remote villages. For this program, Oxfam Australia has three target villages — Koh Khnher, Konva and Tong. Oxfam Australia believes everyone has the right to an education. For people living in poverty, literacy skills will offer young people the opportunity to earn a livelihood in the future, to obtain basic life skills and an understanding of health and wellbeing.

With the right tools ...

A good place to live and a great school building is far more important than salary top-ups, as any dedicated teacher will tell you.

Pann Sotheary, a teacher in Paov village in Stung Treng, is living in a new house and teaching in a brand new school as part of a similar Oxfam Australia project. His dedication to his students is immediately apparent. The classrooms showcase his students' work and he has great plans for the school's future.

"I will make a fence for the school, plant trees in the compound and prepare

a sporting area," he says. He has already made a fish pond, with other villagers, to provide extra nutrition for students, and he is working hard to get government scholarships for students to attend high school. It seems he is here for the long-term. "I am very happy teaching and I want to live here forever," he says.

In another school, Cheth Marady is ecstatic to have access to clean water for himself and his students.

What support Oxfam Australia can offer your event:

- Oxfam Australia appreciates the time and effort you are taking to organise a Walk against Want in your area.
- Your efforts will continue a tradition of Oxfam Australia and we look forward to supporting your event.
- This toolkit was developed to be used by walk organisers and outlines what needs to be considered when
- organising the event. Additionally, we have developed a Support Pack which includes much of the material
- you will require when organising the event, including; a media release, risk management plans, example
- sponsor letters and promotional material such as posters, postcards and stickers.



Oxfam Australia will support your Walk against Want by providing the following assistance:

- Providing advice to walk organisers
- Providing a support pack of information for Walk against Want
- Providing promotional and administrative templates for your Walk against Want
- Advertising your Walk against Want on the Oxfam Australia website
- Referring specific enquiries from your area to the walk organiser
- Assisting with metropolitan media (an example of a media release for local media is provided in the support pack)
- All support is provided by the Oxfam Australia Head Office. All support requests or enquiries should be
- forwarded to the Walk Against Want Team at the head office on **1800 034 034** or email walk@oxfam.org.au



Photo: Jerry Galea/OxfamAUS



Photo: Jerry Galea/OxfamAUS



Your good name, the good name of Oxfam Australia and the future of successful events are all at risk if you don't have proper financial tracking methods in place. Individual receipts for tax deductions for attendees/supporters of the fundraising activity/event will only be issued by Oxfam Australia if a donation of \$2.00 or more is made to Oxfam Australia by that attendee/supporter. All donations to the walk against want that qualify for tax deductible status need to be passed on in full to Oxfam Australia as soon as practically possible. Please refer to your Fundraising Agreement for further information.

You cannot use walk against want funds to pay for any expenses related to your event because of the issue of tax-deductibility. If donations to the walk against want are to qualify for a tax deductible status, then all funds need to be passed on in full and as soon as practically possible. Any income from non tax deductible sources such as sausage sizzles, raffles etc. can be used to fund your walk against want related expenses, however this use of funds should be kept as minimal as possible.

A donation is tax deductible where:

- Someone makes a donation without receiving anything in return for it.
- Is over \$2 A donation is not tax deductible where:
- The donor receives a material benefit such as a raffle ticket
- Donations to Campaign Partners such as Close the Gap, as OAus

wish to remain independent of government funds for our advocacy and campaign work

Don't

- Engage in any dangerous or illegal activity.
- Take collections on the street or door-to-door.
- Allow any individual or organisation to use Oxfam Australia's name or logo without our written permission. If you wish to involve companies in an event and they want to use Oxfam Australia's name for their commercial benefit, please contact us first.
- Do not take collections on the street or door-to-door.



Photo: Dustin Barter/OxfamAUS

Branding

Why is it important?

The Oxfam brand plays a big role in influencing people's perception of who we are and what we do.

Presenting a clear and consistent brand—tone, look, colour, images, typeface and logo—will increase recognition of our name and reputation, and add more impact to our communications.

You can play a role in ensuring every communication reflects our vision, aims and belief and adheres to the Oxfam Australia branding guidelines mentioned below.

Branding guidelines

So you're raising funds for Oxfam Australia and you need to get the

word out there. You're organising a walk against want event and want to communicate to people that the money they donate is going to Oxfam Australia.

