

SUMMER 2015 VOL. 6, NO. 3

compassion®  
**explorer**



MAKE CRAFT  
AND COOKIE  
**Puzzles!**

 **COMPASSION  
EXPLORER  
ON iPad!**

Details on back page.

**A Place  
to BELONG**



**MEET FAMILIES OF KIDS AROUND THE WORLD!**

  
Releasing children from poverty  
**Compassion**  
in Jesus' name

[compassion.com/  
explorermagazine](http://compassion.com/explorermagazine)

## What's Inside?

Hi, Compassion Explorers!

Welcome to the summer issue! Turn the pages to learn more about how God cares for your family and families around the world!



Illustrations by Luke Flowers

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### ABOUT THE COVER

Yosua, a sponsored boy in Indonesia, carries his little brother on his back.



## Welcome to My World!

**A PLACE TO BELONG**

Learn about how God takes care of kids in difficult situations.

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## A Summer That Matters

Check out these ideas for making the most of this summer. **PAGE 12**

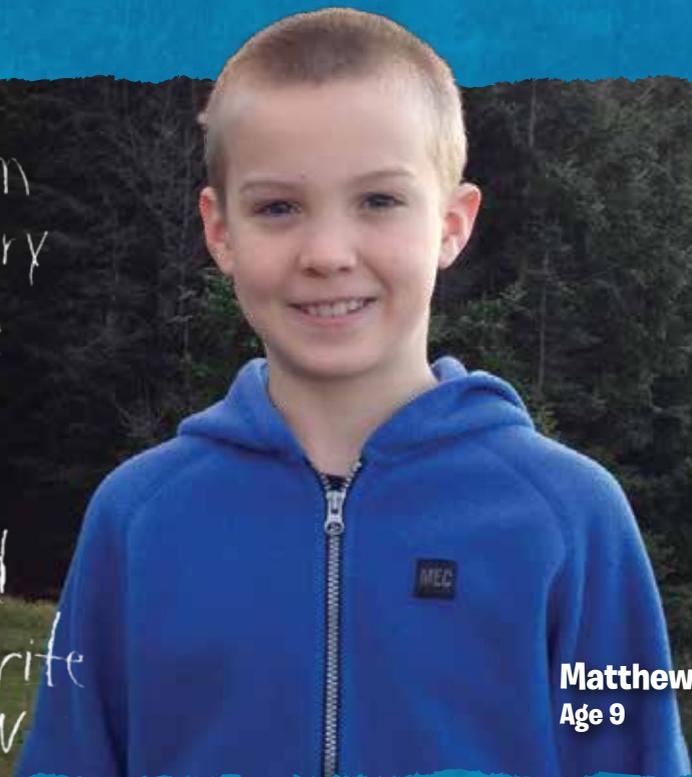


## Games

Can you find five kids who feel left out? **PAGE 14**

## Compassionate Kids

Dear Rednel, I am praying for you every day. I hope the typhoon didn't effect you and your friends and family. My favorite animal is a snow



**Matthew**  
Age 9

Photo courtesy of Kate Ney

### Matthew British Columbia, Canada

How do you feel when you hear news about a natural disaster, like a tornado, earthquake or storm? When 9-year-old Matthew heard about a storm in the Philippines called Typhoon Haiyan, he felt sad — especially because his family's sponsored child, Rednel, lives there. The storm was so strong that it killed people and destroyed homes.

But more than feeling sad, Matthew felt the need to help. He asked his third-grade class to join him in making crafts to sell in their school's Christmas fair to raise money for Rednel and other storm survivors. They raised \$600 for Compassion's Philippines Disaster Relief Fund! Matthew and his classmates also wrote letters and drew pictures for Rednel so he knew they were thinking about him.

"I was happy to help by sending money," Matthew says, "but I really want to go and help by building houses when I am older and disasters happen."



Read about more compassionate kids online at [compassion.com/explorermagazine](http://compassion.com/explorermagazine).

Photo at right courtesy of Nerissa and Rob Lester



Elizabeth, far right, and Kevin, third from right, with Elizabeth's brothers and Kevin's parents.

### Kevin and Elizabeth Colorado

Kevin, age 9, wanted to help kids like his family's sponsored children in India, a country

where mosquito bites make many people sick. So Kevin held fundraisers at church and donated the money so Compassion could buy bed nets, which help keep mosquitoes away from sleeping children. Compassion gives the nets to kids whose families can't afford them.

Kevin's friend at church, 14-year-old Elizabeth, came up with another way to help kids in poverty. To raise money for survivors of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, she made and sold bracelets. Together, Kevin and Elizabeth raised \$700 for Compassion!

