

CHILDREN'S RESOURCES

Day 10:
International
Disaster
Response



Websites of Interest:

- The International Disaster Database: <http://www.emdat.be/>
This database provides information about disasters, country profiles, and more.
- United Methodist Committee on Relief: <http://www.umcor.org>
Learn how The United Methodist Church is engaged in disaster relief—both immediate response and long-term response.

Learning Activities:

- **WASH Mobile**

Materials: One used coat hanger per child, variety of colors of construction paper, scissors, glue sticks, hole punch, markers or crayons, yarn or string

Instructions: Share with the children that when a disaster happens we can remember some of the most important steps that are taken to help make people safe by spelling the word **WASH: WA** = Water; **S** = Sanitation, which means keeping the area and themselves clean; and **H** = Health.

- Cut four 4"-5" squares out of any color of paper. Write one letter on each of the squares (**W-A-S-H**).
- Invite the children to draw and cut out items that UMCOR may need to provide to people who need help. (*Cut/paste or draw/color.*)

Some ideas:

- **WATER:** Drops of water, pictures of water bottles, trucks of water
 - **SANITATION:** Soap, clean clothes, washcloths/towels
 - **HEALTH:** Band-Aids/bandages, stethoscopes, syringes, nurses/doctors, hospitals
- Punch holes at the top and bottom of each letter and picture. Use pieces of string to tie the letters and corresponding pictures into long strands that represent each section of "WASH."



- *Tip:* Help the children tie the letter to the top of each strand. Then tie each strand onto the coat hanger.
- Review what each letter of the word WASH represents and invite the children to think about the many ways they have WASH at home. (*Water to drink, soap and towels, toothbrushes, Band-Aids, and bandages.*) Invite the children to pray for people in dangerous situations to be able to have “WASH” every day.
- *Options:* You can use a paper plate as the base for the mobile instead of a coat hanger if desired. You could also search for pictures in magazines to cut out and glue onto pieces of construction paper to create the mobile.

Children’s Story For Use in Worship or Christian Education Settings:

Materials: Twin-size blanket

Preparation: Lay the blanket out flat on the floor on one side of the space.

I need help. I need to get this blanket from over here to over there. (*Point toward a place on the opposite side of the space.*) I know, you are wondering why I don’t just pick it up and put it over there. Well, I’ve decided I need to keep it perfectly flat while I do it. I know that seems impossible. Lots of things seem impossible sometimes.

When I saw pictures of Haiti after the earthquake, it seemed like an impossible situation.

When I saw pictures of Indonesia after the tsunami, it seemed like an impossible situation.

When I saw pictures of Japan after the earthquake, it seemed like an impossible situation.

(*Add in the same pattern for any other international disasters in which your church may be involved in disaster relief.*)

UMCOR has helped make what seemed impossible POSSIBLE, through the power of prayer and through the faith and donations from the people called United Methodists.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief or “UMCOR” works directly to help people who are hurting around the world because of disasters. The people in UMCOR have learned that sometimes we can best help others if we work together with partners. It may be groups from other churches and faiths or it may be experts that can help train volunteers. The people in the areas impacted by the disaster become our partners, too. Impossible situations become possible when we work together.

I have an idea! Let’s work together to move the blanket. Let’s see...let’s form two lines—one on each of the long sides of the blanket. Okay, those closest to the blanket bend over and touch the edge of the blanket nearest to you. (*Help the children space themselves around the blanket as needed. If there are many children they can stand beside others with their hands on their friends’ shoulders, or have more than one blanket, as needed.*)



When I count to three, slowly pick up the blanket and keep it nice and flat between us. We'll have to work together to make this work. Ready? One, two, three. Great! Now, when I say step, let's all take a step together moving toward the other side. Can you say a letter in the word UMCOR as we move? Ready? Step—U. Step—M. Step—C. Step—O. Step—R. (*Keep doing this until the blanket has been moved to the other side.*)

Now, let's lay the blanket down together slowly. Ready? And, down...Great! We worked together and moved the blanket. When you work together you can get so much more done. UMCOR works together with partner organizations and leaders all over the world to share God's love and care with people in need.

Let us pray together as partners. Will everyone partner with someone else by holding their hand or touching their shoulder?

Dear God,

When we see the pictures of disasters all over the world we wonder, "Who will help?" We thank you for the many people involved in UMCOR who work together to make sure that people have safe water, food, shelter, and medical assistance. We pray today for everyone who is living in and near disaster areas. We ask that you continue to encourage leaders from all over the world to work together so that the impossible will become possible in your name. Amen.





GENERAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

We know that children want to learn how people are helping other people in their neighborhood and all around the world. This packet of ideas, resources, and stories will help you discern the best way to engage the children in your setting into the 10-Fold experience!

