

COMPASSION

# explorer®



Dream  
Big!



Dream on, Explorers!

Has anyone ever said you daydream too much? Well, we think that's a good thing! Dreaming about a better future is extra important for kids who live in poverty. Dreaming gives them hope. Hoping gives them a reason to work hard in school, trust God and plan for a happier life. **Inside this issue you'll meet some sponsored kids around the world who have big dreams!** You'll also find fun ideas for celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas.

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GIGGLE

Remember this picture from the Fall 2020 *Compassion Explorer Magazine* of Carmen, a girl in Compassion's program, and her fellow gymnast? Here are some of your great captions! Find more at [explorer.compassion.com/explorers](http://explorer.compassion.com/explorers).

Aw, man! I think I pulled a muscle in my heart!  
Nora, 10  
Beavercreek, Ore.

Making a heart!  
Victoria, 4  
Johnson City, Tenn.

"Ah! My socks are falling off!"  
Carmen: "Didn't I tell you I'd knock your socks off with how flexible I am?!"  
Nico, 9  
Indianapolis

That was a loud crack!  
Kailani, 11  
Yuma, Ariz.

I sure love the Compassion program!  
Peyton, 12  
Glen Spey, N.Y.

One Grecian urn!  
Catherine, 12  
Hebron, Ky.

What everyone should do for their mom on Mother's Day!  
Noah, 12  
Waukesha, Wis.

Warning: Don't try this unless you're a professional gymnast.  
Addy, 8  
Elizabethton, Tenn.

Loving every flip!  
Lily, 12  
Fort Wayne, Ind.

I know this is cool, but my back doesn't agree.  
Jackson, 9  
Oak Creek, Wis.

Hey! You're upside down — or am I?  
Anna, 10  
Princeton, N.J.

Look, Mom, we are a heart. Wait, uh, now we can't part.  
Grace, 9  
Carlsbad, Calif.

Check out the next Giggle photo on the back cover!



# DISCOVER myWORLD

## Who Will I Be?



Flor, 8

Pilot

Living in poverty is hard. How would it feel if your family couldn't afford a safe home, food, clean water, clothes or medicine? You might start to lose hope that a better life is possible. That's why it's so important that kids who live in poverty learn to dream big ... because God has big plans for them!

**Flor**, the girl pictured above, is a sponsored 8-year-old in Peru who wants to be a pilot. **Let's travel around Latin America to meet more kids like her who dressed up to dream about their future jobs.**

Their sponsors and teachers are showing them that with God — and by working hard in school — they can achieve big things!

Yameli, 9

Scientist

**Yameli** lives in Peru. She goes to the one school in her town. "My favorite part of school is the experiments we do," she says. "And that's exactly why I want to become a scientist when I grow up, just like the ones we learn about in our books."

At Yameli's Compassion center, she learns how she can use her dreams to help people — like families who can't afford enough food. **"When I become a scientist, I will create a type of food that will take hunger away once you eat it, and you'll be fine for the whole day,"** says Yameli, who is thankful to eat meals at her center. "That would be awesome for many children."



Santiago, 7

Civil Engineer

**"When I grow up, I want to be a civil engineer to build bridges, highways and a big house for my family,"** says **Santiago**, who lives in Colombia. And when he says "big house," he means it! "The house will have two floors, two kitchens, four bathrooms, five bedrooms, three backyards and a garden with flowers," says Santiago, who lives in his great-grandmother's home. He shares one room with his mother, grandmother and sister.

He knows he needs to study hard to reach his dreams. "To be an engineer I have to be the best at school, and I am already working on that. I always do my homework."







Justin, 7  
Astronaut

In **Justin's** neighborhood in Ecuador, he sees a lot of litter and other pollution. "I do not like when people throw garbage in the street," says Justin. He's even sadder about the beaches near his home. They have a lot of trash on them, too, which often ends up in the ocean.

But Justin has dreams of how he can help someday. **"I want to be an astronaut because I believe that we can reach other planets, and bring machines and technology to clean the oceans and seas,"** he says. "I want to remove all the garbage and plastic and send them away from our planet." While Justin works toward his dream of being an astronaut, he's doing what he can to help now. Every week he picks up trash in the street outside his house, and he tells his friends not to pollute.

Camila, 8  
Veterinarian

**Camila** dreams of helping all the animals in her Bolivian town. **"When I grow up, I want to be a veterinarian because I love animals very much,"** she says. "I've wanted to be a veterinarian since my father gave me my first puppy."

