

COMPASSION

# explorer®



Love  
Your  
Neighbor!



HI, EXPLORERS!

We hope the new year is treating you well so far — and that you finally stopped accidentally writing “2019” on top of your schoolwork 🙄. This issue is all about loving others — no matter who they are, what they look like, where they live or what they need. We’ll learn what Jesus said about love and think about how to remember it in our lives!



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GIGGLE

Remember this picture from the Winter 2019  
Compassion Explorer Magazine?  
Here are some of your great captions! Find more  
at [explorer.compassion.com/explorers](http://explorer.compassion.com/explorers).

License and  
registration,  
please.  
*Emilio, 10  
Newnan, Ga.*

Mom, I know I don’t have a license  
yet, but can I drive just this once?  
*Ella, 8  
Kennesaw, Ga.*

Um, Dad, I  
need help!  
*Peyton, 10  
Cincinnati, Ohio*

Philippine junior  
police reporting for  
duty.  
*Jack, 11  
Kaukauna, Wis.*

Wait, who’s driving  
this thing? Me?  
It’s going to be a  
bumpy ride!  
*Lydia, 9  
Spicer, Minn.*

See ya later, ladies!  
*Addison, 11  
Staley, N.C.*

Chill, dudes.  
*Lucy, 11  
DeKalb, Ill.*

Gotta go. I’m  
late for a date.  
*Brian, 5  
Houston, Texas*

Uh, Chief, I’m late for work. Please let  
me go. I promise I won’t go so fast!  
*Naela, 9  
Laporte, Minn.*

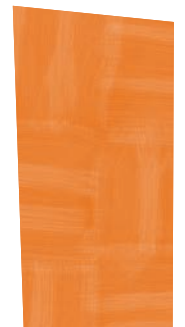
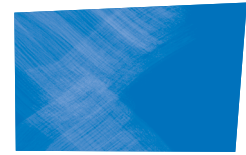
Don’t I look cool?  
*Avery, 10  
Quinter, Kan.*

You need to see  
my ID? What’s a  
driver’s license?  
*Lauren, 13  
Daphne, Ala.*

Check out the next Giggle photo on the back cover!



# Who Is My Neighbor?



In Matthew 22:37-39, Jesus says, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ **This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’**”

But who is your neighbor? The person who lives next door? The kid who sits next to you in class? Sure, they are neighbors. But so are your family members, your teacher, the people at church, the kid who eats lunch alone at school. And Jesus called us to love them. That means showing kindness to and helping everyone — even those who seem very different from us.

**Do you know that the child your family sponsors is your neighbor?** There are many neighbors around the world who live in poverty. People like your family show them love by sponsoring them! Let’s explore the world to meet some kids in Compassion’s program. God created each one of them to be special. As you read about them, imagine you met them in person. **How would you show love to them?**

See page 15 for more about Jesus’ teaching!



Love your  
neighbor who  
uses wheels to  
get around ...



**Kauany**, an 11-year-old in Brazil, is happy that her friend Tainara pushes her wheelchair. **Kauany hasn’t been able to walk since she was 7**, when she got cancer in her spine. The treatment made her hair fall out. **She was afraid of what other kids would say.** But her friends at the Compassion center showed her love. They “were happy to see me,” Kauany says. “No one laughed at me.” They included her in games, and had races where Tainara pushed Kauany’s chair as fast as she could! And guess what? Kauany recently found out her cancer is gone, and her doctors say she might walk again someday!

**Did you know?**  
Many kids with disabilities who live in poverty don’t have the wheelchairs or medical care they need because their families can’t afford it.



Love your  
neighbor who  
moved here  
from out of  
town.

The pastor of a church that helps sponsored children shows love to 6-year-old **Deybi** and his family by giving them supplies like food. **Deybi’s family just moved to Colombia from the neighboring country of Venezuela to escape violence.** They were so afraid of being hurt by criminals that they left their home and all their belongings behind. There are many families from Venezuela moving to Colombia to find safety. Compassion’s church partners in Colombia are showing Venezuelan children love by making sure they get the food, medicine and other supplies they need!





Love your neighbor who has any shade of skin and eyes ...

These friends live in Uganda, where most people have brown skin and eyes. But **Shakul**, the boy on the left, was born with blue eyes and unique skin of more than one shade. **Differences sometimes frighten people.** Shakul's mom was frightened when he was born, and she didn't want to care for him. But his grandmother knew that God made him special, and she took him to live with her. Some kids run away from Shakul because they've never seen anyone who looks just like him. **But Shakul's friends at his Compassion center learn about Jesus and how to love their neighbors. So they are kind to Shakul and like to play with him.**



Love your neighbor who has special needs of any kind.