Here's how to best get your messages across:

- Whenever you mention the walk against want in your material, use the wording: "walk against want in support of Oxfam Australia" and written the following way: walk against want, never refer to the event as 'waw'.
- Use the "Walk against Want in support of Oxfam Australia" logo, in the resolution relevant to your needs. This will be supplied to you in the Support Pack on disk.

- Add one of these statements depending on your circumstance: "All proceeds will be donated to Oxfam Australia" or "Net proceeds will be donated to Oxfam Australia".
- In any communication, use Arial as your default script type.
- Add one of these statements to your materials: "Oxfam Australia works in partnership with local communities in more than 28 countries to overcome poverty and injustice. Oxfam Australia is a member of Oxfam International. ABN 1 055 208". Or "Oxfam Australia helps communities to help themselves. Its vision is of a fairer world in which people control their own lives, their basic

rights are achieved and live in a sustainable environment. Oxfam Australia is a Public Benevolent Institution. ABN 1 055 208".

If you require images to support your material, do not hesitate to contact us. In your request, please specify what the photos should feature and if the image is needed in high or low resolution. Low resolution photos are good for A4 size or smaller publications.

IMPORTANT! Send any artwork that is different to Oxfam templates to walk@oxfam.org.au for approval. We're sure you'll understand that we have to ensure that our values and image are maintained through all the promotional material connected with the walk against want.



Photo: Jerry Galea/OxfamAUS

Planning your walk



Decide on a Date

Your school can hold a Walk against Want whenever it best suits you. If you would like to host your event outside of school grounds remember to contact your local council to check that the date doesn't clash with other local activities or events if you are planning your route outside of school grounds.

Contact Oxfam Australia

It is important that you keep the Oxfam Australia Walk Against Want team informed of all the details of your event. We can help promote the event and support you by providing promotional materials and advice.

Recruiting participants to your event

Oxfam Australia's Walk against Want is a great way for your student body to engage with its local community while simultaneously learning about issues of poverty and injustice in their global community. Outlining Oxfam Australia's work to your students is a great way to ensure that the participants in your Walk against Want are inspired to raise funds and will provide a sense of accomplishment for their efforts. We can provide you with a PowerPoint presentation and notes if you wish and there are a lot of resources on our website <http://www.oxfam.org.au/publications/teaching/index.html>

We encourage you to enlist participants from all ages within your student body, as reports we have received from past school-based Walk against Wants have informed us that the event has been a great way to bring students together. Plus, it's a

great way to get your students up and moving!

Other Schools

Why not combine your efforts with another school in your area? Other schools are a great place to recruit enthusiastic walkers and potential assistants.

Publicising Your Walk Against Want

Publicity helps raise the profile of the event, but remember that it is recruitment through your friends and networks that is most likely to bring in walkers. The best time to promote your event is 6 weeks beforehand.

Walks held outside of school grounds

Hosting an event outside of school grounds can be a lot more hard work, but can also be a lot of fun! Just remember to seek the relevant approvals and create a detailed event plan ensuring your event will be safe for students, staff and the public.

Decide on a Venue

If your route goes outside of school grounds, try to include historic and/or picturesque points of interest that will add to your students' enjoyment. Make the start and finish central and easily accessible. It is useful to have a circular route that finishes where it started. The start / finish area needs to be suitable for picnics with shade and close to amenities, e.g. toilets. Safety is important, so try to avoid busy intersections and multiple road crossings. You will need to position volunteer marshals on the day at road

crossings to assist walkers. It is helpful to have a map of the area so you can mark the route, and also to give to your walkers on the day. There is no set length, but most Walk against Wants are between five to ten kilometres. You may be able to find a route that allows for optional 'short' and 'long' walks; to appeal to different aged students. Some groups also have separate bike/ roller blade and/or dog walks.

How is the money raised to run the event?

Funds are primarily raised through the sponsorship of walkers and donations made to the event. Additional funds are raised by cake stalls, sausage sizzles, etc. These additional funds can be used to cover operational expenses arising from organising the walk against want. However if you choose this avenue, at the conclusion of the event, you are required to submit a Profit and Loss Report for all funds to Oxfam Australia.

Create and Event Plan

If you are planning on hosting your walk outside of school grounds you will need to compile an event plan to submit with your permit application to your local council.