"It makes me sad when I see animals that are abandoned, sick or mistreated," says Camila, who is in charge of feeding and caring for her family's three pets. "My favorite animals are dogs, but I want to heal all kinds of animals." She believes she will reach her dream because she gets support from her parents, her sponsor and the Compassion center teachers who help her with her homework.



Scarlet, 6  
Doctor

Of course **Scarlet** loves playing doctor, since that's what she dreams of being someday. Good thing her neighbor Samuel is a good sport! Here, the two of them are playing at Scarlet's home in Ecuador.

Scarlet brings her red first-aid kit to her Compassion center, just in case any of the other sponsored children there has an accident. **"When I grow up, I want to be a doctor because I want to save lives, and I want to see all the children always healthy and happy,"** Scarlet says. Pray that Scarlet will reach her dream of becoming a doctor!





# WHAT KIND OF EXPLORER ARE YOU?

Quiz

God made every kid unique. That means there is no one just like you in all the world! Take this quiz to learn more about the talents and skills God gave you — and how you can use your special blessings to bless others! Circle the answer that best describes you. Then look at the results section on the next page to find out what kind of Explorer you are.

## 1. WHICH OF THESE TRIPS SOUNDS BEST TO YOU?

- a. camping in the mountains near hiking trails and fishing spots
- b. a school trip to Washington, D.C., to learn more about U.S. history
- c. vacation Bible school: the sleep-away edition
- d. a family reunion at the beach, where you share a house with cousins your age

## 2. HOW WOULD YOU PREFER TO SPEND A SUNNY SATURDAY AFTERNOON?

- a. serving meals at your church to people in town who might be homeless or can't afford groceries
- b. curling up on the couch with a good book
- c. shooting hoops with your friend next door
- d. having a few friends over to play and spend the night

## 3. IF YOU WERE A SPONSORED CHILD, WHAT ACTIVITY WOULD YOU LIKE BEST AT YOUR COMPASSION CENTER?

- a. competing in Bible-memory games
- b. learning to sew, cook or fix bicycles
- c. playing soccer or tag outside
- d. chatting with your friends during playtime

## 5. WHICH TOPIC WOULD BE MOST INTERESTING TO STUDY?

- a. Jesus' teachings about helping people in need
- b. the solar system
- c. the history of the Olympic Games
- d. how to have great conversations

## 4. WHAT DID YOU MISS MOST WHILE YOU STAYED HOME TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19?

- a. going to Sunday school
- b. going to school in person
- c. playing team sports
- d. seeing your friends

## 6. WHICH PET WOULD YOU LIKE THE MOST?

- a. a one-eyed cat with asthma that needs daily medicine and extra care from you
- b. a chameleon so you can watch it change color to match its surroundings
- c. an energetic dog needing lots of walks, games of fetch and dog-park visits
- d. a talking parrot so you can teach it to say funny things

ANSWER KEEPER: WRITE YOUR ANSWERS HERE!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.

# NOW FIND OUT WHAT KIND OF EXPLORER YOU ARE IF YOU CIRCLED...

## MOSTLY A's: SPIRITUAL SEARCHER

God blessed you with spiritual gifts! Whether you are learning new Bible verses, praying for kids who live in poverty or volunteering to help people in need, you are on a mission to live out God's special purpose for you. You help people by giving your time and hard work without complaining. You can also answer friends' questions about heaven and Jesus. You are a soul explorer!

## MOSTLY B's: KNOWLEDGE SEEKER

God blessed you with the gift of wisdom! You're interested in learning how the universe works, from the tiniest insect to the most distant planet. You help others by solving problems and knowing where to look up important information. You pray that sponsored children do well in school so they can get good jobs someday and get out of poverty. You are a mind explorer!

## MOSTLY D's: SOCIAL SCOUT

God gave you the gift of communication! As a social butterfly, you enjoy meeting new people, chatting with longtime friends and joining in group activities. You help people by reaching out to kids who seem shy or lonely, never saying unkind words about anyone, and helping your friends figure out God's purpose in their lives. You are a relationship explorer!

## MOSTLY C's: ACTIVE ADVENTURER

God gifted you a spirit of adventure! You enjoy being outdoors whenever possible, playing sports or discovering new places. You help others by being a good teammate and inspiring friends to be active instead of playing video games all day. You know that God made your body to move, and you care about staying healthy. You are a physical explorer!



