

COMPASSION explorer

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO
LEARN LIKE ME?

FIND OUT WHAT IT'S LIKE!

Hey, brainy Explorers! This issue is all about how kids around the world learn. School is one important way to learn. In many countries, kids like you are going back to school this fall. It's so important that all kids get the chance to go to school and learn. But did you know that some kids who live in poverty don't get to go? Inside, you'll learn some reasons why. You'll also learn how to make a yummy cake, craft some animal bookmarks, solve a picture puzzle and more!



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GIGGLE

Remember this picture from the Summer 2022 Compassion Explorer Magazine? Here are some of your great captions! Find more at explorer.compassion.com/explorers.

Mom, can we be done taking pictures now?
*Colby, 13
Belton, Texas*

First day of COOL!
*Auggie, 9
DeKalb, Ill.*

I don't know if this is going to be good or not, but let's do this!
*Elijah, 6
Reading, Mass.*

God is good ... all the time!
*Josiah, 13
Perkasie, Pa.*

Um, Mom, can I not?
*Grace, 9
St. Anthony, Minn.*

Hurry up with this picture or I'll be late!
*Arianna, 12
Merriam, Kan.*

I am going to give the teacher an apple.
*Aspen, 11
Canton, N.C.*

I'm fine. I'm just fine. Help me get to school please?
*Micah, 7
Beaver Falls, Pa.*

You look nervous, are you OK?!
*Ember, 5
Newport News, Va.*

I would love to smile, but there's a bug crawling up my back!
*Abriella, 14
Belton, Texas*

I can't wait to meet my teachers and friends. I hope I learn something new and exciting!
*Olsen, 7
Boerne, Texas*



Check out the next Giggle photo on the back cover!

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO
LEARN LIKE ME?



SARA IN
COLOMBIA

Hi, I'm Sara! Today I am starting second grade. Here I am outside my home. My parents don't have a lot of money, and they couldn't afford everything I needed to start school. So my sponsor helped pay for my school supplies, uniform and shoes. When I grow up, I want to be a doctor so I can help sick people feel better!



A normal school lunch for me is plantains and cheese.

A plantain is like a less-sweet banana. Learn to cook plantains in two yummy ways at explorer.compassion.com/plantain.



Here's what's in my backpack:

Whom do you want to be when you grow up?

EYUEAL IN
ETHIOPIA



I'm 12-year-old Eyueal. Ever since I was very little, I have been unable to walk. My mom could not afford a wheelchair. So I would sit on the floor and watch other kids walk to school. I wished I could go and learn with them! After I joined Compassion's program, my church got us this wheelchair and helped enroll me in school. Now I'm learning so much!

I get to school in my wheelchair, which is pushed by my friends or my mom.



Here's where I do my homework:



A normal meal for me is rice and bread.



Where do you do your homework?