The event plan should include:

- event details;
- public liability insurance;
- communication strategy;
- venue/site plan to scale;
- traffic management (Department of Infrastructure requirements);
- emergency management;
- security;
- pedestrian management;
- first aid and public health;
- waste management;
- noise;
- fundraising;
- health services (food and beverage);
- infrastructure/facilities;
- power and lighting;
- temporary structures; and
- parking permits.
- water management
- place of public entertainment – occupancy permit.



Photo: Penny Tweedle/OxfamAUS

Oxfam are happy to help your school with this and can send you a template events plan. Just contact us at walk@oxfam.org.au

Contact your local council

Contact your local council to get any necessary permits for your event (if holding it in a public place). Clarify and confirm the date, time and location. They may also be able to help by lending witches hats, trestles and a loud speaker.

Public liability insurance

Walk against wants are covered by Oxfam Australia's public liability policy as long as no risky behaviour is undertaken. The Support Pack contains a copy of the certificate of currency. If you have any questions about this please do not hesitate to contact walk@oxfam.org.au

Everyday Hero Online donations

In just minutes your walkers can build their own page and approach supporters for a donation by emailing around the unique link of your webpage to friends, family and fellow students.

Each donation is recorded on your personalised walk page along with any message of support from your donors. You can even click on the links of other Walk groups to see how much they have raised!

How it works

- We will create your own personalised Everyday Hero Walk against Want page on the OAus website.
- Once a walker is registered for your walk you just need to let them know they can fundraise themselves via your unique WaW home page URL (OAus will create this for you). From here they will be directed to Everyday Hero.
- These walkers can then refer their potential sponsors to this page, where they can make secure on-line credit card donations.
- Promoting this page is as easy as sending an email and an Everyday Hero WaW template is sent to you upon registration.
- A live tally of donations is available on your individual page so that you can easily track each individual donation as well as which walker generated it.
- Neither you or Oxfam have to chase up money, handle any cash or deposit cheques into the bank, all of this is managed by Everyday Hero. Even receipts are automatically sent!

Who are Everyday Hero

Everyday Hero is an organisation that is passionate about making a difference.

Their website is designed to make 'giving' as easy, efficient, beneficial and ultimately as 'everyday' as possible, with the hope to improve the world... one act of kindness a time.

Student Walk against Want excursion consent form

- 1. Name of school:** _____
- 2. Title of excursion:** _____
- 3. Destination of excursion:** _____
- 4. Date(s) of excursion:** _____
- 5. Information about the excursion:** _____

Note:

Schools need to provide sufficient information to parents about the nature of the proposed excursion, including a description of the activities to be undertaken and the degree of supervision, to enable the parents to give informed consent to their child's participation. This information should be included here or provided as an attachment. As a minimum, such information would normally include:

- departure and return times;
- a description of the excursion, including the premises to be used, sleeping arrangements, general and specific activities, and travel arrangements (if another parent is providing transport, include parent's details and car registration number);
- staff members and supervision;
- cost (and refund policy);
- clothing and equipment needed;
- name of excursion contact person and contact details;
- other matters that may apply, such as behaviour, dress, selection of students (if places are limited).

If the above information is provided as an attachment, the school should identify and list in this part of the form the specific documents that are attached under a subheading 'attachments'.

6. Student behaviour:

Note:

Schools may choose to also include the following statement:

'I acknowledge that during the excursion, acceptable standards of behaviour will be expected of the students. I understand that in the event of my son's/daughter's serious misbehaviour during the excursion, he/she may be sent home. I further understand that in such circumstances I will be informed and that any costs associated with his/her return will be my responsibility.'

7. Parent consent:

I have read all of the above information provided by the school in relation to the excursion, including any attached material.

I give permission for my daughter/son _____ to attend.

Parent/guardian (name) _____

(signature) _____

(date) _____

Promotional materials



In order to be effective, the promotional materials that you produce for your event should clearly show that you're raising funds for Oxfam Australia

Oxfam can send you Walk against Want logos and a selection of short statements with which to describe Oxfam Australia, as well as all promotional materials.

Posters: Oxfam Australia will provide you with promotional posters in A3 and A4 sizes. These posters have space for you to add the location and date of your event, as well as contact details of the person to register with.

Put these across the school or even photocopy one for the newsletter so parents and students can become involved.

If you decided to make the event public, put up posters at sports and community centres, schools, universities, doctors' surgeries, cafés, newsagents, milk bars, local businesses, libraries, cinemas, service stations etc.