No matter which category you ended up in, you have special abilities in all four areas — and so do sponsored children! At Compassion centers, kids grow in their spiritual lives with God, in their physical lives with sports and games, in their social lives with other kids, and in knowledge with classroom lessons. Talk with your family about ways you can grow in all four areas too.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.

ANSWER KEEPER: WRITE YOUR ANSWERS HERE!





Craft

# A Cornucopia of Gratefulness

First of all, what's a cornucopia? From the outside, it just looks like a weird basket, doesn't it? But it's really a symbol of abundance — which is another big word! You might think “abundance” means a lot of stuff. But really, it means we've all been gifted with more than we deserve. At Thanksgiving, we try to spend some extra time being thankful for all of the many ways God has blessed us and shown us his love. And this cornucopia is going to be overflowing with things that you're grateful for! Let's get started!

### Supplies

- brown paper grocery bag
- glue
- ribbon
- template of fruit and vegetable pictures printed from [explorer.compassion.com/cornucopia](http://explorer.compassion.com/cornucopia)
- scissors
- pencil and crayons
- pipe cleaners in fall colors, like red, orange, yellow, green and brown

### Directions

1. *Adult help needed.* Cut off the bottom of the brown paper bag, forming a big rectangle. Roll it into a cone shape to form your cornucopia. Secure it with glue and ribbon. Roll the end of the cornucopia around a pencil to give it a curve.
2. Cut out the fruits and veggies on the printed template. (If you don't have a printer, cut fruit and vegetable shapes out of colorful construction paper instead.)
3. Write something you're thankful for on each fruit and vegetable, then color it. You could let your family or Thanksgiving guests write on some of them.
4. Roll each pipe cleaner around a pencil and slide it off. Loosen the ringlets if you'd like. Then glue each fruit onto one end of a pipe cleaner.
5. Fill the cornucopia with your fruits and vegetables and set it as the centerpiece on the dinner table! (Another idea: Place one fruit or vegetable in the cornucopia every day leading up to Thanksgiving.)



# CAPTURE 2020 IN A TIME CAPSULE



Wow, 2020 has been an interesting year, hasn't it? You probably think you'll never forget it! But trust me, our brains can play tricks (just ask your parents!), and I bet in a few years it'll be hard for you to remember all of the details of this crazy year.

So we've come up with a fun time capsule activity that will help you remember 2020! You'll find some idea starters below, but don't forget to be creative!



## WHAT YOU'LL NEED...

- A shoebox or any container with a lid
- Paint, stickers and other decorating supplies (including magazines, construction paper, etc.)
- A memento (or two) of 2020 from each family member in your home



## CREATING YOUR TIME CAPSULE...

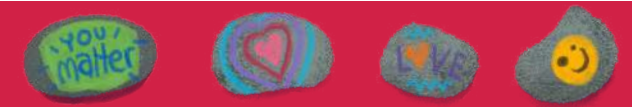
1. Decorate your box or container. There are tons of ways to do this! You can get artistic and color or paint. Or maybe you want to cut words out of magazines that remind you of this year.
2. Have everyone in your family collect at least one item that they can put in the box as a reminder of 2020. Some ideas include a photo, a mask, a letter to your future self — use your imagination!

TIP: Maybe you can have a theme for your time capsule! Ask everyone to find something for the box that makes them laugh. Or feel happy. Or be grateful.

3. Put all of your items in your box and place it somewhere dry and safe. Mark it with a note that says “Do not open until...” and pick a date when your family can gather to open the time capsule!



**NEED SOME IDEAS?** We've got you covered with a whole worksheet of ideas to include in your 2020 Time Capsule! You and a parent can find the printable at [explorer.compassion.com/Capture2020!](http://explorer.compassion.com/Capture2020!)





# Cook

**Meet Jesús.** He lives in Bolivia. When he was a boy, his family was very poor. But, thanks to the goodness of God, Jesús was a part of the Compassion program. Plus, he had a sponsor to encourage him! With all the encouragement from the Compassion program and his sponsors, Jesús discovered that he LOVED to cook! He even dreamed that he might become a chef one day. And guess what? He did it! Today, Jesús is the main chef at the very same Compassion center he grew up attending. He loves serving the kids at the center. And he's got another big dream in mind ...

