

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

The following suggested activities are designed to help students learn about the United Nations and to share that knowledge with others. The activities have not been broken down by age group, as they can be modified to suit a wide spectrum.

refers to illustration on page 11

Objective

To learn about the importance of water and how the UN is helping to develop safe drinking water in developing countries.

Activity

Materials:

Photocopies of page 11, drawing equipment

Procedure:

Water is essential for life. But for half the world's people, access to a safe supply of drinking water is not a reality yet.

In Canada, our drinking water usually comes from a tap (figure #1). In countries where water is scarce, people have to walk many miles each day to fetch the water that is needed, and often that water is contaminated. Figure #2 shows an African woman hauling water back from a source far from her village.

The United Nations has established an International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1981-1990) with the goal of "fresh water for all by 1990." An example of work towards this goal is a well that was dug by UNICEF for a village in India (figure #3). This girl no longer has to spend much of her day getting water for her family, as she can draw it from this well close to her home. This also means that she will not miss as much school as she did when it took several hours a day to get water.

Have students draw some of the uses of water that are important to them.

For further information, obtain the UNICEF kit, *A Drop of Water*, listed on page 31.

refers to illustration on page 12

Objective

To learn about the work of UNICEF Canada in helping children around the world.

Activity

Materials:

Photocopies of page 12, drawing equipment

Procedure:

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) works in cooperation with developing countries in their efforts to protect their children and enable them to develop their full potential. In support of this goal, UNICEF Canada contributes to projects on behalf of children in many parts of the world. Examples of the work of UNICEF Canada are illustrated on page 12, and the captions are as follows:

Figure #1: JAMAICA

Supporting the introduction of community-based health services, daycare, income-generating activities for women and the provision of water supply and sanitation in some of the poorest districts in the Kingston Metropolitan Area.

Figure #2: NEPAL

Supporting the printing of almost five million textbooks for free distribution to 954,000 children in 9,500 schools. The textbooks are being printed at the Nepalese Government's Janak Education Material Centre.

Figure #3: CHINA

Supporting the upgrading of 20 kindergartens in 19 provinces to help young children have access to pre-school facilities. These kindergartens serve as demonstration centres for their regions.

After discussing the work of UNICEF Canada as represented in the three examples, explain to students that an important source of their income comes from children collecting at Hallowe'en. Figure #4 shows a girl in Toronto who collected for UNICEF last year. Have students draw either the costume they wore last year or the one they would like to have this Hallowe'en.

Further information can be found in the UNICEF Canada items listed in the Resources section.