There may be a contract poster distributor in your area who will do the job free of charge.

Postcards: We will also provide you with promotional postcards which have space for you to add the location and date of your Walk against Want. You can distribute those directly to potential participants and are easily taken home in school bags.

Stickers: Kids love stickers, raise awareness by distributing a sticker to each participant, this will ensure they remember the Walk against Want each time they look at their diary or pencil case where they have stuck the sticker.



Frequently asked questions

What if take walk outside of school grounds?

- Seek advice from and check with your local council for any necessary permits, licenses, trading standards and health and safety issues.
- Contact your local police if you are planning an event in a public place which may cause disruption.
- Consider first aid requirements and fire safety.
- Ensure that your relationship with Oxfam Australia is made clear – this is a legal requirement.
- Remember that all your publicity materials should include a statement such as “All proceeds will be donated to Oxfam Australia”, or “Fundraising in support of Oxfam Australia”.
- Consider using other national sources of free health and safety advice, such as the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission www.nohsc.gov.au

If you have any additional questions contact our walk team walk@oxfam.org.au

How do I register for a school walk?

To register to run a Walk against Want at your school simply email walk@oxfam.org.au or visit our website <http://www.oxfam.org.au/act/events/walk-against-want/at-your-school>

How are enquiries for walk against want handled?

Any enquiries sent by supporters to walk@oxfam.org.au, enquire@oxfam.org.au

org.au or by phoning head office on 1800 088 110 are assisted by the Walk against Want team. We may forward these enquiries directly to you if they are relevant to your event. The above email addresses and phone numbers should not be advertised by Walk Organisers as contacts for the Walk against Want. If the Walk Organiser receives an enquiry about another walk or if the enquirer would like to organise their own Walk against Want, please forward the enquiry to walk@oxfam.org.au or 1800 088 110.

How do I create an online Everyday Hero fundraising page for my class?

Contact the Oxfam walk team on walk@oxfam.org.au and we can set up a custom page for your school.

Everyday Hero

If you have any further questions about Everyday Hero please do not hesitate to contact the Walk against Want team for a detailed explanation on building your Hero Page.

How can my school collect money?

To help you to meet this fundraising pledge we have the below two options to get you started without having to break in to a sweat:

Set up an E-Fundraising page

Quick and easy to use. All you need to do is enter your details, how much you hope to raise, the event you're entering and then you get a free web page. Then send this link to your family and friends and add it to the bottom of all your emails. You can even add a photo if you want to brighten up your web page.

Sponsorship form

If you prefer the old fashioned method we have sponsorship forms which you can download and pass around to your friends and family or we can post you some when you register online.

How do I pay my schools sponsorship money?

The best ways to send your money to us are:

Pay in your money online via your Everyday Hero page via Visa, Mastercard, American Express BPAY as well as Offline via Cheques, Cash and EFTPOS at over 3,800 Australia Post Stores instantly

Write a cheque for the total amount payable to "Oxfam Australia" and send it, along with your fully completed sponsorship sheet, to:

Oxfam Walk
Oxfam Australia,
132 Leicester Street,
Carlton, Vic, 3053

You can send your sponsorship money by postal order – but please do not send cash through the post.

Please don't take your fundraising money to an Oxfam shop, because this will only be recorded as a "public donation" and we won't have a record of how much you've raised.

Activities for schools



Buckets Exercise

Objectives

This activity shows how Oxfam's responses can meet people's urgent needs for water and sanitation; it shows how we listen to what people need, in order to do this; and it asks young people to think about how these needs will be exacerbated by climate change.

It asks them to think more deeply about the human impact of climate change (optional), and what they can do to help make a difference.

The activity can be used for a wide range of ages.

Materials

- Oxfam buckets or 4L milk containers
- Flipcharts or paper
- Marker pens
- Laminated case studies (optional)

Oxfam buckets are distributed to people in emergency situations. It contains basic hygiene items such as soap and can be used for collecting and storing water.



Case Study One

These children in Dili, Timor-Leste are collecting water that Oxfam Australia has delivered to Farol a displaced persons camp.



Photo: Penny Tweedle/OxfamAUS.

Case Study Two

In Nong Por Village, Feaung District, Vientiane Province, Laos. Oxfam Australia has built a new primary school in the village, which saves children from having to walk over a mountain to a nearby village to go to school.



Photo: Jerry Galea/OxfamAUS.

