

compassion
explorer

Craft
BUILD A
MINI-HOUSE!

Activity
FIND THE
HIDDEN PICTURES

**Back to
BASICS**
SEE WHAT KIDS AROUND
THE WORLD NEED MOST!


Releasing children from poverty
Compassion
in Jesus' name

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

What's Inside?



Hi, Compassion Explorers!

Some families around the world can't afford to meet their basic needs, like clothes, medicine, school supplies and safe homes. See how kids in families like these survive with a little help from others.



Illustrations by Luke Flowers

Compassionate Kids



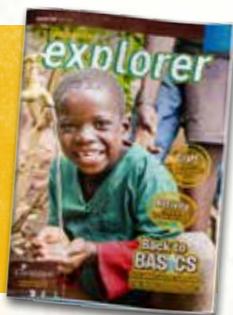
Isabella in her family's kitchen with cupcakes ready for sale

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ABOUT THE COVER

A boy in Uganda enjoys clean water from a faucet.



Back to Basics

See how God's people help meet the needs of kids living in poverty.

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Ready to Learn!

Check out photos of kids around the world getting ready for school.

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Activity

Find items in homes similar to those in developing countries!

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Isabella, a 12-year-old from New York, has had sweet success with baking and selling cupcakes to sponsor two kids.

Isabella's mom taught her to care about people in need all over the world, which made Isabella want to sponsor a child in another country. But how could a 12-year-old pay \$38 a month to help a child?

Isabella, who loves to bake, realized she could raise money by making cupcakes.

"My mom taught me to bake a long time ago, and I love to see how things turn out when I mix different things together."

Isabella sells her cupcakes at dance recitals, at a local farm that has a corn maze, and she takes special orders from people having parties.

These cupcakes aren't made from a mix in a box but from fresh ingredients. Her biggest seller is the chocolate peanut butter flavor.

Once she figured out how to raise the money, Isabella went to the Compassion website to find a child to sponsor. She started sponsoring an 8-year-old Indonesian girl named Sintya in 2014.



Isabella and her family

The news of Isabella's cupcake ministry made its way to the pastors at her church. They asked her to share her story in front of the congregation.

"I thought I was going to be really nervous, but I ended up doing great," she says. "After church, I looked in the jar I had brought, and I had collected almost \$300 just that day. It made me think that I could sponsor another child."

This time around, she chose to sponsor Erick, a 17-year-old in Kenya who loves to play soccer.

"I wanted to sponsor an older child because a lot of people want little kids because they're so cute," Isabella says. "But older children need support and love just as much."



Get Isabella's recipe for vanilla cupcakes at compassion.com/exploreonline!

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Leanna Summers
MANAGING EDITOR
Willow Welter
PRINT PRODUCTION
Michelle Dana

WRITERS AND CONTRIBUTORS
Lina Alarcon, Willow Welter, Cecilia Yopez, Jeannie Young
PROOFREADING
Debby Weaver

ART DIRECTOR
Mark Kyle
DESIGNER
Callie Wilburn
ILLUSTRATOR
Luke Flowers

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Chuck Bigger, George B Brown IV at C2W-Studios.com, Oktovina Butarbutar, Provashish Dutta, Andrew Huth, Cesiah Magaña, Callie Wilburn

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?
Email us at compassionkids@compassion.com or write to Compassion International, Attn: Compassion Explorer Magazine Editor, 12290 Voyager Parkway, Colorado Springs, CO 80921.

WELCOME TO MY WORLD!

Back to BASICS

Many families can't afford enough food or clean water – the most basic needs – so they can't afford other basics like clothes, medicine, school supplies and safe homes. Learn how God helps meet their needs.



