

Our lives



Suma Din

Key stage 1

By Islamic Relief



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About Islamic Relief

Islamic Relief is a humanitarian aid agency, founded in the UK in 1984 by Dr Hany El Banna OBE. It is driven by the desire to provide the world's poorest people with support and skills for long-term self-sufficiency. To this end, its projects span Africa, Asia, Europe, the Russian Federation and the Middle East. As a member of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), Islamic Relief responds to man-made and natural disasters through its field offices in 23 countries.

At the heart of Islamic Relief is its development work: educating orphans, empowering women to use their skills, facilitating jobs for individuals, installing clean water systems for communities and so forth. Essentially, like other agencies in the aid sector, Islamic Relief aspires to restore hope and dignity to fellow human beings.



Introduction

Children in Key Stage 1 bring a wealth of personal experiences into the classroom. Through travel, food, social circles, cultural practices, stories, rhymes and of course technology – children are now born as citizens of our global village. Generally they will have positive associations. Some will have the ability to compare similarities and differences between places and people. Others may know there are places in the world where people live in poverty. Yet what does living in poverty mean? Where do families live? Do children go to school? What do they play with? What do they eat?

The reality of children's lives around the world shocks; whilst their resilience and spirit inspire. Tragically, the net of poverty spreads far and wide, entangling millions of children. Trapped in poverty, these children's most basic needs are not met. Lack of nutrition, sanitation and health care causes 6 million children a year to die from preventable diseases. At the same time, the lack of an education, a stable home and a family forces children to grow up without a childhood. The statistics alone speak for the need to educate everyone in developed countries, at every age and level.

- 27 million children are still not fully immunised
- One child in seven receives no health care
- One child in six is severely hungry
- One child in five has no safe water
- One child in three has no toilet or sanitation facilities at home*

Our Lives is a pictorial journey through children's daily needs. All children need food; healthcare; a home; a safe place to play; family and friends. As the pictures show, these needs are met in different ways around the globe. Each double page contrasts the provision for children who are not living in poverty, with those who are. The text and pictures show the difficulties encountered by children whose lives are affected by war, long-term famine and natural disasters which result in poverty. It is hoped that these pictures will encourage much discussion about their collective needs and situations.

*Source: Unicef

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Our Families

This is Emma. She lives with her mum and two brothers in Manchester. She likes playing games with her brothers. Emma has one older brother and one younger. She likes to read stories with her mum. What do you like to do with your family?