Preparing for your Walk against Want

Step 1: Preparation for your walk

One week prior

Get children to bring in 4L containers a few weeks before walk (and label them with Oxfam stickers) is scheduled and explain that students will be using these for their walk and that they will need to wear walking shoes and weather-appropriate clothing.

On the day

(Optional): Start by asking: "Who has heard of Oxfam? What do we do?"

Pass Oxfam buckets round the audience and get them to guess how heavy it is and what it is used for.

If necessary, give them paper to write their answers down on. [5-10 mins]

Refer to page 4 "A little about Oxfam" for answers on what Oxfam do.

Explain that buckets like these are used by children in developing countries like Southern Africa everyday to collect water and sometimes children have to walk up to 6km with these heavy buckets.

Step 2: Starting your Walk

In pairs, students walk to the nearest tap to your classroom and fill up their buckets with water and carry it to the school oval.

Step 3: Discussion

Once at the school oval discuss with the students how heavy they think the bucket was, and how they felt carrying it to the oval.

Read Case Study Three and refer it to the activity they just undertook. See if students can imagine what it must be

like for children living in North Vietnam who might need to walk three hours a day to collect water in a heavy bucket like what they just used.

Step 4: Reflection

Ask students to think about how they collect water in their homes and how easy it is, then get them to write down how a lack of water access would affect them. Get them to especially think how their education would be harmed if they had to collect water daily to wash, use the toilet, drink and cook in their home...and get them to think about what kind of future they would have if they didn't get to attend school.

Discuss how students can help by collection sponsorship for Oxfam Australia and refer to some of the dollar handles for examples.

Case Study Three

Women and girls from remote mountain villages in North Vietnam walk up to three hours a day to haul water back to their houses for cooking. Here in Australia we turn on our taps.

Fresh, clean accessible water for drinking and for cooking. We all need it, only some of us have to go to the limits of human endurance to get it.

More than one billion people are forced to use dirty water for their daily needs.

Unclean water, poor sanitation and unsafe hygiene practices have claimed more lives over the past century than any other cause – and this is continuing in many developing countries – making this one of the world's most



Photo: Timothy Herbert/OxfamAUS.

Homework

Count your steps

Objective

The objective of this exercise is to get children to start thinking about their own access to water and understand the importance of having this access for survival, health and education.

Materials

Piece of paper and pencil

Step 1: Preparation

Ask students to go home tonight and count how many steps it takes them from their:

1. Bedroom to bathroom,
2. Bedroom to kitchen tap
3. Count how many taps they have in their home

9,000 steps is the amount needed to make up a 6 kilometre distance.



4. Count how many toilets they have in their home

Step 2: Count your steps

As per above instructions children go home and count their steps. This task is fun and can also involve the whole family!

Step 3: Reflection

Ask students to write their answers to exercise one and two on the board, add up the total figure and then count the number of children in the class to work out the average.

Then compare the average to the 6 kilometres the average child has to walk to access water in a developing country.

Example:
500 steps Total
30 students Total
 $500/30 = 16$ steps

Normally a person's feet would account for 10 inches on the ground. Considering that one takes a stride of around 14 inches while stepping forward while taking big steps, it would normally take 1.5 steps to cover a distance of 1 meter. 15 steps would cover a distance of 10 meters and 1500 steps would cover 1000 meters i.e. 1 kilometre.

Case Study Four

Petros Myeni is 30 years old. She is the guardian and older brother of the orphaned family who live here. They received a 2,500-litre rainwater tank in 2007. The children all lived here until recently, now only one boy does (the oldest of the children who live here). Before the tank they used to walk 2hrs to and from a water well (4 hours total) carrying a 20 or 25 litre container to collect water. They had to try and make this last three days. During the "dry season" in February they had to buy water from a seller on the road (40 Rand for a 160 litre plastic drum), but this was difficult because they had no money or they had to depend on neighbours. Now, when the tank is full, it can last them many months.

"Before we received this tank the only option we had, because we were running out of water, was to go to the water wells that have been dug. That took about two hours travelling there and two hours again coming back. So it would take almost four hours for a person to just go to the water wells. Especially when it has rained, it is helpful to have a tank. It has changed the family's life because you can collect quite a large amount of water and you can just save the water that you have collected during the rainy season and use it and it will last many months."



Photo: Cedric Nunn/OxfamAUS.

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