CYRENE IN THE PHILIPPINES

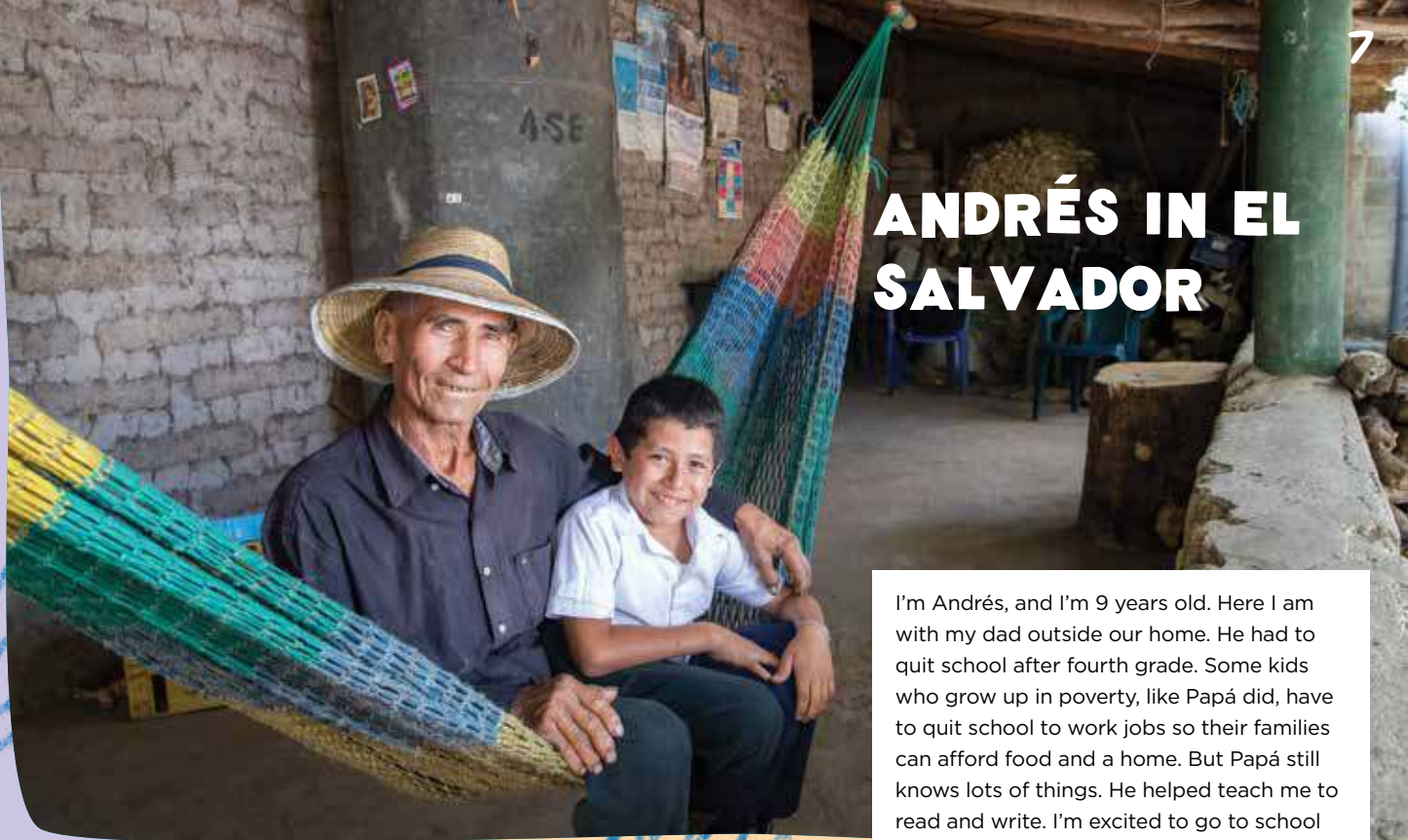
I'm Cyrene, and I'm ready to walk to school from my home in the Philippines. In my backpack I'm carrying books, notebooks, my lunch, pencils, an eraser and a pencil sharpener. How many animals do you see in this photo? I hope they don't follow me to school! My dad's job is to care for animals. The animals also care for us by giving us food like eggs and milk.

This is me with my teacher, Mrs. Lumingkit, in the classroom where I love to learn new things. Some of the other students come to class hungry because their families can't afford food. I'm thankful to have a lunch to eat.



Today for lunch I packed rice with an egg from one of the chickens.

What's your teacher's name?



ANDRÉS IN EL SALVADOR

I'm Andrés, and I'm 9 years old. Here I am with my dad outside our home. He had to quit school after fourth grade. Some kids who grow up in poverty, like Papá did, have to quit school to work jobs so their families can afford food and a home. But Papá still knows lots of things. He helped teach me to read and write. I'm excited to go to school today to learn even more! After school, tutors at my Compassion center help me with schoolwork. Who are all the people in your life who teach you things?



At school they serve us a snack of rice, cheese, fried banana, rolls and juice.



I get to school on my bike. It takes only about five minutes.

How do you get to school?