**“One of my dreams is to have my own restaurant,” says Jesús. “My goal is that, every Saturday, I would like to feed all the people who need it for free.”**

Jesús seems like an awesome guy, doesn't he? We think he's going to achieve his dream of owning his own restaurant someday!

Try preparing the recipe below! It's called Arroz Navideño, a special Christmas rice that's popular throughout Latin America.

# Arroz Navideño

Yield: 6 servings  
(Adult help needed)

### Ingredients

- 1 tbsp. unsalted butter
- 4 tbsp. canola oil
- 1 white onion, chopped
- 1 each of red, yellow and green bell pepper, chopped
- 3 c. extra-long-grain rice
- 1½ c. cola
- 2½ c. water
- Salt to taste
- ½ c. raisins
- ½ c. walnuts, chopped
- ½ c. ham, diced

### Instructions

1. Grab a large pot. On medium heat, melt the butter in the pot. Add canola oil. Sauté onion and half of the chopped peppers for 2-3 minutes.
2. Add rice. Sauté for another 1-2 minutes.
3. Add cola and water. Then add salt to taste. Once you do that, raise heat to high and bring everything to a boil.
4. Once it's boiling, cover pot and reduce heat to medium low. Let it simmer for another 10-15 minutes. When the rice is cooked, remove the pot from heat.
5. Mix in walnuts, raisins and ham. Garnish with remaining chopped peppers and enjoy!



Sometimes, when you're a kid, you just can't wait to be bigger. When you're 6, you wish you were 10. When you're 10, you wish you were 16, and when you're 16, you can't wait to be 21.

That's part of growing up. As someone who's been through wishing to be older myself, I remember that it's because with every milestone you get a little more freedom and more power to make your own decisions. You feel more confident that you can make a difference. And while all of that is true, don't discount the difference you can make even now.

Look at the life of Samuel in the Bible, for example.

Samuel was just a young boy at 11 years old when he came to work in the temple under the high priest and judge, Eli. One night, as he was sleeping, God called out to Samuel. At that time, the Lord hadn't spoken for many years, so Samuel thought it was Eli calling him. This happened three times before Eli knew it was God who was calling Samuel. He told Samuel that when he heard the voice again, he should say,

"Speak Lord, for your servant is listening." God told Samuel things that were going to happen.

**God chose to speak to Samuel and honor him as a prophet in the land, even at his young age.** When Samuel grew up, he was a wise counselor and even helped the Israelites know God's will for who should be their king, first with Saul and then with David.

Now, God may not clearly speak to you like he spoke to Samuel, but you can hear him in your heart. You can know his will for you by learning his word in your Bible. **And you can be confident that if he asks you to make a difference, no matter how old you are, he has made you capable of doing it.**

Plus, don't forget to enjoy being a kid! It's something you'll wish you could do all over again when you get to be an adult like me.

God bless you now, and always!

## 1 Samuel 3:1-21



- Make a list of your skills, talents and interests. How could you use them to help people in need right now?
- Talk with your family about growing up. Do you wish you were a different age? Did your parents try to grow up too fast?



- Thank God for all the great things about your childhood. Ask God to speak to you in your heart. What does he want you to listen for?
- Ask God for ideas for ways you can serve him by serving others.





Stories of  
compassionate  
kids like you.

# Care

This year has been one for the history books ... and these compassionate kids should be included in the pages! We hope they inspire you to think of creative ways to help others. Bonus: Some of these kids' stories include great Christmas gift ideas!

## Not-So-Random Acts of Kindness

Did you read the spring 2020 issue of *Compassion Explorer Magazine*? Siblings **Van**, **Liza** and **Joel** did, and they found the "20 Acts of Kindness" planner inside. The planner gave some ideas for showing kindness to others, but it also challenged kids to come up with their own. With their parents' help, 7-year-old Van, 3-year-old Joel and 5-year-old Liza (pictured from left to right) thought of creative acts of kindness they could do for one another.



So how did it go? "I helped Liza finish sweeping the deck," says Van, completing the "help a family member with a chore" act of kindness. Liza helped her mom unload the dishwasher and set the table without being asked — which counted for the "offer to help before you're asked" act. And Joel may be only 3, but he joined in the acts of kindness too — praying for their family's three sponsored children. After he learned that some kids in poverty can't afford new shoes and have to wear worn-out pairs, he started praying that God will provide good shoes for sponsored children.