**Karunia**, 9, lives in east Indonesia. She was born with a disease that affected the shape of her skull and caused her to be born without fingers and toes. When she was a baby, she was sick a lot. But a church in her village registered her in Compassion's program so she could get medicine, care and surgery to feel better. Now she is healthy, with lots of friends who love her at her Compassion center. **"I love to play with my friends at school and at the center. I love to lead prayers or singing," Karunia says.** Sometimes bullies make fun of her because she looks different from them. But Karunia knows how to reply: "My mom taught me to say back to them that this is what Jesus gave me."

Kauany and family, Brazil



Patchanok, Thailand



Shakul, Uganda



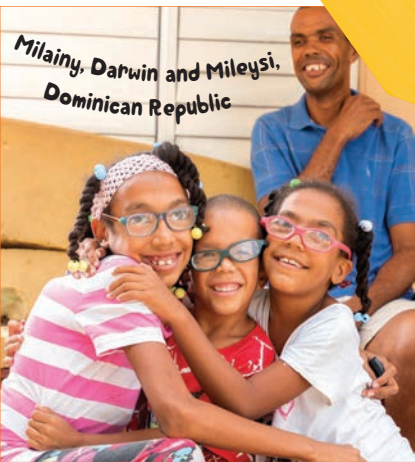
Cleidy, Guatemala

Everybody's different from everybody else ...

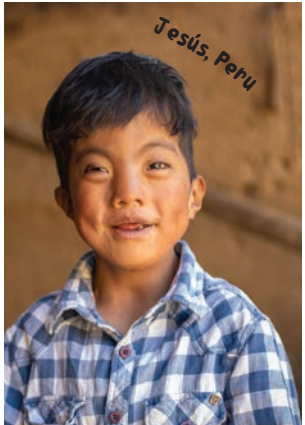
We're all neighbors in Christ — let's love each other well!



Karunia, Indonesia



Milainy, Darwin and Mileysi, Dominican Republic



Jesús, Peru

Read all these kids' stories online!  
[explorer.compassion.com/lovenighbors](http://explorer.compassion.com/lovenighbors)



María José, Ecuador



# 20 Acts of Kindness to start off 2020

**It's a new year, Explorers!** That means new chances to love your neighbor. New ways to show kindness. New ideas for blessing the people around you.

To help you start an action plan for love in 2020, here is a special kindness planner! Carefully remove it from the magazine and read the instructions for how to use it. Here are 10 ideas to get you started planning your acts of kindness. You come up with 10 more ... no one knows better than you what would make your loved ones happiest!



## IDEA BOARD Here are some ideas to get your creativity flowing!

Bake something yummy and deliver it to someone who lives in your neighborhood. Check out page 10 for a great recipe!

Volunteer to help set up before or clean up after church or school. Ask a teacher or church leader what you can do to help them the most.

Write a letter to the child your family sponsors! Include a Bible verse about kindness.

Ask an adult to help you plan a community service day. Do research online to see which charities in your town need volunteer help. Then your whole family can volunteer together!

Pray for someone who is sad, sick or hurt.

Draw a funny picture or write an inside joke for your parents on a few sticky notes. Then sneakily place the notes someplace your parents will see them when they least expect it!

Call a relative you haven't seen in a while.

Do an extra chore around the home without waiting for an adult to ask you. Maybe you can even offer to do all your siblings' chores one day.

Hug every member of your family.

Make a crafty card to give to a friend or teacher. We've got instructions for how to make a cool pop-up card on page 9!

## Craft



## I <3 YOU!

God tells us to love people with our hearts AND our hands! Make this cool pop-up card and share it with your friend, family member or neighbor to show how much you care! You could even deliver some of the treats shown on page 10 along with your card!

### Supplies

scissors

glue

2 pieces of cardstock paper

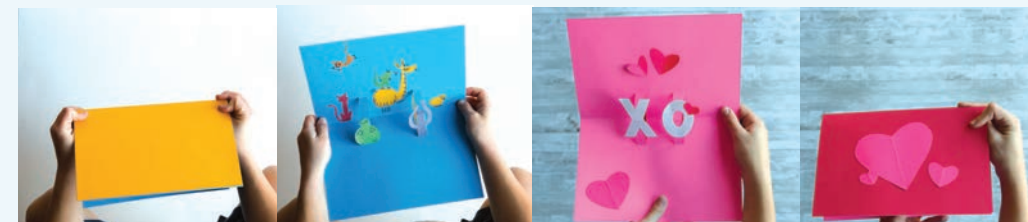
colored construction paper

art supplies to decorate with (markers, glitter, etc.)