RIHANATA IN BURKINA FASO



In my backpack are a notebook and colored pencils I used to draw a picture for my sponsor.

Hi, I'm Rihanata. I'm 10 years old and go to school in West Africa. Some days after school, I get to go to my Compassion center and learn even more. I practice my writing and drawing skills in letters to my sponsor. When I was 5, I had a terrible accident. I tripped and spilled a pot of boiling sauce all over my body. The Compassion program helped pay for the hospital visit and medicines I needed. Today I have burn scars but am not in pain anymore. I love to play and learn with my friends at school and the Compassion center!



What do you have in your backpack?

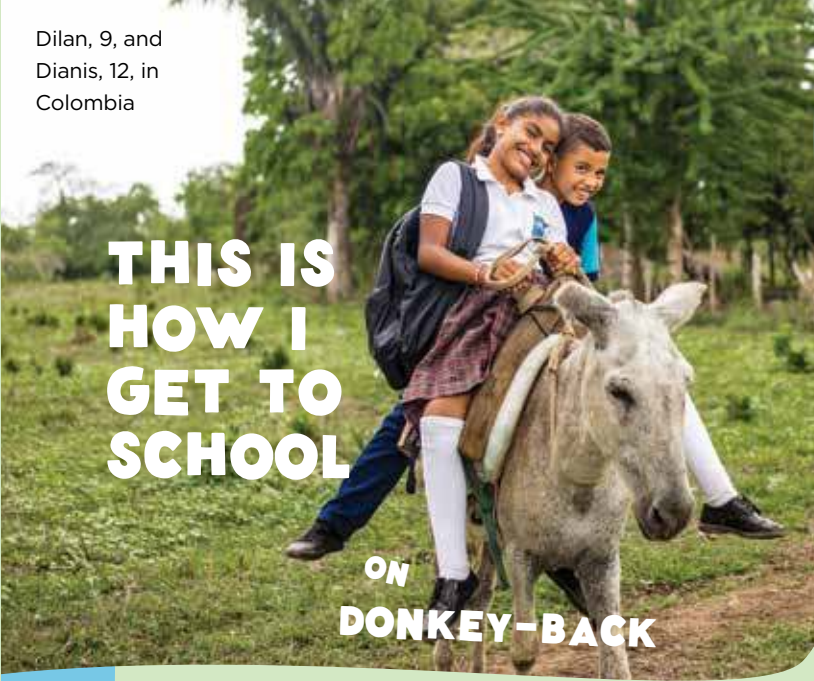


I get around on my bicycle!

Dilan, 9, and
Dianis, 12, in
Colombia

THIS IS HOW I GET TO SCHOOL

ON
DONKEY-BACK



Kids around the world have all kinds of unique ways to get to school! Sadly, some kids who live in poverty live far away from the nearest school and can't get there because their families can't afford cars or taxis. Other kids walk for hours each day to get to school. Let's meet some kids who are very happy they have transportation to school and their Compassion centers so they can learn!

Friends in Guatemala

ON A
TUK-TUK



A lot of friends in Ghana

ON A
MOTORCYCLE TRUCK



Katy, 9, in Ecuador

BY
BOAT



MOM AND
DAD'S
MOTORBIKE



Bithi, 7, in Bangladesh

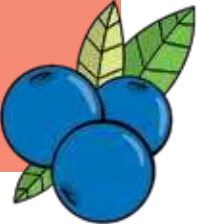


Cook

TRES LECHES CAKE

Tres leches cake is a delicious special occasion cake that lots of kids in Mexico eat for their birthdays! Tres leches means “three milks,” and you’ll see why in the following ingredients. Can you guess what three milks might be in this delicious cake?

And don’t forget when you’re decorating your cake with fresh fruit that you can make a special design to represent the country where your family sponsors or a special picture that represents a place you’ve learned about in school! Find the flags of every country where Compassion kids live at explorer.compassion.com/tres-leches!