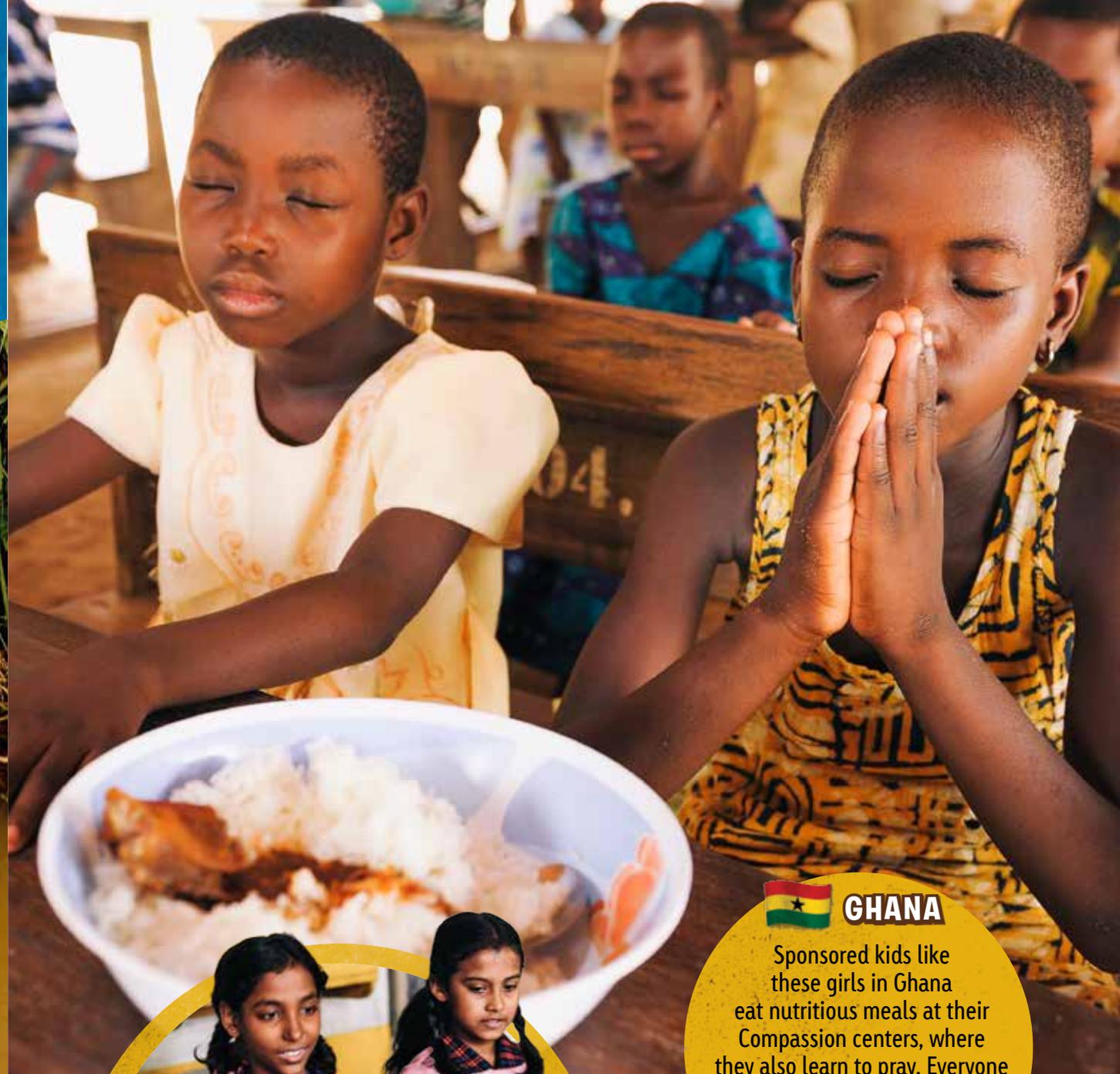
 **RWANDA**

Many homes in poor countries don't have running water, so kids like Niyonshima in Rwanda fill up jugs in streams and lakes. Niyonshima's family must boil or filter the water to avoid germs that cause sicknesses.



 **UGANDA**

Women and children in Uganda walk long distances to fill their water jugs. The heavy jugs are easier to carry on their heads.



 **GHANA**

Sponsored kids like these girls in Ghana eat nutritious meals at their Compassion centers, where they also learn to pray. Everyone needs nutritious food to stay alive and healthy, but many families living in poverty can't afford it.



 **INDIA**

Girls in India wait in line at their Compassion center to be served a lunch of rice and stew.