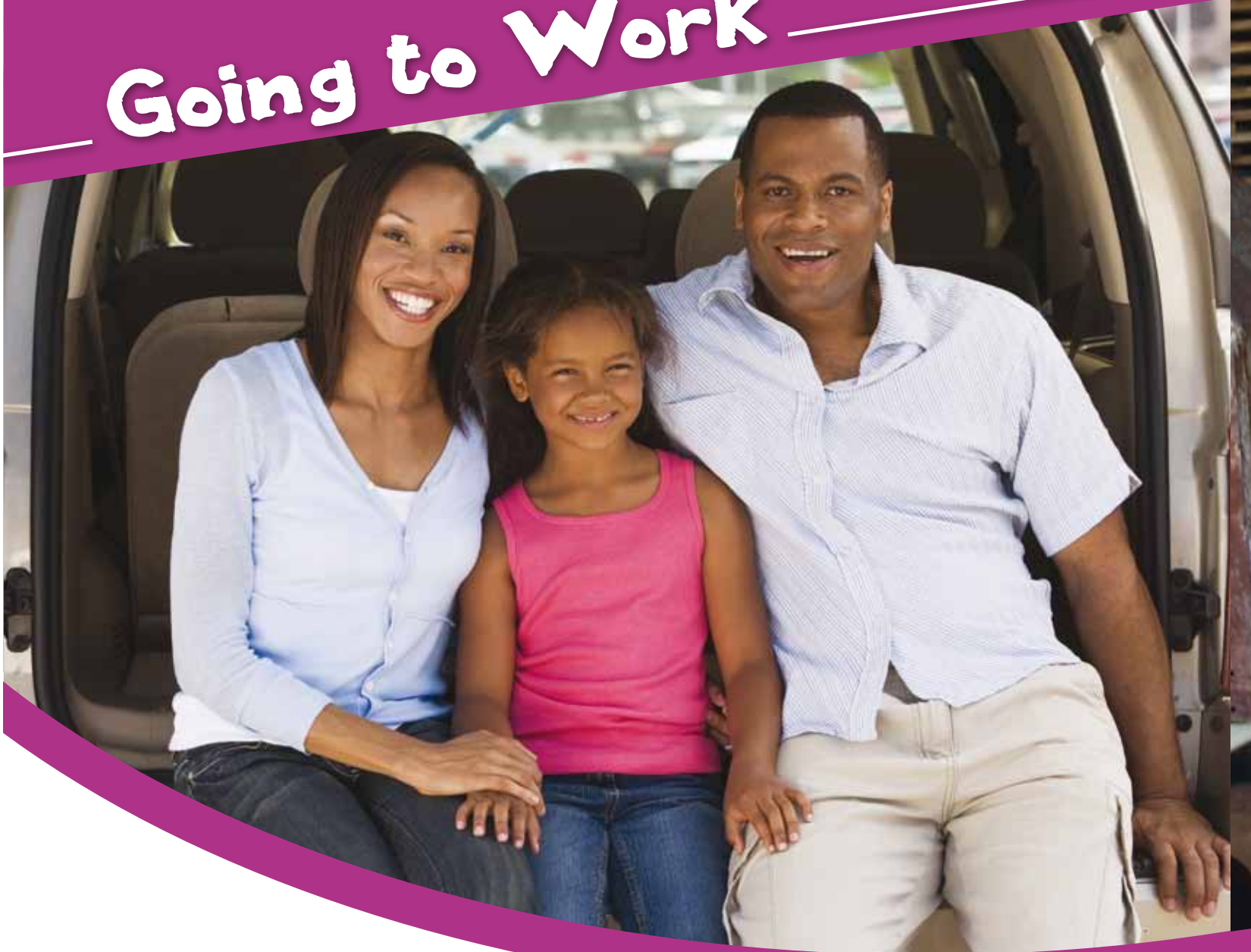


This is Abdul, sitting in front of his baby brother. He lives in Darfur in Sudan which is in North Africa. In Abdul's family there are ten children.



They had to leave their village because of war. They live in this tent and will soon move to a camp, called Kerending Camp. When they move to the camp, Abdul looks forward to going to school and having one meal there every day. One day, when it is safe, he would like to go back to his village.

Going to Work



Marie and John are Sarah's parents. They live in London. Marie works as a nurse at the local hospital. John is a teacher in a secondary school. They both like their jobs as they meet many different people all day. At the end of the day, they are tired! What would you like to do when you are older?



This is Xheshmire*. He lives in Skenderaj in Kosovo, in Eastern Europe. Xheshmire is a mushroom farmer. When there was a war in Kosovo, his machines were destroyed and his house burnt down. So, Xheshmire couldn't grow or sell mushrooms. This was difficult for his family as they had no money. A charity helped Xheshmire buy new machines. Now he can grow and sell mushrooms again. His children enjoy helping too.

*pronounced 'Jeshmire'

Inside our Homes



This is where Ben lives. It is a flat in Saunton, a village in Devon. His flat has two bedrooms, a bathroom, a kitchen and a living room. Ben's flat is made of bricks and cement. It is very strong. Ben shares a bedroom with his younger brother. When it is cold and rainy, Ben is warm and dry as there is central heating. In the kitchen and bathroom, there is always fresh clean water in the taps. What type of home do you live in?



This is Afreen, wearing the purple dress. She lives in Gujarat in India, with her mother, brother and sisters. Her father died many years ago. Their house is built with plastic sheets, broken wood and tin. At night, it gets very cold and they keep themselves warm with blankets. There is a tap in their village which everybody shares. They wash their clothes in the river.

Outside our Homes



Chen lives in London. She lives in a house with a garden. Her garden has a swing and slide for Chen and her sister to play on. In summer they like having picnics and running races. Chen's garden has an apple tree in it. In the months of September and October, she picks apples with her family. They are sweet and crunchy. Do you have somewhere to play outdoors?