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WELCOME TO MY WORLD!  
**A Place  
to BELONG**

We are all part of one family – God’s! But when it comes to our earthly families, no two are the same.

Some kids live with a mom and dad, while some live with a single parent, grandparents or other relatives. Other kids live in orphanages. The important thing is for kids to feel like they belong. Let’s meet some families of kids around the world!



**CRISTHIAN & CRISTEL**

Bolivia

Twin sister and brother Cristel and Cristhian live in Bolivia with their dad [holding them in the picture], mom, two sisters and a baby brother. Their parents don’t make much money in their job collecting and selling plastic bottles, and sometimes they can’t even afford food for the family. They found help when Compassion connected Cristhian with a sponsor, Patricia in Pennsylvania, and Cristel with sponsor Rebecca in Wisconsin.



▲ Top photo: At their Compassion center, Cristel and Cristhian play, eat and learn that they are part of God’s family. Bottom photo: The twins play outside their home.



Four-year-old Sadusha lives with her grandpa in Sri Lanka. When Sadusha was a baby, her parents moved away to find jobs. Her grandpa is going blind and has trouble walking, and he registered Sadusha in Compassion's program so that a sponsor and adults at the local church can help him care for her. She receives lots of encouragement at her center.



 **SADUSHA**  
Sri Lanka

► Caring adults from Sadusha's Compassion center visit her home, a one-room hut on the beach with walls of palm leaves and no floor over the sand.

 **AKIMANA**  
Rwanda

► Akimana, a 13-year-old in Rwanda, and her new brother were both adopted by Beatrice, a widow with four other children. Akimana's parents died when she was a baby, so Beatrice took her home and later registered her in Compassion's program. Thanks to her sponsor, Beth, Akimana can go to school and a Compassion center.



◀ Compassion donors gave Akimana and Beatrice the money to build a house and plant this garden. Now they grow potatoes to eat and sell.



 **GEORGE & BRANDON**  
Colombia

◀ Eight-year-old George and his 5-year-old brother, Brandon, live with their mom in Colombia. Their dad left their family and stopped visiting them, which made George and Brandon very sad. So their Compassion tutors found them a counselor to talk to about their feelings. At their Compassion center, they learn that our Father in heaven will never leave.



Did you know that you belong to God's family? Ephesians 2:19 says that, thanks to Jesus, we belong to God's family and are welcome in God's household!

## WILD MUSHROOM SOUP

Lots of mushrooms grow in Mexico's hills during the rainy summers. Families take long walks to hunt for mushrooms for this soup. Your family can go on a mushroom hunt, too — at the grocery store!



### INGREDIENTS

- ¼ cup cooking oil
- 1 small white onion, finely sliced
- 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 4 serrano peppers, finely chopped
- 3 tomatoes, finely chopped
- 2 lbs. wild mushrooms (such as chanterelle, oyster and porcini), thinly sliced
- salt and pepper to taste
- 9 c. chicken broth
- 4 sprigs of cilantro, optional

[Note: These peppers are very spicy. Be careful when handling them. Avoid touching your eyes. To make the soup less spicy, reduce the amount and throw away any seeds.]

### DIRECTIONS

- 1 In a large cooking pot, warm the oil over medium heat. Add onion and cook until slightly golden. Add the garlic and peppers and cook 3-4 minutes.
- 2 Stir in the tomatoes and let soften. Add the mushrooms. Season with salt and pepper and cook, stirring occasionally, 8-10 minutes.
- 3 Pour in the broth and bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Add the cilantro and stir well. Reduce heat to low and simmer at least 15 minutes. Remove the cilantro sprigs, and season the soup to taste with salt and pepper.

Wild mushrooms are a popular food in many countries where Compassion works. Picking and eating them can be dangerous because so many are poisonous, so eat only mushrooms sold in your grocery store.



## PUZZLE COOKIE



Make this giant cookie so you can cut it into puzzle pieces, one for each member of your family. As you think about how every piece of the puzzle is important, fitting together to make a whole, top the cookie with fruit that kids in other countries love, such as lychee, mango and papaya.

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 c. flour
- ½ tsp. baking powder
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ½ c. [1 stick] butter, room temperature
- 1 c. sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 8-oz. package cream cheese
- 2 c. fruit cut into bite-size pieces

### DIRECTIONS

- 1 Preheat your oven to 350°F.
- 2 In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder and salt.
- 3 In a separate bowl, use an electric mixer to cream the butter and sugar into a light, fluffy mixture. Then beat in the egg and vanilla. With the mixer on low, slowly add your flour mixture until smooth.
- 4 Line a baking tray with parchment or waxed paper. Press the dough into a circle or square about ¼-inch thick. Bake 8-10 minutes, or until lightly browned.
- 5 While the cookie is hot, use a paring knife or pizza cutter to slice it into shapes. It doesn't matter what shapes you pick — they will all fit together!
- 6 Let the cookie cool. Then frost each puzzle piece with a thin layer of cream cheese and decorate with fruit.