Ingredients

Cake:

- 1 c. all-purpose flour
- 1½ tsp. baking powder
- ½ tsp. salt
- 5 large eggs, room temperature
- 1 c. granulated sugar, divided
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1/3 c. milk, whole or 2%

Milk Syrup:

- 1 can (12 oz.) evaporated milk
- 1 can (14 oz.) sweetened condensed milk
- 1/3 c. heavy cream
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract

Frosting:

- 2 c. chilled heavy whipping cream
- 2 tbsp. powdered sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract

Topping (optional):

- fresh fruit
- cinnamon and sugar for sprinkling

Instructions

How To Make Your Cake

1. *Adult help needed.* First, preheat the oven to 350°F. Coat a 9-by-13 baking dish with butter or cooking spray.
2. In a large bowl, combine flour, baking powder and salt. Next, separate your egg whites into one bowl and your egg yolks into another.
3. In a medium bowl, beat egg yolks with ¾ c. granulated sugar until pale yellow. Stir in the vanilla extract and milk.
4. Add egg yolk mixture to flour mixture and stir gently to combine. If there are some lumps, that’s OK!
5. In a large bowl, beat egg whites at high speed until soft peaks form. Slowly add the remaining ¼ c. sugar and beat until stiff peaks form.
6. Fold egg white mixture into batter gently until just combined.
7. Spread evenly in prepared pan. Bake for 35-45 minutes or until toothpick inserted into middle of cake comes out clean. Remove from oven and cool on wire rack.

How To Make Milk Syrup

1. In a medium bowl, combine evaporated milk, sweetened condensed milk and heavy cream. Stir in cinnamon and vanilla extract until well combined.
2. When cake is cool, poke small holes in it using a fork or skewer. Slowly drizzle milk syrup over cake, then set aside and let the syrup soak in while you make your frosting.

How To Make Frosting

1. Beat whipping cream on high speed until soft peaks form. Add powdered sugar and vanilla and continue beating on high speed until stiff peaks form.

Putting It All Together

1. Frost your cake with your homemade frosting. You can also decorate it with fresh fruit, such as berries, kiwi and pineapple. Sprinkle with some cinnamon and sugar if you’d like.
2. Serve immediately or place in refrigerator until ready to serve.



Did you know that LOTS of kids who attend Compassion centers take what are called vocational classes? These are classes where kids can learn skills that can help them get a job one day. One of the most popular classes is baking! **Kids just like you learn how to make bread, cakes and cookies.** Sometimes they serve the treats to the other kids at the center. Sometimes they sell them at the market to earn money to buy extra supplies for their class.



Craft

Crafty Readers

Reading is important for learning! Reading helps us expand our imaginations and learn more. Kids around the world learn to read from their teachers and sometimes from parents. Tutors at Compassion centers also help kids learn to read. Follow along with this craft to **make a reading-buddy bookmark!** Once you learn how to fold the bookmark, you can decorate it however you want. Below are directions for decorating it like a Compassion Explorer mascot. With an adult, go online to explorer.compassion.com/bookmark for more details on making bookmarks that look like all the mascots.



SUPPLIES

- 4" square piece of craft paper
- crayons or colored pencils if you're coloring your bookmark
- extra paper to make ears, noses, etc.
- scissors
- tape or glue
- marker

FOLD IT

1. Fold your paper in half, point to point. Unfold.
2. Fold in half again, this time with the other points. Unfold.
3. Place your paper like a diamond. It should have lines up and down and side to side.
4. Fold the bottom half of the diamond up to form a triangle.
5. With the same part of the paper you just folded up, fold the point down, over the front of paper. The point should just touch the bottom edge of the triangle.
6. Fold the bottom left corner to meet the top corner. Press.
7. Repeat with the bottom right corner. You should now have a smaller diamond.
8. Inside the small diamond, you will find a pocket. Tuck and fold the top corners of the diamond into the pocket.
9. You're finished! You should have a diamond with one flat half and one thick half. Now it's time to decorate your bookmark to look like your favorite Explorer mascot!