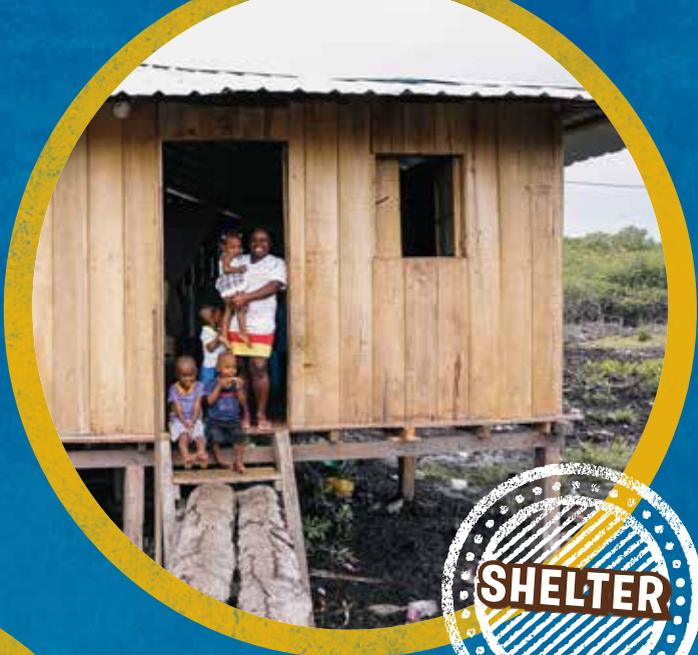


PRAYER

Please pray that God would use Christians all over the world to provide for the basic needs of children living in poverty.

 **ECUADOR**

Everyone needs a place to call home. This family settled on an island in Ecuador after leaving Colombia to get away from a war. They stayed in a relative's home, which was cramped. Thanks to kind donors, Compassion helped the family build this house — which rests on stilts to avoid ocean water that floods the island each afternoon.



 **ECUADOR**

Andrea feeds a vitamin-packed medicine to her 3-year-old, Carlos. When parents can't afford doctors or medicine for their kids, Compassion helps. Carlos' stomach had a blockage, but his mom didn't have enough money for the surgery he needed. Since Andrea and Carlos were in Compassion's Child Survival Program, their pastor helped them pay for a surgery that saved Carlos' life.



 **KENYA**

Odupoi in Kenya got creative and made his shoes out of rubber tires since his family doesn't have the money to buy shoes. Lots of kids in developing countries don't have important clothing items like shoes, so they have to walk long distances barefoot or in worn-out shoes that don't protect their feet from sharp objects, open sewage and other dangers.



 **TOGO**

To learn skills that will help them stay healthy and safe and get good jobs as adults, children need to go to school. And to do well in school, students need textbooks, pencils, paper and other supplies — which cost money that many families don't have. Thanks to sponsors, kids in Compassion's program can get the supplies and uniforms they need for school.