Hamdi lives in Kenya, in Africa with her older sister and grandmother. Kenya often has long droughts when there is no rain. Sometimes it is difficult to find jobs there too. Hamdi's family live in a tent made of sticks and straw. The roof is covered with palm leaves. Hamdi and her sister help with washing the pots outside their tent. This is where they cook.



Our Food

Karan lives in Wolverhampton in the West Midlands. He takes his lunch to school every day. Karan likes cheese sandwiches. He knows cheese helps him have strong teeth and bones. His mum gives him his favourite fruit in his packed lunch. The banana gives him lots of vitamins. What's your favourite sandwich?





These children live in Afghanistan. It is hard to grow food in Afghanistan and often there is not much flour, sugar or oil in the shops to buy. So children don't always have enough to eat. To help them, a charity set up a bakery. Some mums started working in the bakery and bake round flat bread which is healthy for their family. The children are happy now. They love eating fresh bread!

Drinking Water

Tim's family come from Wales. Tim knows it is important to drink water. When he is at home he helps himself to a glass of water from the kitchen tap. When he goes out he takes a bottle of water with him. At school, Tim drinks clean water from the water fountain in the playground. How much water do you drink every day?



These children live in the village of Kazombe in Malawi, in Africa. In Malawi, there are often droughts, which happen when there is no rain for many months.



People cannot get clean water to cook with or drink. It was very dangerous to get clean water in Kazombe Village. Men and women



had to go down a steep river bank to fetch water. A charity helped the villagers set up a safe water pump. Now there is clean water for everyone and people don't get sick as often as they used to.