DECORATE

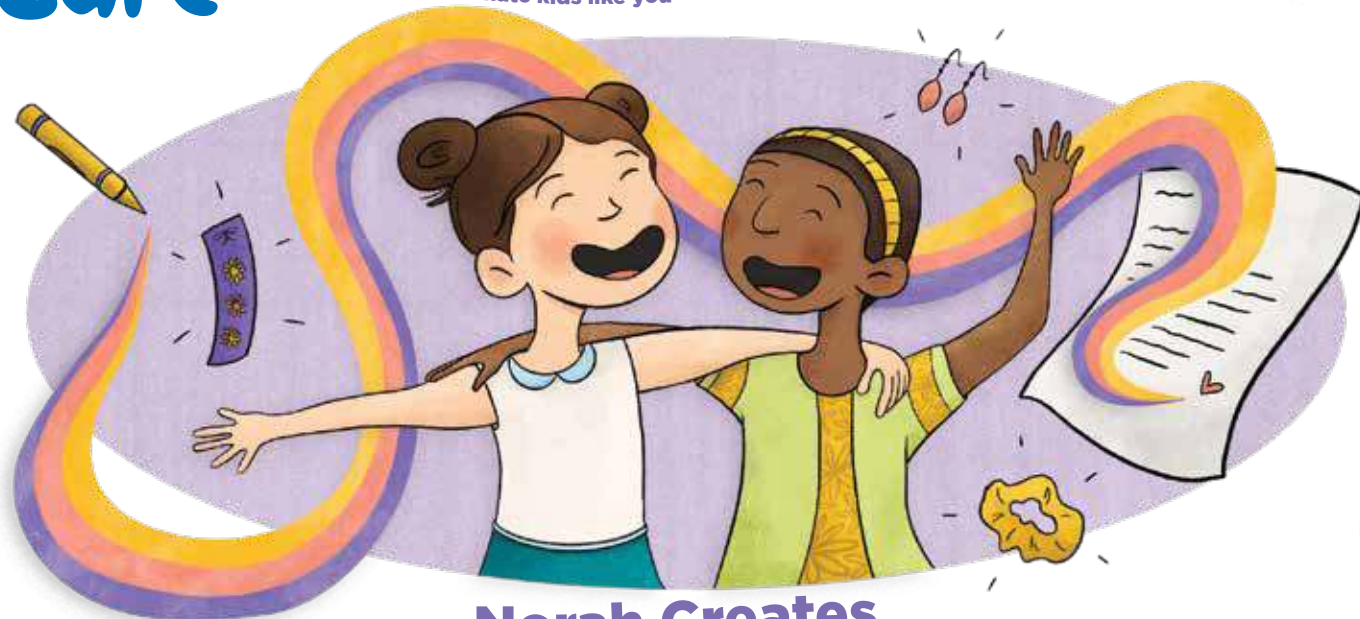
1. Cut out ears, noses, teeth and tongues.
2. Glue or tape them in place.
3. Draw eyes and details with the marker.



COMPARING CLASSROOMS

Classrooms may look different from country to country, but we have a lot more in common than we think. Even though the classrooms look different, we're learning some of the same things. In this activity, see how many similarities you can find between the two classrooms. **Can you spot at least 10 things that are exactly the same or similar?**





Norah Creates

When 5-year-old Norah learned about children in poverty around the world, she wanted to do something to help. So Norah asked her mom if she could sponsor a child with Compassion. She was so excited when her mom said yes! **Together, they chose to sponsor a young girl named Dermene in Togo.**

A few months later, Norah slid a business plan across the table to her mother. This would be Norah's first step in her fight against poverty. Norah outlined her idea to craft everything from scrunchies and earrings to bookmarks and keychains to raise money for Dermene. Her business name? **Norah Creates.**

On most days, Norah, now 6, loves playing with her friends and sledding when it's snowing outside her Michigan home. **But when Norah sits down for home schooling, she isn't just a first grader. She runs a small business.** Her math lessons include adding and subtracting

the cost of her creations. Writing and reading exercises are spent trading letters with Dermene. And her projects include sewing and creating products to sell — with 100% of her earnings going to pay for Dermene's sponsorship.