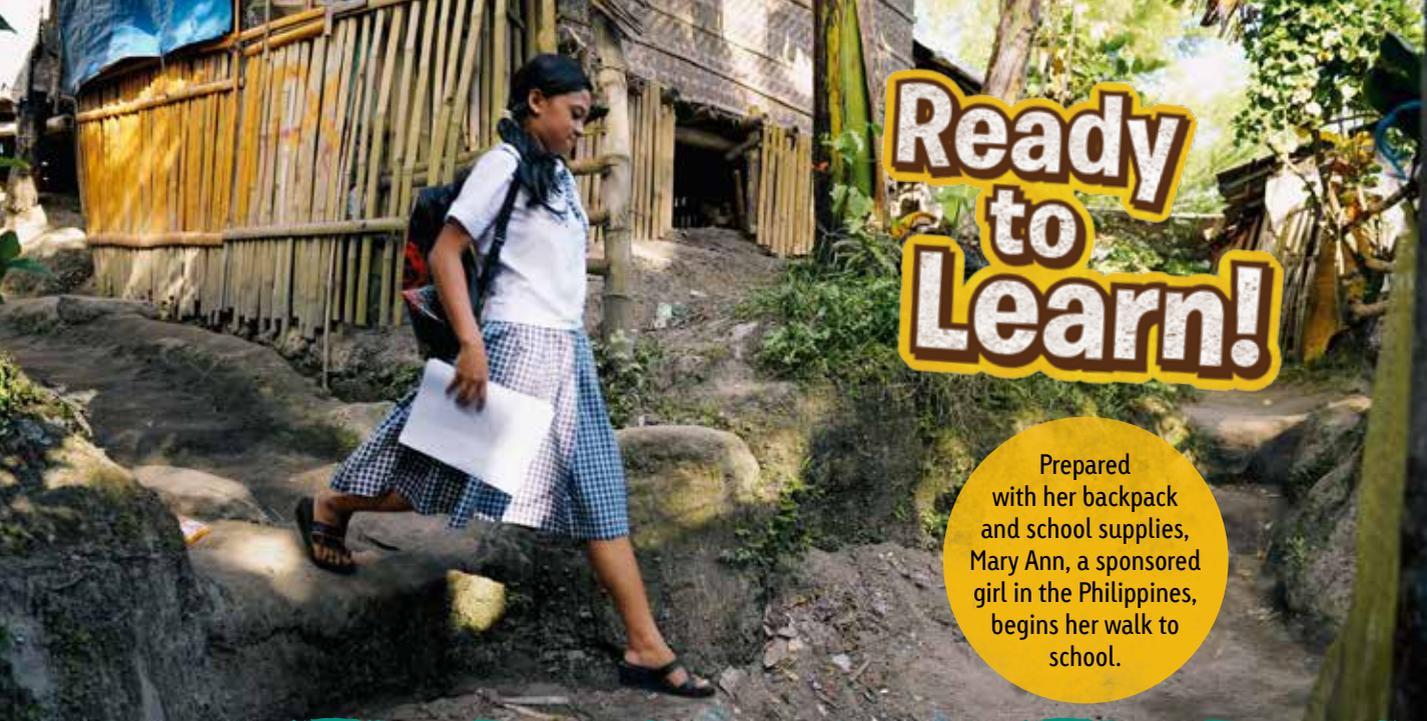


 **COLOMBIA**

Students like 9-year-old Derly who don't have perfect eyesight often have trouble reading their teachers' writing on the board or the words in their school books. Derly needed glasses to see better, but her family couldn't afford them. Compassion bought Derly glasses, and now she can learn more easily.



90 percent of people with low vision live in poor countries, where glasses can cost a year's pay.



Ready to Learn!

Prepared with her backpack and school supplies, Mary Ann, a sponsored girl in the Philippines, begins her walk to school.

How do you get ready for school? Compare your mornings with those of kids around the world.



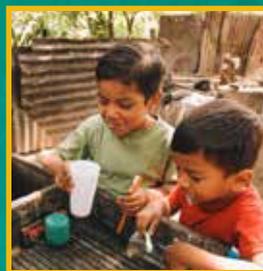
Each morning, sponsored Indonesian Ria lights the lamps in her home, which doesn't have electricity. How would your mornings be different without electricity?



Do you do chores before school? Sita, a sponsored girl in eastern India, cooks breakfast over a fire at her home each morning. Then she washes dishes and does a few more chores before leaving for school or her Compassion center.



Do you comb your hair using a mirror before leaving for school? Juan in Indonesia does, but this mirror is the best his family can afford because they don't make much money.



These boys in Honduras don't have running water at home, so they brush their teeth outdoors and rinse with cups of filtered water. At Compassion centers, kids learn why it's important to brush their teeth.



Many families living in poverty don't have running water in their homes, so kids like these siblings in Mexico bathe with buckets of water.



"In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly."

— Psalm 5:3

→ What Does God Say About ...

Worrying?

The New Testament tells us that after Jesus was baptized, He began traveling around a region called Galilee healing sick people and preaching.

He gathered many followers, including the men He called disciples — His friends who followed Him most closely. The book of Matthew tells us that Jesus sat down on a mountainside to teach them wise lessons. One thing He told them was that they shouldn't worry:

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?" — Matthew 6:25-27

Jesus said that worrying is pointless because God has everything taken care of. But most of us still worry. Answer these questions on your own or in a conversation with a family member:

- What are some things you worry about?
- How has God helped you during your times of worry?