Going to the Doctor

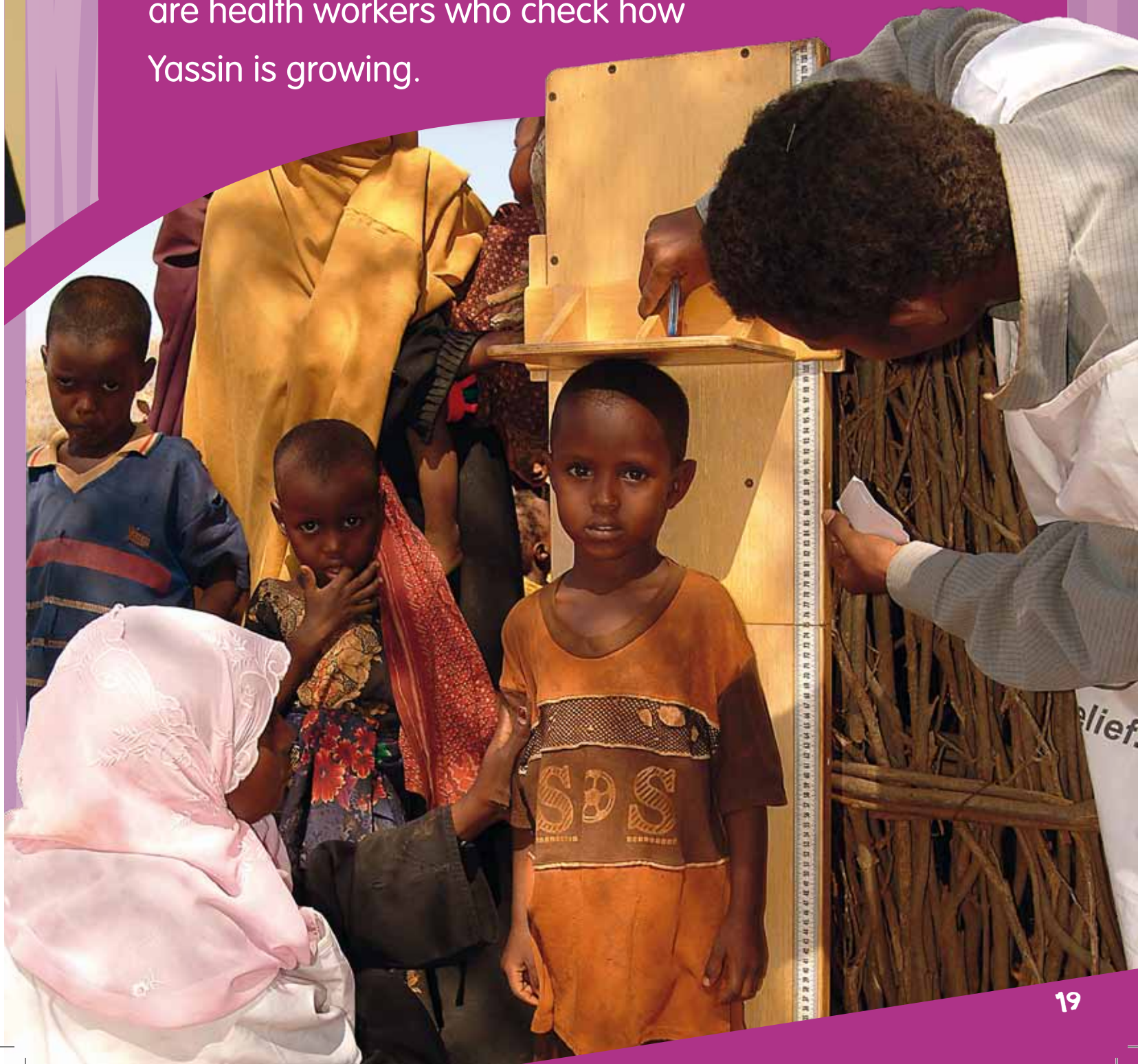


Amal visits the health centre near her house in Glasgow. Glasgow is a large town in Scotland. She sees a doctor and he checks Amal to make sure she is healthy. The doctor makes sure she doesn't catch any nasty illnesses by giving her a special injection. Do you remember going to visit the doctor?

Yassin is having his height measured. He lives in a dry, sandy place called Lafey, in Kenya. It doesn't rain very much, so not many trees or crops grow here.

In this village, there were no doctors or hospitals. It was very difficult to travel to a health centre far away.

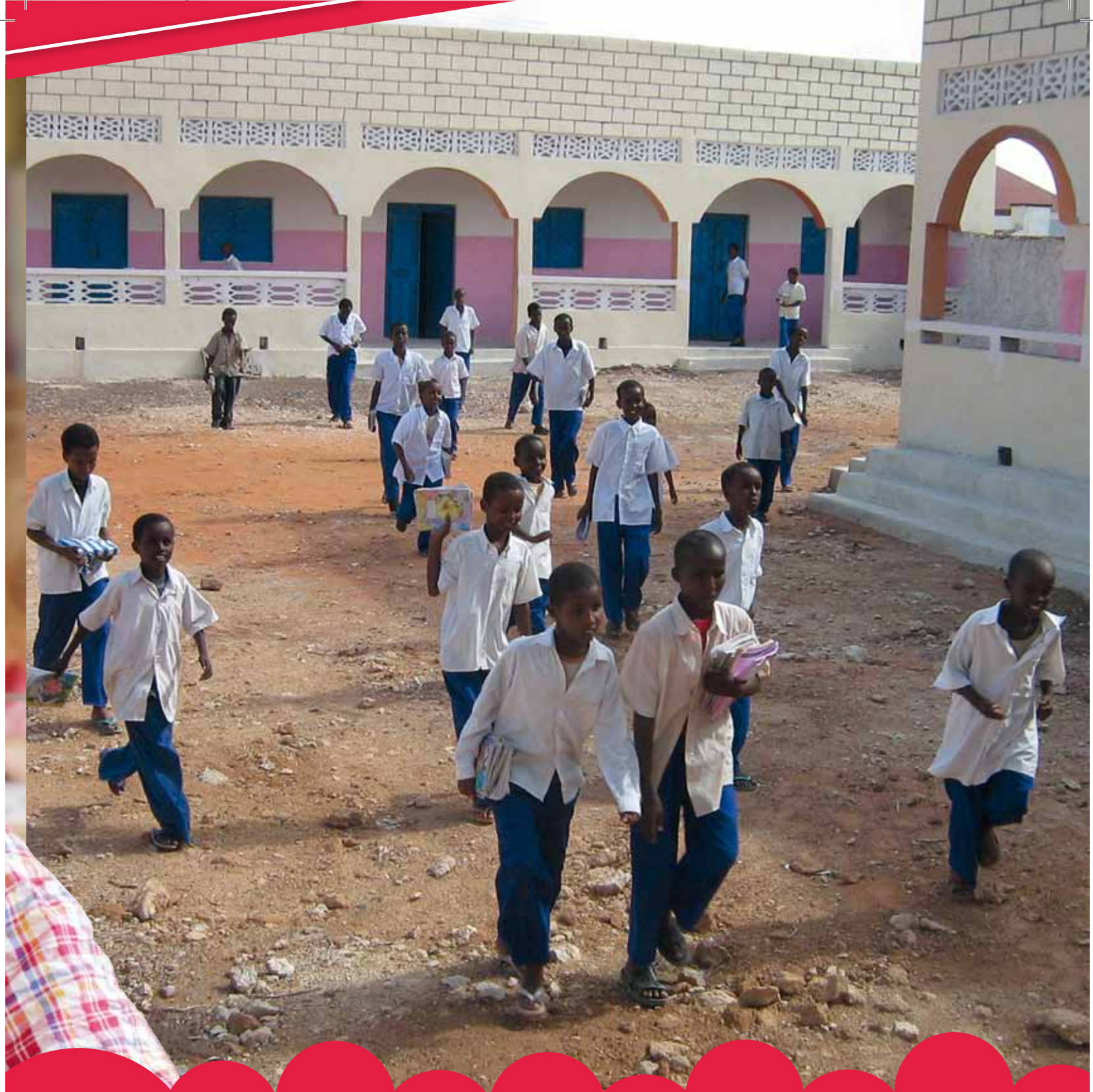
A charity set up a feeding centre in his village. Now there are health workers who check how Yassin is growing.