## HANGING TOGETHER



©shutterstock.com/Migel



Kids like Matheus in Brazil dry their laundry on clotheslines.

Many people living in poverty can't afford clothes dryers, so they hang laundry on clotheslines. This summer, save electricity by drying your clothes on a line too. Decorate clothespins to look like your family members, then use them to hang up your clothes.

### DIRECTIONS

- 1 Place a clothespin on a table with the closed end facing away from you. Glue two googly eyes on the closed end. Use the permanent markers to draw the rest of the faces and outfits for your people.
- 2 On the closed end of the clothespin, glue feathers for hair.
- 3 Repeat steps, decorating more clothespins to look like yourself and your family members. Then use the clothespin people to hang wet laundry on a clothesline!

### SUPPLIES

- several wooden clothespins
- mini googly eyes
- feathers in multiple colors of yellow, brown, black and red
- craft glue
- permanent markers

## PIECES OF THE WHOLE



A tangram is an ancient Chinese puzzle of shapes arranged to look like animals, boats and other figures. As you make this magnetic tangram set with a recycled tin container, think about how every shape sticks together to create a pretty picture — just like every person makes up a special family.

### SUPPLIES

- tangram pattern (available online)
- tangram idea guide and cover (online)
- printer
- 1 sheet of magnetic paper, found at office-supply or craft stores
- scissors
- foam brush
- clear acrylic sealer, such as Mod Podge®
- 1 recycled tin Altoids® mint container or a similar tin container



Download the template for this craft at [compassion.com/exploreonline](http://compassion.com/exploreonline).

### DIRECTIONS

- 1 Go to [compassion.com/exploreonline](http://compassion.com/exploreonline) and print the colorful tangram template onto the magnetic paper. Cut out the square tangram pattern, idea guide and cover.
- 2 With the foam brush, coat the front of the pattern, idea guide and cover with acrylic sealer to add durability.
- 3 When the sealer has dried, carefully cut out the shapes in your tangram pattern.
- 4 Stick the idea-guide magnet inside the deep part of the tin and the cover to the outside of the tin's lid. Stick the magnetic shapes to the inside of the tin's lid. Your tangram is ready to play with. Arrange the shapes so they look like the pictures in the idea guide. Or make your own pictures!



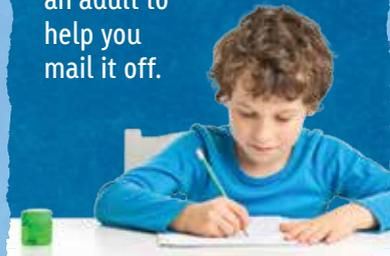


Memorize a Bible passage one verse at a time. If you picked Romans 12:9-18, for example, you'd memorize Romans 12:9 the first week, verse 10 the next week, and so on.

Is there a new family in your neighborhood or maybe a kid on your block who doesn't seem to have many friends? Ask your parents to help you meet any neighbors you don't know. Maybe your family could plan a Fourth of July potluck, and you could make colorful invitations to give to everyone who lives on your street.



If your family sponsors a child, draw a picture for him or her. You could draw your pet, your family, yourself or your favorite food. Then ask an adult to help you mail it off.



Right to left: ©iStockphoto.com/Jaroon ©iStockphoto.com/DustyPixel

# A Summer That Matters!

Make the most of this summer! There are people to help, verses to memorize, and cultures to explore! Here are ideas.



Volunteer at your local food bank, a place that collects food for people in need. Have an adult call or go to the food bank's website to see what types of volunteer jobs your family can do — jobs like packing food into boxes, sorting canned goods, or cleaning.

With an adult, go to [compassion.com/fun-recipes-for-kids.htm](http://compassion.com/fun-recipes-for-kids.htm), where you'll see lots of recipes from around the world.



Choose some recipes to make with your family this summer. Research the country each meal comes from, and share what you learned when you sit down to eat.



Make or find a calendar you can write on. Write down or draw someone or something you want to pray about in each space for summer. Check the calendar each day.



For a printable calendar of more summer ideas, go to [compassion.com/kids-magazine/summer-activities-for-kids.htm](http://compassion.com/kids-magazine/summer-activities-for-kids.htm).

Counter-clockwise from top left: ©iStockphoto.com/NoDerog ©iStockphoto.com/twiny1 ©iStockphoto.com/ricdd/2265

## What Does God Say About ...

# Belonging?

Have you ever felt left out, forgotten or unwanted? Maybe someone in your class had a party and didn't invite you. Or maybe your parents are divorced, and one parent doesn't visit or call you.