Next time you see a bird in the air, remember that God knows what you need and will take care of it — just like He takes care of the bird.

Jesus wants you to share your worries with Him so He can help you through them.



DEAR JESUS,

Thanks for taking care of my needs. When I feel afraid, please remind me that I shouldn't worry because You know how to take care of me. Thank You for sponsors who help You meet needs of children around the world.

IN YOUR NAME, AMEN.



HOME SWEET HOME

Families in poverty live in small homes they often build out of any materials they can find, like mud, tarps, cardboard, pieces of tin and blankets. When it rains, families in these homes face leaky roofs and a muddy mess if their floors are made of dirt. Use the ingredients below to make a mini-home similar to one found in the developing world.

INGREDIENTS

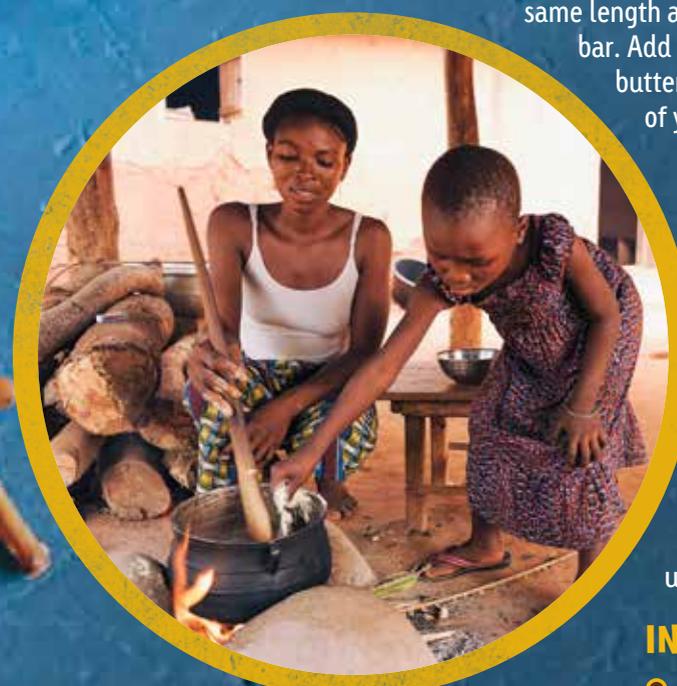
- peanut butter
- 3 graham cracker rectangles, 1 broken in half
- 1 Fruit Roll-Up
- ½ banana
- rectangular chocolate bar

DIRECTIONS

- 1 With a dull knife, spread some peanut butter on the bottom edge of 2 graham cracker rectangles and 1 graham cracker square, which will be the walls of your home.
- 2 Stick the graham crackers to three outside edges of the chocolate bar, which is your home's dirt floor. It's OK if they aren't exactly the same length as the chocolate bar. Add extra peanut butter to the corners of your graham cracker walls to make them sturdier if needed.
- 3 Place your Fruit Roll-Up on top of your walls. This is like a tarp roof for your home. Add peanut butter if needed to make it stay.
- 4 Cut the banana into four equal slices, each about ½ inch long. These are the stilts for your home. People who live in areas that flood a lot build their homes on stilts to avoid the water. Place your home on your banana stilts.
- 5 Now it's time to eat your home as a snack!



A home in Ecuador made of boards, tarps and a roof of tin pieces. It is built on wood stilts so it won't flood.



Ruth, a sponsored girl in Togo, helps her mom cook over a fire. Many children in the developing world don't have electricity.

FIRE PIT SNACK

Have you ever visited a home without an oven? Many families living in poverty cook over a fire pit because they don't have electricity, can't afford ovens or don't have room for them in their homes. You can make this snack that looks like the fire pits used by some sponsored kids.

