

# CHILDREN'S RESOURCES



Children are very aware of the many disasters that have happened in the United States over the last year. Floods, wildfires, drought, blizzards, and hurricanes are words they have all heard. This resource packet will focus on how the children can be in ministry with persons who have been impacted by the floods through participation in the collection of school kits.

## Websites of Interest:

- Floods, fires, hurricanes, drought, and the response by UMCOR: [www.umcor.org](http://www.umcor.org)
- UMCOR Relief Supply Centers: <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/work/sagerbrown/>
- UMCOR Relief Supply Network News: <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/work/reliefsupplydepts/networknews/>  
Where have the various kits made a difference? Check out the list of countries and US states.
- UMCOR School Kits: <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/getconnected/supplies/school-kit/>
- Video—How Pencils Are Made: <http://science.discovery.com/videos/how-its-made-pencils.html>

## Learning Activities:

### **Jesus Loves You Pocket Cards**

*Materials:* White card stock cut into 3" squares (one per child), markers, and/or stickers

*Preparation:* Decide in advance where you are going to send the cards. The UMCOR website has articles with information about impacted areas. Most major news websites will also help you find an area impacted by a disaster, as will the [www.fema.org](http://www.fema.org) website. Addresses for local United Methodist churches in an area can be found at [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org), by clicking "Find-a-church," and typing in the city and state. Some Annual Conferences



also have Disaster offices that can help you discern a church in an area that has been impacted. Share with the children the name of the church where the cards will be sent and how the area was impacted by disaster.

*Instructions:*

- Write “Jesus Loves YOU” in the center of one side of the square. Decorate the square as desired.
- On the reverse side invite every child to write their first name, your church name, city, and state.
- Invite the children to hold their cards in their hands as you lead them in a prayer:

**Dear Jesus,**

**We pray for everyone who has been hurt by the \_\_\_\_\_. (*Insert the kind of disaster: floods, fire, etc.*) We send these cards to our brothers and sisters in \_\_\_\_\_ (*name the city and state*) to let them know that we love them and care about them. We know that you love them very much. Let them feel your love in their hearts today. In Jesus’ name. Amen.**

- **UMCOR School Kits**

One way to engage the children in ministry with those persons impacted by disasters in the US is to coordinate an UMCOR School Kit Drive. Print and reproduce the School Kit Assembly List. Make copies to have on hand. (*Run on front and back.*)

Consider a variety of ways to have the children participate:

- Young children can decorate posters that include the information about the school kits, collection place, dates, etc.
- Older children can visit other Sunday school classes and share that they are collecting school kits. Be sure to have copies of the school kit assembly list to give out.
- All children can do extra chores or special jobs to earn extra money. Consider going on a field trip together to purchase the items. Take pictures of the outing and post in the classroom. Remember to get permission from the children’s parents prior to posting pictures, and keep in mind child safety concerns when posting pictures.
- Consider inviting other community groups to join in the collection of the school kits. Consider community groups, businesses, and schools.
- Enlist the help of groups within the church to make the school kit bags (*Instructions:* <http://new.gbqm-umc.org/umcor/media/reliefsupplypdfsimages/schoolbagpattern.gif>)
- Engage the children in checking the materials in each bag to ensure they conform to the requirements on the School Kit Assembly List before you pack them in shipping boxes.



- Encourage families to collect change to cover the \$1 fee for each kit. Perhaps they will want to skip one fast-food meal a week and donate the funds to the project to cover the shipping costs.
- Draw a large pencil on a piece of poster board. Fill it in with a yellow marker to show how many kits you have collected.
- Check with your Annual Conference staff to discern if there is a collection site near you, or if you should ship the kits directly to an UMCOR center.

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

*Materials:* One completed UMCOR School Kit, map of the US, removable stickers, a new unsharpened pencil, a handheld pencil sharpener

*Preparation:* Place removable stickers on the states that have been impacted by disaster over the last two years. (See [www.FEMA.org](http://www.FEMA.org) for a list.)

*Option:* Place the kits you have collected in a basket/box in the front of your worship space.

We've been back in school for a little while now. How many of you got a new pencil at the beginning of the school year? (*Hold up the pencil.*) I really like getting new pencils. Even though I'm a grownup, I still like to get a new pencil! Somehow, a new pencil reminds me I can always start a new project or schoolwork with a sense of hope.