### Directions

1. Start by folding one piece of cardstock in half to create a card base with an open and a closed side.
2. With the closed side facing you, cut two slits, about 1½ inches deep. The paper between each cut will be the tab that you'll attach your pop-up art to. Make multiple tabs if you want to add lots of pop-up art!
3. Open the card and fold tabs inward. This is now the inside of your card.
4. Cut out a variety of heart shapes (or any other design you'd like) from the construction paper.
5. Use the glue stick to attach your hearts to each tab.
6. Fold your second piece of card stock in half for the outside of your card. Put glue on one side of your second piece of paper, then place the first piece of paper inside of the second piece of paper. Press together, hiding the tabs.
7. Decorate your card, and don't forget a note to let the person you're giving it to know how much you care!

We love each other because he loved us first.  
1 John 4:19, NLT





# Kashata Coconut Candy



Kashata is a traditional Ugandan sweet often sold by street vendors. This version contains cinnamon, but you can mix in other spices, such as cardamom. You can also add in chocolate chips or roasted peanuts and share these candies with your friends!

Ingredients

- 2 c. unsweetened shredded coconut
- 1/3 c. milk
- 2 c. granulated sugar
- 1/2 c. water
- 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. kosher salt
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- all-natural food coloring (optional)

Directions

1. Butter the sides and bottom of a 9x9-inch baking dish. Set side.
2. Combine the coconut and milk in a medium bowl. Stir until the milk has been absorbed; set aside.
3. Combine sugar and water in a medium saucepan. Place over medium heat and cook without stirring until all the sugar has dissolved. Continue cooking for about 6 to 8 more minutes (if you have a candy thermometer, the syrup should be 230°F).
4. Add the coconut mixture, cinnamon and salt to the syrup in the saucepan; stir well. Continue cooking and stirring for about 8 to 10 minutes or until the mixture pulls away from the pan and any puddles of liquid disappear. Reduce heat if the mixture begins to brown. Stir in the vanilla extract, and then the food coloring (if using).
5. Transfer to the prepared dish and spread evenly using a buttered spatula or butter knife. Let rest for 5 to 8 minutes then cut into 1 1/2-inch squares. Cool completely before serving.

These kids in Uganda are enjoying a snack at their Compassion center.



### Lost and Found in Bangladesh

BITHI SHOWS US WHAT IT MEANS TO LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR ...

Panel 1: A girl walks past a shop where a man on a motorcycle drops a wallet. The girl picks it up and says, "HEY MISTER, YOU DROPPED THIS."

Panel 2: The girl looks at the money in the wallet and thinks, "OH WOW! THERE'S A LOT OF MONEY IN HERE." She also thinks, "I LOVE MY NEW DRESS!"

Panel 3: The girl prays, "NO, THAT WOULD BE WRONG. I BET MY TEACHER WOULD KNOW WHAT TO DO ..."

Panel 4: The girl runs to her mother and says, "BITHI, YOU COULD HAVE TAKEN THIS MONEY. IT WOULD HAVE HELPED YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. WHY DID YOU GIVE THIS TO ME?"

Panel 5: The girl explains, "BECAUSE THE BIBLE TELLS US NOT TO STEAL, AND YOU TAUGHT ME THAT WE SHOULD TREAT OTHERS LIKE WE WANT TO BE TREATED. I WOULD WANT SOMEONE TO RETURN SOMETHING LOST TO ME."

Panel 6: The girl says to her mother, "BITHI, I'M SO PROUD OF YOU FOR DOING THE RIGHT THING! LET'S ASK THE NEIGHBORS TO SEE IF ANYONE KNOWS THE OWNER."

Panel 7: Later, the girl returns the wallet to her mother, who says, "THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR RETURNING MY WALLET. MY SON'S BIRTHDAY IS TODAY AND THIS MONEY IS FOR HIS GIFT!"

Panel 8: The girl gives the money to her son, who is happy.

1

BANGLADESH IS A COUNTRY IN SOUTHERN ASIA. IT IS A LITTLE SMALLER THAN THE U.S. STATE OF IOWA. IT IS HOME TO THE ENDANGERED BENGLA TIGER, THE NATIONAL ANIMAL!