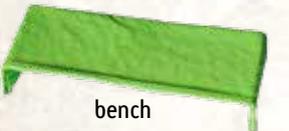
INGREDIENTS

- handful of grapes
- 10-15 pretzel sticks
- 2-3 slices of cheese

DIRECTIONS

- 1 On a small plate or in a bowl, arrange the grapes in a circle so they look like rocks around a fire pit.
- 2 Place the pretzel sticks like firewood inside the ring of grapes.
- 3 Tear the cheese into pieces that look like flames, and stand them up in the pile of pretzels. Enjoy your fun snack!

SHOEBOX SHELTER



Recycle a box and egg carton to make a mini version of a home in a developing country [see page 14 for more ideas].

SUPPLIES

- shoebox or other small box
- utility knife such as X-Acto® [optional]
- markers or crayons
- scissors
- empty egg carton
- glue
- acrylic craft paint
- paintbrush

DIRECTIONS

- 1 Have an adult use the utility knife to cut out small squares for windows in your shoebox home. Or draw on windows using markers or crayons.
- 2 Draw items on the walls inside your box that you might see in a home in the developing world.
- 3 Now make the furniture.* Use scissors to separate the egg carton lid from the other side. Cut pieces of the lid and egg carton into shapes of seats, a table and a bed [see photos]. Some need to be glued together to stand up.
- 4 Paint your furniture in bright colors, let it dry and fill your home!

* Use your imagination to think of unused items around your real house (fabric for mosquito net, caps from sparkling-juice bottles) to use in your craft house.

TISSUE-BOX TENNIES



All kids need comfortable shoes to protect their feet from dangerous objects and open sewage, which often runs in the streets of developing countries. As you make these silly shoes out of recycled tissue boxes, imagine how it would feel to wear shoes as uncomfortable as these all the time. Pray for kids who don't have safe shoes.

SUPPLIES

- 2 empty, rectangular tissue boxes
- acrylic paint*
- paintbrush
- pen
- 2 shoelaces or 12-inch-long pieces of sturdy string

DIRECTIONS

- 1 Paint your tissue boxes to look like a pair of shoes. Let the paint dry.
- 2 With a pen, make three dots on each side of the hole in the box to show where you want your shoelace holes. Then poke the pen through to make the holes.
- 3 Lace the boxes like you would with typical sneakers. Then put your feet inside and tie up your laces.

* Instead of paint, you can decorate your shoes by gluing on colored paper.