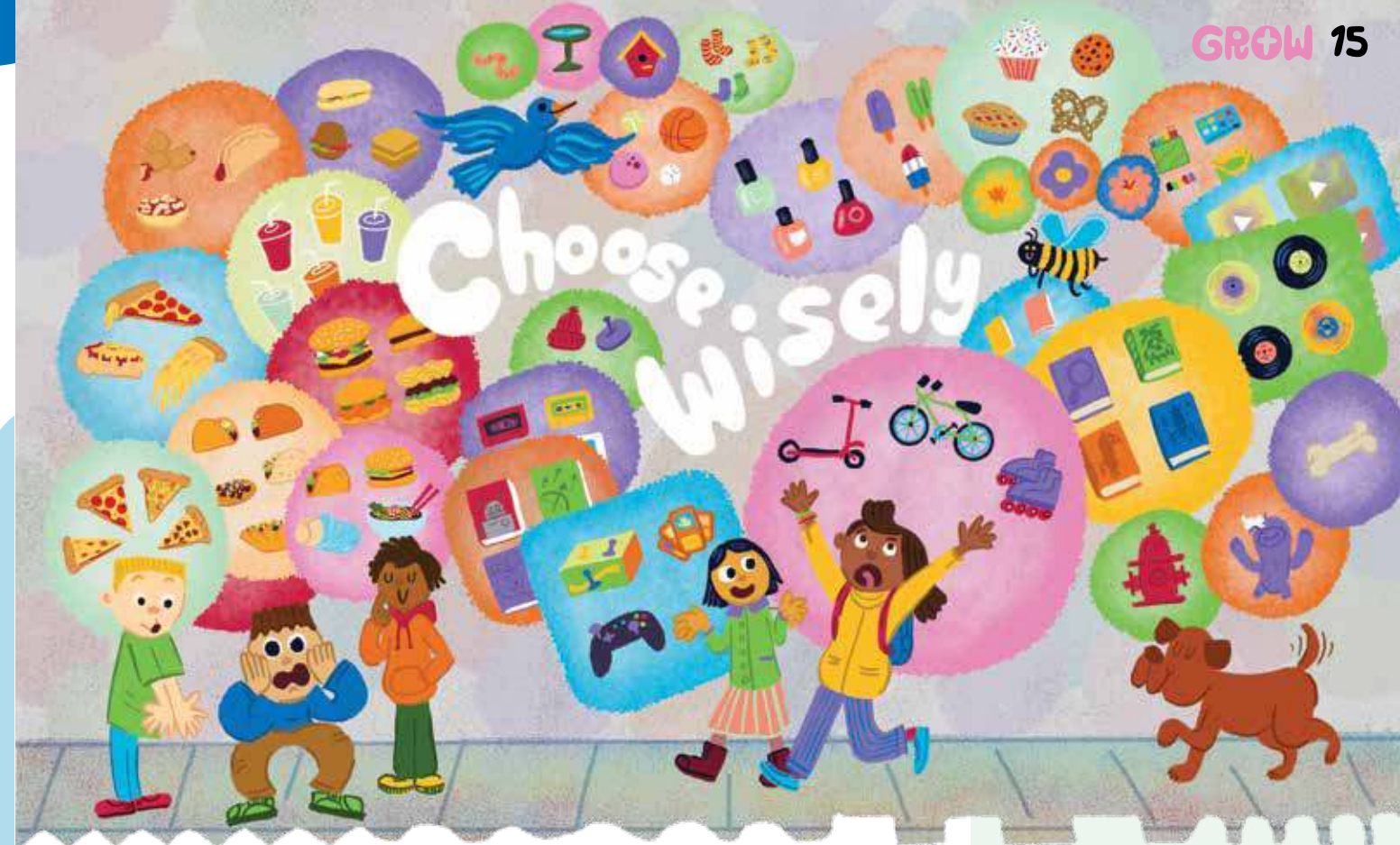
In 2021, a local coffee shop supported Norah by hosting her craft show. People lined up out the door to buy one of her amazing creations. All items were handcrafted by Norah and priced \$1, \$2 or \$5 so she could do the math herself. At the end of the day, Norah counted what she had earned — a total of \$700! **This would more than cover a year of**

sponsorship for Dermene and double what she had earned the previous year.