2

THE MAIN LANGUAGE SPOKEN IN BANGLADESH IS BANGLA, ALSO KNOWN AS BENGALI.

3

THE MONEY USED IN BANGLADESH IS CALLED THE TAKA. ONE U.S. DOLLAR IS WORTH ABOUT 85 BANGLADESHI TAKAS.

BASED ON THE TRUE STORY OF A SPONSORED GIRL IN BANGLADESH!

BITHI WITH HER MOM.







play?

# Finish the Fable!



All around the world, sponsored kids hear and tell stories called fables, which are short tales that always end with a lesson. We've written a fable featuring a few of our favorite Compassion Explorer mascots. But the story isn't quite finished yet — and we need your help!

**Directions:**

Before reading the story on the next page, fill in the blanks on this page with silly words. You can fill them in yourself (without peeking at the story) or have friends or siblings call out words. Each blank tells you what kind of word you need. Once you're done, read the story aloud, filling in the blanks in the story on the next page with the silly words!

- 1. verb+ing: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. adjective: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. adjective: \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. verb+ed: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. adjective: \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. noun: \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. vehicle: \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. noun: \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. adjective: \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. animal: \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. another animal: \_\_\_\_\_
- 12. food: \_\_\_\_\_
- 13. verb: \_\_\_\_\_
- 14. adjective: \_\_\_\_\_

**Helpful Hints:**

**Noun:** A word for a person, place or thing. Examples:

neighbor    cookie  
church

**Verb:** An action word. Examples:

sneeze  
run                      laugh

In some blanks, you'll add the letters "ed" or "ing" to the end of a verb.

**Adjective:** A word that describes something or someone. Examples:

furry              silly  
gigantic

# Sloth and Llama Learn About Love



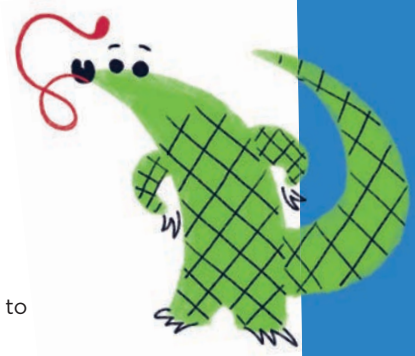
One day, Sloth and Llama were walking along the road in Peru. In the distance, they could see someone <sup>VERB+ING</sup> toward them. And as they got closer, they were shocked by what they saw — a green, <sup>ADJECTIVE</sup> dragon-like creature with a <sup>ADJECTIVE</sup> pink tongue.



"Oh my!" said Sloth. "I've never seen someone who looks so different from me!"

Sloth and Llama stopped and <sup>VERB+ED</sup>. They were so surprised!

Then Llama asked the creature, "Excuse me, but who are you?"



"I'm Pangolin," the creature said with a <sup>ADJECTIVE</sup> voice.

"If you don't mind me asking, why don't you have any fur like Sloth and me?" asked Llama. "Well, I'm not from around here," said Pangolin. "Where I'm from, I need scales instead of fur to protect me. But, I'm pretty far from home right now. ..."

Pangolin then went on to explain that his home and <sup>NOUN</sup> are in the Philippines. And that in an unfortunate series of events — a story for another time — Pangolin ended up on a <sup>VEHICLE</sup> to Peru. Now Pangolin was stuck in Peru with no food, no <sup>NOUN</sup> and no way to get home.

As Llama and Sloth listened to Pangolin's <sup>ADJECTIVE</sup> story, they didn't know what to do. Pangolin was so different from them. Plus, it seemed weird to help a complete stranger.

But then Sloth thought about last week when a <sup>ANIMAL</sup> shared their food with him. And Llama remembered the time she was lost and a <sup>ANOTHER ANIMAL</sup> helped her find her way home.

Once Sloth and Llama remembered those acts of kindness, they looked at each other and said, "We can help!"



Sloth gathered <sup>FOOD</sup> and shared it with Pangolin. Llama invited a few of his friends to build a boat that would <sup>VERB</sup> all the way to the Philippines. And with the help of his new friends, Pangolin was able to set sail for home.



On his ride home, Pangolin felt <sup>ADJECTIVE</sup>. He was so grateful to have new friends who were willing to look past their differences and help him out.

And from that day on, Sloth and Llama decided to always be kind, even to those who are different from them.





Stories of  
compassionate  
kids like you

## Care



### Filling Barnyards With Love

Meet 12-year-old Jacob. He loves books, his dog and anything related to airplanes or ships. When he grows up, Jacob wants to be a pilot. But until then, Jacob spends his time by making a HUGE impact on families who are poor. Here's how!