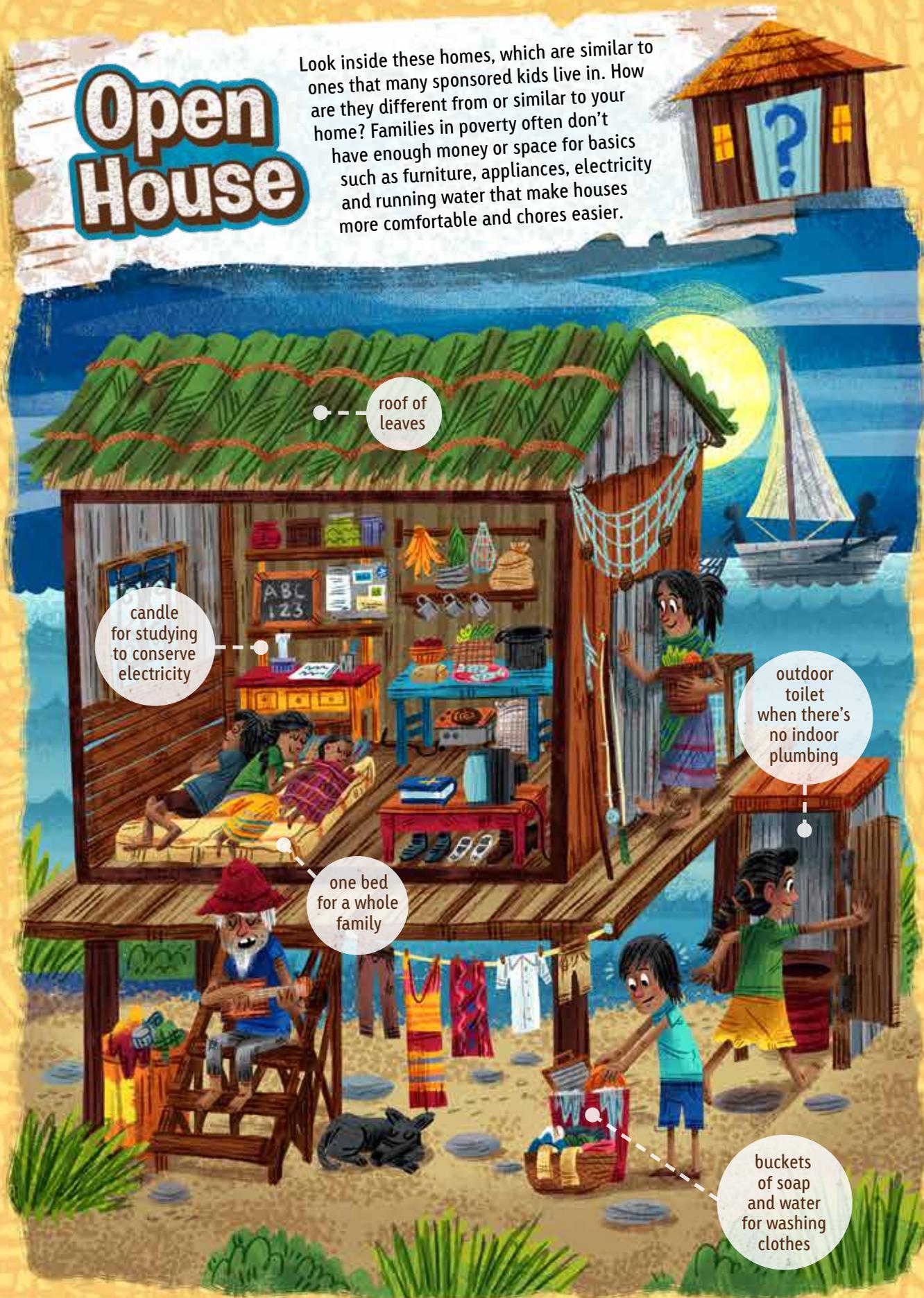
The family of this girl in Mexico couldn't afford new shoes.



More crafts at [compassion.com/explorermagazine!](http://compassion.com/explorermagazine/)

Open House

Look inside these homes, which are similar to ones that many sponsored kids live in. How are they different from or similar to your home? Families in poverty often don't have enough money or space for basics such as furniture, appliances, electricity and running water that make houses more comfortable and chores easier.



roof of leaves

candle for studying to conserve electricity

one bed for a whole family

outdoor toilet when there's no indoor plumbing

buckets of soap and water for washing clothes



bed net to keep away mosquitoes that carry malaria

clothesline for drying clothes

mud walls



SEARCH AND FIND

Find these items in the two homes!



People without ovens often cook in fire pits.



Not all families can afford safe, comfortable shoes.



This bucket is a filter that makes dirty water safe to drink.



Some kids need glasses to see their surroundings and do well in school.



Some kids without electricity at home do homework by candlelight.



Many children use slate and chalk rather than pencil and paper because it is less expensive.

→ Just for Grins and Giggles

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



Rock-a-bye
 baby on the
 scale top.

Skyler, 10
 Cartersville, Ga.

It takes a lot of
 beauty sleep to
 look this good!

Chloe, 12
 Seven Hills, Ohio

I'm Garfield's
 second cousin.
 Zzzzz ...

Zach, 12
 Weston, Wis.

Goo goo ga ga, I
 weigh 10 pounds!

Thayen, 8
 Mead, Wash.

I hope you don't
 mind, but I'm taking
 a nap right here.

Emily, 6
 Chesterfield, Va.

Ten more
 minutes ...

Ben, 9
 Ashland, Ky.

More captions at [compassion.com/
 explorermagazine!](http://compassion.com/explorermagazine!)



KIDS, CAPTION THIS PHOTO FOR THE NEXT COMPASSION EXPLORER!

Send your caption to: Compassion International, Attn:
Compassion Explorer Magazine Editor, 12290 Voyager Parkway, Colorado
 Springs, CO 80921. Or email it to compassionkids@compassion.com.

A man carries floating toys to sell in Brazil, a country
 where Compassion helps kids in poor areas.



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