

LESSON PLAN

PSHE/CIRCLE TIME/CITIZENSHIP



Length of lesson: 30 minutes

Lesson objectives:

To think about how life is different for a family in Africa and discuss why the children think the family's life is different.

To think about how organisations like Farm Africa are able to help, and how pupils can also help make a difference by supporting charities.

Lesson outcomes:

All students will contribute to the discussion.

Most students should be able to actively take part in discussion.

Some students will be able to share their thoughts and feelings about Rose and Kiilu's story.

Preparation:

Dependent on the format chosen for the lesson you may wish to have a copy of Rose and Kiilu's story per child. Alternatively the story could be read aloud to the class.

Starter/warm up:

Explain to the class that they will be hearing about a family that lives in Kenya in Africa. Explain that this family's life is very different from ours as they do not always have enough to eat. Ask the class to think about what a family is, and what family means to them.

Whole class teaching:

Read part one of Rose and Kiilu's story aloud, or select children to read sections aloud to the rest of the class. After hearing the first part of the story ask the children to think about and discuss the following questions. Ensure discussion is kept fair and that everyone has a chance to speak. If this lesson is taught during circle time a talking 'stick' or item may be used.

- How does Rose and Kiilu's story make you feel?
- Is there anything about Rose and Kiilu's story that you think is fair or unfair?
- How would you feel if you did not have enough to eat? What about if you were not able to go to school?
- What could be done to help Rose and Kiilu?

After the class have discussed, move on to part two to learn what Farm Africa is doing to help families such as Rose and Kiilu's. The following questions can then be used to further discussion.

- Why are crops such as sorghum and green grams better for Rose to grow?
- What are some of the things Rose could do with the extra money she makes from selling her crops?

Discussions should end focussing on the positivity of Farm Africa's work; we help farmers to grow the food they need and earn money to be able to have a successful future. You may wish to link helping others, back to fundraising for Farm Africa, to help families like Rose and Kiilu's.

Plenary:

Ask children to recap some of the things Farm Africa does to help families in Africa.

ROSE AND KIILU'S STORY

Part 1

Kiilu is 12 years old and lives with Rose, his grandmother, in Kitui, Kenya. Rose has been a farmer all her life, and still carries out the hard work of planting, weeding and farming her land so that she can earn enough to feed her grandchildren and send them to school.

But in the drought-prone area of Kitui, the crops that she grows such as maize often wither and die when the rains fail.



“I have to feed my grandchildren and often we go hungry. Because the rains are unreliable – sometimes they are good and then the next season they are not – I am not always able to harvest enough food for my family.” – Rose

Rose not only needs a good harvest to feed her growing grandchildren, she also needs to sell some of her crop to pay for school costs, such as books and uniforms. When there is no harvest, Kiilu cannot go to school.

“I feel sad when I have to miss class because we cannot afford the costs. When you return to school it is not easy to catch up with the other students.” – Kiilu

Part 2

Farm Africa is a charity that helps farmers like Rose learn how to use their land to grow crops that will grow well even when the rains fail.

Farm Africa taught Rose about nutritious crops such as sorghum and green grams (mung beans). These crops are drought-tolerant – they grow even when there is only a small amount of rain. Rose also took part in training programmes, learning techniques such as using animal manure as fertiliser, and digging trenches to retain water. Rose is now able to reap a good harvest, even when the rains fail.



“The green grams are doing especially well, I love eating them in the stew my grandmother cooks because they are nice and sweet.” – Kiilu

Rose is also part of a Farmers' Group. Together with her fellow farmers, they have learnt business skills, and now sell their crops in bulk to fetch a better price.

With the money she earns, she is able to pay school costs for Kiilu, meaning he doesn't have to miss out on his lessons. Just like his grandmother, Kiilu likes to learn new things. He's also learning how to farm from his grandmother.

“She always tells us what she has learnt from Farm Africa, she takes us out to the farm to show us how to take care of the crops and how to use certified seeds. It is important for my grandmother to get advice on farming because then she can guide us on how to do it well.” – Kiilu