Our Schools

Josh goes to school in Bristol. He is in Year 1. Josh loves painting and learning about people from the past. He also likes to play football at break time with his friends. He doesn't like school dinners, so he takes a packed lunch to school. What do you like to do at school?





This is Ba'adweyn School in Somalia. This school is for children who do not have one or both parents. Many children come to this school from villages nearby. They are very happy to go to school.

Our Games



Sally and her friends enjoy playing outside when it is sunny. They like making up games or riding on their bikes. Sometimes, they like to play indoors and play with their toys and games. On a rainy day, they have fun with paints and clay.



Zipho is holding the toy he made. He and his friends live in Johannesburg, in South Africa.

They live in tin shacks in a crowded neighbourhood. The shacks don't have gardens or playgrounds, so the boys make their own toys and play in the local area.

Our World

Some children in the world are lucky to have a warm home, family and friends. Children who are healthy feel happy. They can go to school. They have safe places to play and fresh food to eat.

Not all children around the world are so lucky. They live in countries where only a few people have everything they need. Sadly, all the rest of the people don't have enough food, medicine or safe homes. They usually don't have enough money to go to school.



What can we do to help other children?


First, we can learn more about their lives.



Next, we can tell our friends about how people live in other parts of the world.



Some people pray for people who are unhappy and hungry in other countries.



We can also send clothes, shoes and blankets to other parts of the world.

And we can be grateful by thanking all those people who make our lives so special: our families, our teachers, our friends and neighbours.

But most importantly of all, we can be grateful and thankful for the wonderful lives we have!

Teacher's Notes

During discussions about the pictures, it's important children are made aware that in a country where there is poverty, there are also people who do have much better living conditions.

The following questions can be used to explore a variety of cross curricular links. These questions follow the sequence of pictures:

Sudan: Where is Abdul's family sitting? Can you describe his home behind him?

Kosovo: What can you see in Xeshmire's farmyard?

India: What is on the floor of Afreen's house? What is her mum doing? Are there separate rooms for eating and sleeping?

Kenya: What do you think it is like inside Hamdi's tent when it rains? Where do you think Hamdi's sister gets drinking water from?

Afghanistan: What are the children patting in the big round pans? Do you think they go to school? Where do you think they play?

Malawi: Why do the children look so happy at the water pump?

Kenya: Is the boy being measured in a surgery? How is it different to the clinic/surgery you go to?

Somalia: How do the children carry their books to school? What are they wearing on their feet? Describe the school building.

South Africa: What are the boys playing with? Who do you think made their toy? Are there any cars on the road behind them? Does their road look like the road you live on, or is it different?

Key Stage 1 Curriculum Links:

PSHE/Citizenship: Unit 5 Living in a diverse world; How are we the same and how are we different? ; What are communities like? ; What are different places like?

