

CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN

Children in Ghana do not have a lot of money. This does not stop them from looking after each other. They can show us how everyone is important. They teach us how to be great in the eyes of God by their love and kindness. Many of them live out the motto of **Mission Together** daily: they are '*children helping children*'.

All children in **Mission Together** can become **great** if they:

Look after each other by **SHARING TOGETHER**

Support each other by **PRAYING TOGETHER**

Children in **Mission Together** in England & Wales share the same motto with children in Ghana: '*children helping children*'. Can we also live up to this motto by praying for other children and sharing with them? Can we become great and influence the world by helping children in Ghana this year? Ask your teacher for advice on how to do it.

BUILD THE GIANT MANGO TREE

Material:

Large drawing of a mango tree (trunk and branches) coloured paper, crayons, scissors, glue.

Activity:

Children divide into groups -

One group creates leaves for the tree, writes the **names** of saints and great people on the leaves, cuts out the leaves and sticks them on the tree.

One group creates mangoes for the tree, writes the **attitudes and actions** of saints and great people on the fruit, cuts out the mangoes and sticks them on the tree. (examples: a great person - Mother Teresa of Calcutta; attitude/action - love for the poor).



[If possible, the children may then try to match the names with the actions.]

If you take pictures, please send them to us.

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Kisi and Araba



A LITURGY FROM MISSION TOGETHER



May be used with
Here I Am topic
SPECIAL PEOPLE



OBJECTIVE: To help children understand that anyone can become 'great' through their lives of love, service and kindness.

DISPLAY: globe, Bible opened on Mk 10:42-45, crucifix, **Mission Together** banner/motto (*'children helping children'*), collection box and prayer cards

MATERIAL: candles, 5 mango-shaped banners with the words GREAT, IMPORTANT, LOVING, KIND and HELP EVERYONE, real or artificial mangoes

GATHERING & SONG - **Saints Everywhere** (Song no. 15, *REJOICE TWO*)

LEADER 1: We know many leaders. They are often famous, great or powerful. They usually know what to do even if things become difficult. Sometimes we might wonder what it would be like to be as powerful as them and tell other people what to do.

LEADER 2: In the Church we have many Saints. They are great people who lead others to God. They do it by teaching, loving and serving others. Saints are great and they influence us because they lead us to God by their own example. They help us remember what Jesus taught:

(children display mango-shaped banners with key words in capitals as below)

READER: Jesus said, 'You know that people who are rulers and leaders have power over others and sometimes treat them badly. It should not be like this with you. *If you want to be GREAT you must be LOVING and KIND to each other. If you want to be the most IMPORTANT, you must be ready to HELP EVERYONE.*' (cf. Mk 10:42-45)

LEADER 1: We pray we can learn how to become GREAT in God's eyes.

RESPONSE: *May we be LOVING and KIND to each other.*

LEADER 2: We pray we can learn how to become IMPORTANT to one another.

RESPONSE: *May we be ready to HELP EVERYONE.*

(children bring mangoes and candles to the front)

LEADER 1: Sometimes children can be great leaders too. Let us be still and listen to this story to see who is great in it and why.

TELL/PERFORM THE STORY (Kisi & Araba)



A few moments of silence.

Invite children to think about:

- *Who was great in the story and why? What did they do? How did they lead? How did the children in the story influence each other?*
- *What their own mission could be (see 'children helping children').*

Kisi and Araba

(story can be dramatised)



This is the story of Kisi and Araba—two little girls from Accra in Ghana. Araba often sits under a mango tree which is huge, and gives cool shade and delicious fruit. She cannot walk because her legs are paralysed. Her friend Kisi keeps her company whenever she can because Araba cannot get to school. This changes when Kisi becomes a great leader of her class.

Araba would watch the other children going to school because she lived very close to the road. Although she could not go with them, she never complained. Araba always smiled at everyone and looked very content under her mango tree; no one knew how much she really wanted to go to school — not even Kisi.

Kisi and Araba used to chat and play cards, and have lots of laughs together. One day when Kisi shared with Araba what she had learnt at school she suddenly realised that Araba could not read. She had never been to school and no one had ever taught her how to spell or count. She felt very sorry for Araba. Kisi could not sleep that night; she felt too small and too weak to be able to help Araba. So she thought about it and prayed and began to remember some of the words of Jesus. She slowly began to realise what she must do - she would be Araba's teacher!

She started paying much more attention in class. She memorised everything she could and after school Kisi would go to see Araba and teach her. Although Araba was very intelligent and learnt fast, Kisi also had to help at home. Months passed and Kisi felt she needed more help.

One day, Kisi explained everything to her teacher and asked for her help. The teacher suggested Kisi should speak about it to all the children in the school. Kisi was shy and very nervous but she spoke about their new challenge: how could they bring Araba to school? Kisi explained to them that they did not need to be big, strong and rich to be able to love. All they had to do was to help each other; they could be *children helping children*. This would be their mission!

The children were very enthusiastic. They remembered what Jesus said about being great and important. So they asked Kisi to be their leader and organise the rotas for making sure that Araba got to school. They even made a special wheelchair in which to push Araba. Their new mission brought a lot of joy into their hearts.

Kisi became very special in the eyes of all her friends and of course so did Araba!