Here are some program options to consider:

- *10-Fold Sunday school/Wednesday-night program*: Design a fun experience by creating a learning center for each project. Children would visit each area to hear a story and learn more about the project. Consider having a craft or coloring page at each learning center, or a separate learning center for creative activities. You can also send the coloring pages or other activity pages home with the children. Make sure to send home information about 10-Fold so their families can participate.
- *10-Fold Morning "Mini-Retreat"*: Plan a special morning of learning, activities, and experiencing mission. Enlarge the learning centers to include the crafts, stories, and a game from the 10-Fold emphasis, as appropriate. In the weeks prior to the event, encourage the children to do something extra at home to earn money for a special offering for one of the projects. The entire church may want to help the children in raising funds for their project. If you have an on-site internet connection, one learning center could be a visit to the 10-Fold website. Contact your Annual Conference mission coordinator to discover if there is a missionary appointed within your conference. You may be able to arrange for a call, an email, or a Skype visit with this missionary.

A quick search on the internet and at your public library will give you many ideas for crafts and games from around the world. Your local library and bookstores may have these available to review as you discern which resource will fit your program needs. Most important, for more information about the mission, ministry, and people of the General Board of Global Ministries go to: www.gbgm-umc.org.

Music

Put Your Arms Around the World: Global Songs and Activities for Children (S T Kimbrough, Jr., editor; stories and activities by Jodi L. Cataldo). Book ISBN: 978-1-933663166, CD: 978-1-933663067. General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, t/a GBGMusik (2009). Each song has a story, scripture, and activity provided to help you discuss the theme of the song with the children.

For Everyone Born: Global Songs for an Emerging Church (Jorge Lockward and Christopher Heckert, editors). Book ISBN: 13-978-1933663265, CD ISBN: 13-978-1933663258. General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, t/a GBGMusik (2008). Contains short, singable songs and choruses from around the world. Each song includes information about the context, performance options, and worship use.

Faith-Based Resources

Hugging the World: Faith, Hope, Love in Action, Children's Mission Study and Teacher's Guide (Jodi L. Cataldo). ISBN: 978-1-933663425. Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries (2010). This 2010 School of Christian Mission resource can be used for many years with children in mission education. Uses *Put Your Arms Around the World* as a resource.



Crafts & Activities

The Kid's Multicultural Art Book: Art and Craft Experiences from Around the World (Alexandra M. Terzian). ISBN: 13-978-0913589724. Williamson Books (1993).

Global Art: Activities, Projects, and Inventions from Around the World (MaryAnn F. Kohl). ISBN: 13-978-0876591901. Gryphon House (1998).

Cookbooks

The Kids' Multicultural Cookbook: Food & Fun Around the World (Deanna F. Cook). ISBN: 13-978-0913589915. Williamson Books (1995). Older version.

The Kids' Multicultural Cookbook (Kids Can!) (Deanna F. Cook). ISBN: 13-978-0824968182. Williamson Books (2008). Updated version.

Games

Kids Around the World Play! The Best Fun and Games from Many Lands (Arlette N. Braman). ISBN: 13-978-0471409847. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. (2002).

Play with Us: 100 Games from Around the World (Oriol Ripoll). ISBN: 13-978-1556525940. Chicago Review Press (2002).

General Information

Whoever You Are (Mem Fox). ISBN: 13-978-0152164065. Voyager Books, Harcourt, Inc. (2001).
A short full-color picture book that reminds children that although we may all live in different places, we may not look the same, and our schools and languages may be different—inside we are all alike.

I Can Make a Difference: A Treasury to Inspire Our Children (Marian Wright Edelman). ISBN: 13-978-0060280512. Amistad, 1st Edition (2005). Character-building stories, poems, and legends from around the world.

Children Just Like Me: Celebrations! (Anabel and Barnabas Kindersley). ISBN: 13-978-0789420275. DK Children; 1st American Edition (1997).

A School Like Mine: How children live around the world (DK Publishing). ISBN: 13-978-0756629137. DK Publishing (2007).

A Life Like Mine (DK Publishing). ISBN 13-978-0756618032. DK Publishing (2002).

If the World Were a Village: A Book about the World's People (David J. Smith). ISBN: 13-978-1550747799. Kids Can Press, 2nd Edition (2002).

World Map

United Methodist Mission Map: go to cokesbury.com/forms/ProductDetail.aspx?pid=693514 to download a free world map that indicates all of the countries where there is a UMC mission presence.

Resource written by Debra Tyree, staff member of Global Ministries. Rev. Tyree works in the area of Global Praise enabling persons to connect their faith with the world through worship and mission education resources for all ages.