Norah's eyes sparkle as she thinks about the difference she is making in Dermene's life. **"You don't have to be an adult to make a difference," she says.** When asked about Dermene, Norah says, "Her favorite food is rice — just like me!" Norah can also relate to the way Dermene helps her family. **Dermene gathers firewood and water each day. Norah helps by keeping an eye on her younger siblings.**

Norah's brother is excited to sponsor a child when he turns 5 and is thinking through his own business plan. Norah has also inspired two friends to make bracelets to support sponsored children. **"We should help others because it's how we would want to be treated," Norah shares.** And with that, she giggles and shrugs. Talking about her business is fun, but her favorite thing to do is get creative. Because **Norah creates.**

CARING KID UPDATE! You may remember Evie, a 5-year-old who was selling her art to raise money for kids in poverty. Well, now she's 8, and she's doing even MORE to help kids by hosting a Compassion Sunday™ event at her church. See a video about Evie and learn how you can host an event too! Go to explorer.compassion.com/evie.



If you could ask God for anything, what would you ask for? For you, it may be that new toy you've been wanting, a trip to your favorite place, an unlimited supply of your favorite dessert or even a new baby brother or sister. For King Solomon, he could have asked for a new palace, a lot of money or a big army ... but instead, he asked for wisdom.

Solomon became king at a young age and admitted to God that he didn't know how to be a king to so many people. He was nervous! He asked God to help him know what decisions to make as he led God's people and to know the difference between good and bad.

King Solomon knew that the best way to be king was to follow God first.

God was happy with King Solomon's request. **God gave Solomon wisdom like he asked but also wealth, along with all the best food, animals and clothes.** God gave him peace with his neighbors, and they ended up working together to build a beautiful temple for God!

We make a lot of decisions in our lifetime. Some big, some small. We make small decisions every day about what we want to wear, whom we want to spend time with, what we want to eat. **And one day, we'll make big decisions about school, a job, our future family and following Jesus with our whole life.**

God wants to be a part of every decision we make. And here's the good news ... we can let him! We can allow God to be a part of our decisions by, like King Solomon, asking God for wisdom. **When we ask God for help, we can trust that he will give us everything we need to make the right decisions ...** and we will live like kings and queens in God's kingdom when we put him first!

Guest devotional by Breanna Mills, Kids Pastor at Next Level Church in Florida

Read

1 Kings 3:5
1 Kings 3:7-14

Act

Write down a few decisions you make every day. Then, pray and ask God to help you in each one of those decisions.

Pray

"God, thank you for the gift of wisdom. I pray that you would help me know the difference between what is good and what is bad and that you would give me wisdom for each decision I have to make today. In Jesus' name I pray, amen."



GIGGLE

Submit your caption at:

explorer.compassion.com/giggles

Have you ever performed or spoken in front of a big crowd? How did you feel? This fall, kids across the U.S. will stand up in front of their churches on Compassion Sunday to find sponsors for kids. Meanwhile in Honduras, sponsored children Azbel and Karlha are performing for a crowd too — their YouTube audience! They have a show where they act out Bible stories. What do YOU think they are doing in this scene?

**FAMILIES, ORDER A FREE
COMPASSION SUNDAY PLANNING GUIDE!**

EXPLORER.COMPASSION.COM/COMPASSIONSUNDAY



About the Cover

This girl in Compassion's program in Thailand is doing her homework on the wooden staircase in her home. Did you know that some kids in poverty don't have electricity at home? Imagine trying to write with no light! Where do you like to do your homework?

COMPASSION
explorer