English: En1 Speaking and Listening; 3c, 3d, 3e, 8a, 8c, 9a, 9b, 10b. En2 Reading for information ; 2a, 2b, 2c

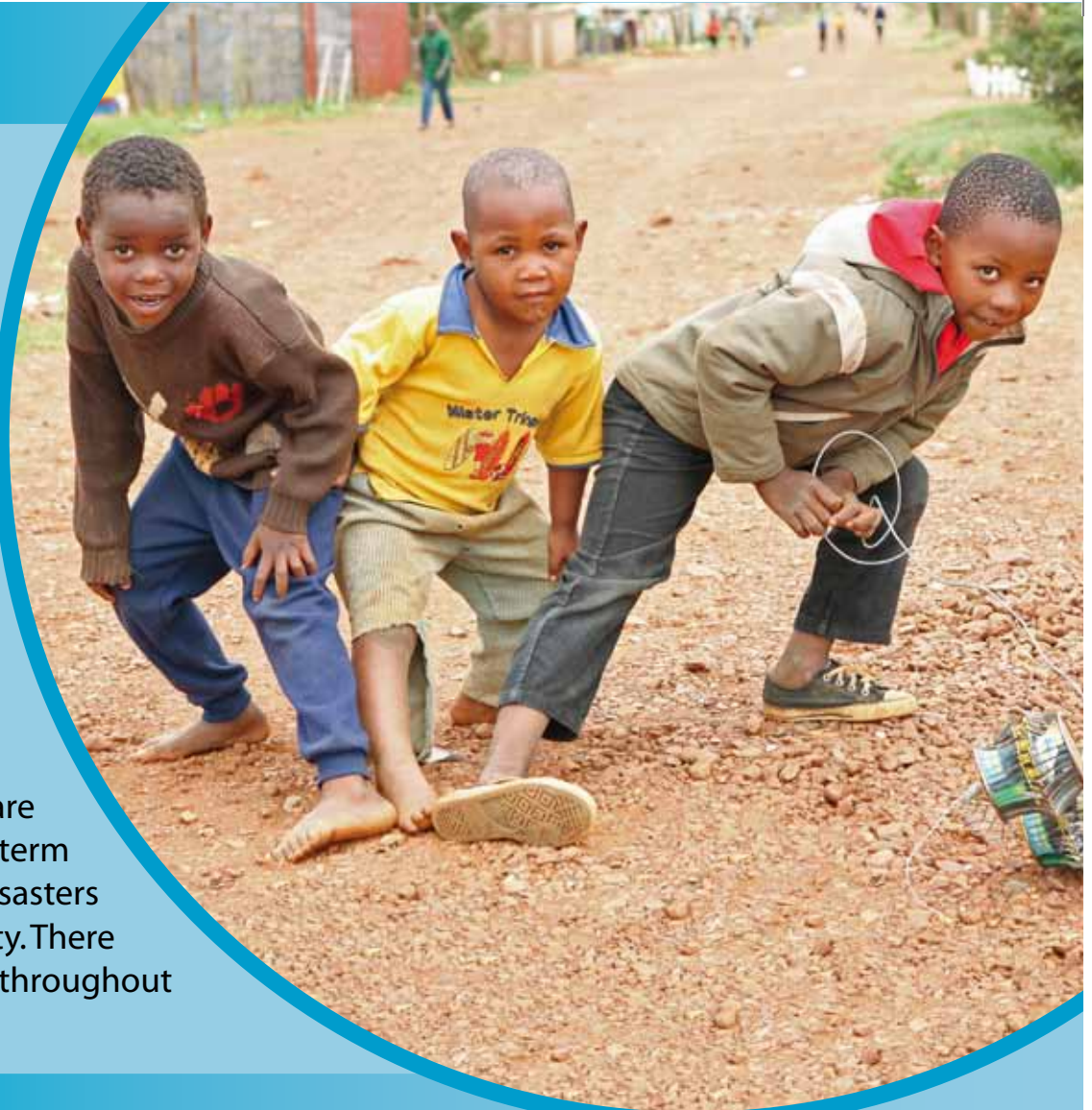
Geography: Geographical Enquiry 1a, 2c; Understanding of places 3a, 3b, 3d

Science: Unit 2 Health and growth

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