Of course, I can't write anything with this pencil yet. What do I need to do to the pencil to be able to write something? (*Sharpen it.*) Yes, this pencil needs a bit of help to be able to help me write and learn. It needs to be sharpened.

Because of the many storms, floods, and fires this year there are many boys and girls who don't have a new pencil. It may be that all of their school supplies were lost in a flood. Perhaps their moms' and dads' jobs were lost, because the places where they work were destroyed by a hurricane and they need to spend their money on food for the family instead. Perhaps their school was destroyed and they are going to a temporary school with no supplies. They need just a bit of help to make sure they have the necessary supplies to learn.

We have been collecting school kits for UMCOR. (*Hold up the school kit.*) UMCOR will send these to places where boys and girls need supplies to learn in school. I know that you have worked hard on this project so we can be in ministry with UMCOR, local churches, and the boys and girls who need these supplies.

Let's stand next to our collection of school kits and say a prayer that they will be a blessing to the children who receive them.

*Option:* You could ask each child to hold a kit as you pray.

This blessing was written by Jeanette Petit, a volunteer at the UMCOR Sager Brown Depot, after seeing all of the kits that people had donated and were on their way to those who needed them:



**Gracious God,**

**You know the hurts and needs of all your children.**

**We ask you now to bless these kits as they go out to meet the needs of our sisters and brothers wherever there is chaos and hurt. May they bring health to those who do not have supplies to keep themselves healthy. May they bring hope to those whose lives have been upset by natural or human disaster. May they extend our compassion and love to those who receive them.**

**We give thanks for the bounty, which we can share. We give thanks for the hands, which have assembled these kits, and the hearts, which have been opened to sharing and compassion.**

**God of justice and hope, bless these kits on their journey and distribution and bless those who receive them. We lift this prayer in the name of the Jesus who taught us how to love each other.**

**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](http://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](http://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.

*Blessing of the Kits*, written by Jeanette Pettit, Deacon, retired status, volunteer, UMCOR Sager Brown. Centennial UMC in Roseville, St. Paul, Minnesota.



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*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.*



## UMCOR SCHOOL KIT ASSEMBLY INFORMATION

### School Kit

Value: \$ 11.00

#### **1 pair blunt scissors**

rounded tip only  
no plastic scissors please

#### **3 pads of paper**

spiral or top-bound pads  
150 sheets of loose-leaf can be substituted for 1 pad  
combinations of spiral, top-bound or loose-leaf is acceptable

#### **1 hand-held pencil sharpener**

must be at least one-inch long  
remove from packaging

#### **1 30-centimeter ruler**

hard or flexible  
cartoon characters are acceptable  
no advertisements please

#### **6 unsharpened pencils**

no advertisements or religious, patriotic, military, or camouflage symbols please  
cartoon characters are acceptable

#### **1 2½-inch eraser**

no advertisements or religious, patriotic, military, or camouflage symbols please  
cartoon characters are acceptable

#### **1 24-count box of crayons**

only 24 count boxes please

#### **1 14"x16" cloth bag**

homemade or purchased bags are both acceptable  
heavy duty fabric only—denim, corduroy, drapery fabric, etc.  
no advertisements or religious, patriotic, military, or camouflage symbols please  
closures are optional, but must be buttons, snaps, or Velcro sewn in middle of opening, if used

#### Assembly Directions

Place all loose items on top of paper. Turn items sideways and slide into the cloth bag. Fold over the top of the bag so loose items don't fall out.



### Important Notes

- A pattern for the bag can be found on the internet at [www.umcor.org](http://www.umcor.org). Go to “How To Give” at the top of the page and scroll down to “Relief Supplies.” Click on “Relief Supplies” and scroll down until you find the “School Kit” section. Click on “sewing patterns.”
- All items must be new.
- All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Since strict rules often govern product entry into countries outside the US, it is important that kits contain only the requested items—nothing more.
- DO NOT include any personal notes, money, or additional material in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed and will delay the shipment.

### Packing Kits

- **Box Weight:** Each packed box cannot exceed 66 pounds.

### Shipping Kits

1. Complete 2 packing lists—one for your records and one to put on the shipping box.
2. Paste the shipping label / packing list on the outside of each box you send. The shipping list helps the depot to quickly process kits.
3. **Processing & Shipping Costs:** Please enclose an envelope containing at least \$1 for each kit you send. This donation enables the kits to be sent to areas in need. *For Cleaning Buckets:* \$1.50.