Sometimes it can feel like we just don't belong. That's when it's important to remember this awesome truth: We all belong to God's family, and our heavenly Father will never forget us! The Bible says that all the people in the world who love Jesus make up one big family called *the Body of Christ*.

Think about the many different body parts you have. On a sheet of paper, list or draw some parts of your body, such as ears, hands or eyes. Imagine what might happen if those parts didn't work. The Bible tells us in 1 Corinthians 12:20-21: "As it is, there are many parts, but one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I don't need you!' And the head cannot say to the feet, 'I don't need you!'"

Just like our body parts work together to make one complete body, every person works together to make one healthy family or community at home, church and school. Here are things we can do to keep our families healthy and show others that they belong.

- If you see someone eating or playing alone, invite her to join you.
- Tell someone you love why he is an important part of your life.
- Do your chores to make your home clean and help your family.
- Read Romans 12:4-8, and think of how you can use your special gifts to help others.



Illustration by Luke Flowers



**PRAYER**

### DEAR JESUS,

I'm so glad that I'm part of Your family and that I can talk to You when I'm feeling bad. Please give me ideas for how to make other people feel wanted and included on the playground, in class and at home. Thank You for giving me a place to belong.

**IN YOUR NAME, AMEN.**

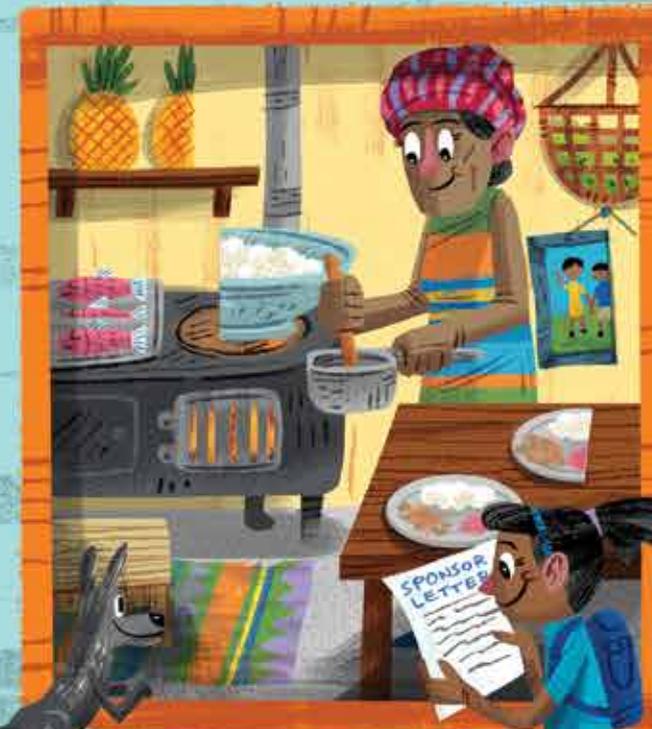
# Left Out

Can you find five kids in this picture who might feel left out? How could the other kids help them feel like they belong?



# Missing Pieces

Something important is missing in each picture below. Make the scenes complete by drawing the missing pieces.



"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."

— 1 Corinthians 12:27

## → Just for Grins and Giggles

Boys in India run after one of the many cows that roam free in the country.



### KIDS, SEND YOUR CAPTIONS TO:

Compassion International, Attn: *Compassion Explorer Magazine* Editor, 12290 Voyager Parkway, Colorado Springs, CO 80921. Or email it to [compassionkids@compassion.com](mailto:compassionkids@compassion.com).



**Just ... one ... more ... inch!**

Josiah, 9  
 Kansas City, Mo.

**Giant baby lends hand at race!**

Lenny, 12  
 New Haven, Conn.

**I can't ... quite ... REACH THEM! Come back to me, my precious!**

Laura, 13  
 St. Louis, Mo.

**I will get you, rolling thingamabobbers!**

Susannah, 10  
 Mount Pleasant, S.C.

**Gimme those cars. I want those cars!**

Carma, 9  
 Detroit, Mich.

**Use the Force, Luke ... use the Force.**

Irene, 13  
 Zionsville, Ind.

**Jeff Gordon is in the lead!**

Fischer, 8  
 Winnabow, N.C.

**Pushed it just a tad bit too far.**

Aidan, 10  
 Dover, Pa.



Remember this picture from the Spring 2015 *Compassion Explorer Magazine*? These are some of your great captions!

## CALLING ALL EXPLORERS!

For even more adventure, check out our Special Edition free on iPad!

- 1 Parents: Go to App Store.
- 2 Search "Compassion Magazine" and download free app.
- 3 Choose *Compassion Explorer*.

