Together in Myanmar

Project Information for teachers

Why Myanmar?

Internal conflict, extreme weather, inadequate infrastructure, and exploitation of its natural resources mean that many people in Myanmar have been displaced and their livelihoods destroyed – making Myanmar one of Asia's poorest countries.

In Myanmar 20% of children do not complete primary school and even fewer attend school from the age of 10. State education is free but standards are poor, classroom facilities are under-equipped and morale amongst teachers is low. Many children from deprived families finish school at an early age and end up working in the rice fields to earn little money to buy food.

The physical labour and long hours mean that the children have no time to study, make new friends and play.

Since the nationalisation of all mission schools in the early 1960s and the ban on Catholic education services, the Church has been running boarding houses in parishes in remote areas to support the poorest and most vulnerable children who must study in state-run schools, far away from home. Many of these boarding houses are supported by Missio's Mission Together.

The boarding houses enable children to go to school

There are currently 400 boarding houses across Myanmar looking after thousands of children, regardless of their background and beliefs. The houses offer a safe and nurturing 'home away from home', provide food and basic care for the children, supplement their learning and motivate the children to continue their studies.

This year Mission Together is focusing on a child who stays at a boarding house in Maubin, close to the wetlands of South West Myanmar. The daughter of a fisherman, Nu Moe's nearest school is a 3½ hour walk away, over paths that are impassable during the rainy season.

Children learn they belong to God's family

The Religious Sisters who care for the children at the boarding house let them know that they belong to God's family and that there are children living thousands of miles away, who care about them, pray for them and share with them. But the Sisters need help so that children from deprived agricultural families can continue their education. This year they are asking for our help.

Your challenge this year

This year Mission Together has launched a new challenge to provide children with an education. With your help we can support more children like Nu Moe to go to school, make new friends, play – and just be children again.

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Help us to make a difference to the lives of children around the world

Mission Together, 23 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1NU

missiontogether.org.uk Charity Number: 1056651

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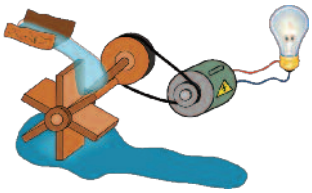
Your fundraising challenge:

Can you help children like Nu Moe to receive an education, make new friends and to play?

£7 would buy a year's books and stationery for one pupil.

£10 could buy school uniform for one pupil.

£17 would buy a sack of rice to feed all 70 children at the boarding house.



£50 could go towards a hydro electric generator.

Your prayer challenge:

Can your PUPILS say the Mission Together Prayer for the children in Myanmar each day this term?

Helping children to learn

Our Together in Myanmar campaign resources can be used alongside the RE curriculum under topics such as the Universal Church, Mission, the Common Good, and Neighbours, as well as supporting the Geography, Science, English and Maths curriculum. Please visit the Mission together website to download our resources: **missiontogether.org.uk/together-in-campaigns/**

Fundraising ideas

The children might like to choose to do one or more of the following:

1. Dress up as a character from their favourite children's book and donate £1 to Mission Together.
2. Do a puppet show telling younger classes well-known Bible stories, like the Good Samaritan or Noah's Ark. Provide snacks and ask for donations.
3. Walk to School Week – Use the money they save on petrol or fares for Mission Together. Maybe they can pray for children like Nu Moe as they walk.

Thank you for encouraging your pupils to be 'children helping children'.

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