The siblings finished all 20 acts of kindness! They also took time to write to their sponsored children and share two Bible verses that are extra special to their family: John 14:6 and Philippians 4:4.

## Beads That Meet Needs

**Maddie**, 12, loves to craft, and she loves to give. So she put the two together by starting Maddie's Melts Gifts, an online shop where she sells her unique crafts. She donates half her earnings to charities including Compassion, and hopes to earn enough to sponsor a child! Her family sponsors a 2-year-old named Silvia in Bolivia, and Maddie says she'd like to sponsor another child, one who lives in Africa.



Maddie makes her artistic creations out of Perler beads — those little plastic nubs that melt together into designs. Maddie's Perler bead creations range from Christmas ornaments to magnets. Some of her latest are scented with essential oils for a yummy smell. Melt on, Maddie!



### Gift Ideas

Go to [etsy.com/shop/MaddiesMeltsGifts](https://etsy.com/shop/MaddiesMeltsGifts) to order some of her creations.

## Chocolate for Chickens

Last fall, twin 6-year-olds **Margaret** and **Caroline** were looking through Compassion's Gift Catalog. They asked their mom if she'd buy them some of the chickens pictured on one of the pages! But their mom explained that the animals and other gifts in the catalog weren't to order for themselves, but for families in poverty. The girls were still interested! They wanted to buy gifts from the catalog to help kids like their sponsored child in Peru. Or, as Margaret puts it, to help kids "be healthy so they can live a long life."



So they came up with a plan to make hot chocolate kits to sell to family, friends and neighbors. They got together with their mom, their grandma and their 4-year-old brother, **Thomas**, to put cocoa and marshmallows inside baggies, which they decorated with ribbons. They sold them for a suggested donation of \$4 each, and sold out so fast they had to make more! When their fundraiser was finished, they had \$300 to buy gifts from the catalog. They spent \$120 on chickens, which help families in poverty get money and food. They spent the remaining \$180 on the gift of water containers for kids who don't have safe water near their homes. Way to go, Margaret, Caroline and Thomas!



### Gift Ideas

- Make your own hot chocolate kits to give away.
- See all the catalog gifts that can be given (in addition to chickens and safe water) at [compassion.com/catalog](https://compassion.com/catalog).

## Power of Community

God made us to live in community. The word "community" can mean an area where people live near one another (like a neighborhood or town). But it also means a group of people who come together because they care about the same thing.

"It is important to have community because they support you, and it's never good to be alone," says **Erin**, 10. She and her siblings in North Carolina — **Edna**, 3, **Elijah**, 14, and **Ella**, 12 (pictured from right to left, starting with Erin on the right) — are part of a church community formed around a shared love of Jesus. That love inspires them to help others, like Poma, the girl they sponsor in Bolivia. But Ella, Elijah, Erin and Edna wanted to help even more people in poverty — like moms and babies in San Pedro, Peru.



Edna says it's important to help moms and kids "so they can be healthy and live happy." So the siblings told their community of relatives, friends and church family that they wanted to make sure babies and moms in San Pedro had the food, medicine, supplies and prayer they needed. "We have what we need, and a little more, and they have almost nothing," Erin says. "If we all give a little we can help at least a couple of those families to know Jesus and not go to bed hungry."

In just one month, the "fantastic four" and their community raised \$3,000! Oh and that's not all that Elijah, Ella, Edna and Erin have done — they also hosted an event at their church called Compassion Sunday, which helped nine children find sponsors! These are four siblings who show the power of community!



### 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)!



## Special insert inside!

Pull out your bonus activity in the middle of this issue. Then see if you can spot the gifts! Find and circle items that can be given to kids in poverty through Compassion's Gift Catalog.



# GIGGLE

Submit your caption at:

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

Nine-year-old Jean gets a little silly in a cornfield near his home in Brazil. Jean looks forward to celebrating Christmas and receiving a gift at his Compassion center!

EXPLORERS, LOVE THIS MAGAZINE? WANT MORE?  [explorer.compassion.com](http://explorer.compassion.com)

COMPASSION  
**explorer**

IN995 [11/20]

## About the cover

Santiago is a 7-year-old boy in Compassion's program in Colombia. He is dressed for his dream job of civil engineer, holding some make-believe blueprints. He wants to be a civil engineer so he can build bridges and highways. See more on page 5.