When Jacob was 10 years old, his elderly neighbors asked if he would shovel their driveway after it snowed. They even offered to pay him in return. Jacob said yes! But instead of keeping the money for himself, Jacob decided to put the money he made from shoveling toward a great cause — raising money to buy barnyard animals like goats, pigs and chickens for poor families. Barnyard animals are important because they help feed hungry people by making eggs, milk and meat. They can also produce baby animals that can be sold for money. That winter, Jacob raised over \$200 by shoveling his neighbors' driveway!



But that's not the end of the story — not even close! Fast-forward to the next winter. Jacob decided to raise money for barnyard animals AGAIN. But this time he ran into a problem — there hadn't been very much snow to shovel! So Jacob came up with a new, brilliant business idea: baking!

"I like baking. I do it every once in a while with my mom," Jacob says. He took orders for baked goods from friends and family. Then he baked and

baked and baked! He made two types of muffins and two types of cookies. After he did all the baking and delivered all the orders, Jacob ended up raising over \$400! For two years in a row, Jacob was able to give barnyard animals to families in poverty.

Jacob's generosity also inspired his brother, his cousin AND another family in his neighborhood to raise money for families in poverty! He set an example for younger kids in his community, and maybe he'll inspire you too!

Jacob says that if he could talk to the families who received the barnyard animals, he would "thank them for giving [him] the opportunity to bless someone else."

Jacob plans on raising money again next winter — maybe even by shoveling AND baking. Imagine the huge impact he'll have!

**Jacob's advice for kids who want to raise money for children in poverty:**

**"No donation is too small.  
Everything counts!"**

**Calling  
all kids!**

Have you done something special to help Compassion-sponsored children? Let us know by emailing [compassionkids@compassion.com](mailto:compassionkids@compassion.com)!

## GROW

a helpful neighbor



Have you ever heard in Sunday school or in conversations with your parents about the two greatest commandments? Jesus says if you do these two things, you will be following all the other commandments too.

**They are: "love the Lord your God with all your heart," and "love your neighbor as yourself."**

OK. It's pretty easy to understand the "love the Lord" part, but what exactly does it look like to love your neighbor?

In the Bible, Jesus was asked a similar question by a religious lawyer who wanted to trick Him into saying the wrong thing. The lawyer asked Jesus: "Who is my neighbor?"

But Jesus knew better, and He told a story about a man who was robbed and injured while traveling on the road. Jesus said that two religious leaders passed the man, neither stopping to help. Then a Samaritan stopped to help the man and even paid

the expenses for him to get well. Samaritans were thought of as enemies at the time.

Jesus then asked the lawyer, "Which of these was a neighbor to the injured man?" The answer was clear — the good Samaritan.

The lesson Jesus shared is just as important today. **All people are our neighbors, and while we may not be able to help everyone, we can treat everyone with kindness.** So that means as you read about children living in poverty and think about their circumstances, you can treat them like your neighbors by viewing them as people just like you who are greatly loved by God.

**Being a good neighbor starts with seeing that God loves the people around you.** And when you love God, you can try to love everyone He loves.

### Luke 10:25-37

This is the Parable of the Good Samaritan. After you read it, think about a kid who gets bullied or teased a lot. What would you do if that kid needed help?



- Pull out and finish the kindness planner in the center of this issue.
- It can be harder to show kindness to people who act in unkind ways. Ask a parent what you should do or say when someone is unkind to you.



- Ask God to give you ideas for how to help others.
- Pray for sponsored children to know that Jesus loves them.
- Thank God for the people who do kind things for you.





# GIGGLE



Submit your caption at:

[explorer.compassion.com/giggles](http://explorer.compassion.com/giggles)

Eight-year-old Gift lifts up her twin sister, Joy, outside their home in Kenya. The girls look identical, but like all kids, they have different personalities. Joy is quiet, and Gift likes to talk. The twins are sponsored and get to go to a Compassion center at a church in their neighborhood.



**Special pull-out planner inside!**

Fill in your "20 Acts of Kindness for 2020" planner with creative ideas for surprising your neighbors!

Explorers, love this magazine? Want more?  
[explorer.compassion.com](http://explorer.compassion.com)

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**explorer**

IN967 [02/20]

## About the cover

When Jesus tells us to love our neighbors, that includes our siblings! Twin sisters Joy, in the blue shirt, and Gift have had a tough life. Their love of Jesus and each other gives them strength. (Yep, that's also them in the picture above!)

