

Possible Mission Night (Approx. 1.5hrs)

(5mins) Gather and Welcome to the Mission Night: A short time to welcome GEMS and Cadets, go through announcements and club routines.

(10mins) Devotion: This can be a personal choice based on your club size, age range and preferred topic. Suggestion: Preparing for Mission: Ephesians 6 (The Armour of God)

(5-10mins) Introducing the Mission: For 2014/15 we will supporting New Life Trust.

New Life Trust is an Australian based Charitable Trust that works for the direct relief of poverty and suffering of children. Our Myanmar Project currently provides relief for orphans and abandoned children. *(From the booklet, Page 2)*

As GEMS and Cadets, we will be fundraising much needed money for the Education Training Centre. [New Life Trust hopes] to build an education and training centre in order to improve [their futures]. We will do this by:

- Establishing a preschool for local community children
- Teaching English and Burmese literacy to children
- Teaching basic and advanced computing skills
- Building a modern and safe building in which to learn
- Establish an English and Burmese library. *(From the booklet, Page 3)*

Optional: You can continue reading as a group through the first few pages of the booklet, or you can save it for group time, depending on the club size, time and ages.

(15-20mins) Group Time (or as a whole group if you have a smaller group)

Myanmar, the Country: (booklet Page 4/5)

This is time for the GEMS and Cadets to learn about the beautiful country of Myanmar. Go through pages 4 and 5, exploring the fun facts and brief history of Myanmar.

Question: What are some main differences between Australia and Myanmar that we have read on this page?

New Life Orphanage: (booklet page 6/7)

Read through the first paragraph.

Optional Extra Information (things that weren't added into the booklet):

Did you know? New Life Orphanage has over 180 orphans and abandoned children over three different orphanage locations, with over 40 staff members working at over 5 locations.

Did you know? At the main Orphanage complex up to 20 children sleep in each room, with 2 leaders living in with them.

Did you know? Each child has a maximum of 2 bags of personal belongings, this includes a school uniform, at least 3 sets of clothes and 1-2 pairs of shoes. Each child

(except those in preschool) is responsible for their own washing.

Did you know? The children at New Life do not sleep on beds, but sleep on a traditional mattress, it is similar to a camping mat. Due to size constraints, the children sleep almost side-by-side on their mattresses. Every day the children fold up the mattresses and stack them in the corner so there is enough room for them to get ready for the day and study in the afternoons.

Did you know? Every day the children are up at 5-5:30am, and complete their morning devotions, chores, cleaning and eat their first meal, all before going off to school.

Did you know? The children have a loving, caring and nurturing support team around them 24/7. The leaders are all live-in staff, providing care for the children 24/7.

Did you know? The children, unlike many other children in Myanmar, are provided with 3 full meals a day. Each meal is a cooked meal, consisting of rice, curry, vegetables and a meat.

Did you know? A *Burmese Bath* is very different to an Australian bath. A Burmese Bath involves pouring water over your using a bucket/bowl, then washing with soap and finishing off with more bowls/buckets of water poured over you.

Questions

1. What time do you normally get up? Could you get up at 5am to do chores?
2. The children must live in rooms with up to 20 other people, how do you think you would cope?
3. What is something that you wouldn't be able to live without? We must remember that even if we had nothing, we should always choose to rejoice in the Lord.

Questionnaire: (booklet page 10)

Prayer: (booklet page 11) Spend some time in your group praying for New Life orphanage.

(20mins) Optional Activity

Option: Piggy Bottle Bank. Have each person make or decorate a fundraising container for them to take home and raise funds for New Life Trust.

<http://www.pinterest.com/pin/406379566348611670/>

Materials Needed:

- Plastic Bottle
 - Craft paint for eyes, nose and body (if desired)
 - Craft paper for ears, pipe cleaner for tail
 - Craft glue
 - 4x beads for feet
- *assistance with the hole at the top for coins is needed.

(20mins) Games: Play some games, just like the Burmese children. Games are listed on the next few pages.

(5mins) Close: Pray as a group, final farewells from the club, etc.



Games and Activities

Htote Si Toe (Big Team Game)

Htote Si Toe is similar to a game of tag, except everyone is it and you can only run on a set path. It is a traditional children's game still played in rural parts of Myanmar today.

Draw a grid of the ground (similar to a chessboard) and divide the group into 2 teams, placing them on opposite ends of the playing grid. The game requires players on both teams to make their way to the opposite side, following only the lines in the grid, without being tagged by the opposing team. The winning team either tags all opposing players, or its players successfully make it to the other side of the grid. This game requires sharp eyes, strategy and quick thinking.

Source: http://www.myanmar.cm/lifestyle/htote_si_htoe.html

How we can play it: We can play it exactly like how they play it in Myanmar. Should you not want to draw up lines for the grid, you could play "everyone's it" tag.

Chinlone (Ball Game)

Chinlone is a traditional sport in Myanmar. Chinlone is a combination of sport and dance, with no opposing team, so it is essentially non-competitive. The focus is not on winning, but how talented the person is whilst playing the game. Although, traditionally a male sport, since post-war times some women enjoy playing and showing their Chinlone talents.

Chinlone is a cane ball composed of wicker-work. Myanmar people have made Chinlone balls from cane or rattan, a wild creeper which grows profusely in many forests of Myanmar, since time immemorial because of its resilient, fibrous nature. Strips of cane or rattan are interwoven in bands into a ball four inches in diameter, leaving twelve pentagonal holes. Chinlones thus woven are not only very light but also resilient, cheap and long lasting.

Chinlone is played with the feet and other parts of the body such as the head, shoulders, elbows, knees, heels, and soles. But the hands cannot be used. Unlike football, however, there is no goal to shoot in playing Chinlone and no fixed number of players needed to play it. The main object of Chinlone is to keep the ball in the air as long as possible by tossing it with all parts of the body except the hands. The number of players can range from a single person playing by himself to a team formed into a circle.

In a solo performance, skilful players can play with four to eight Chinlones using all possible tactics to keep them on or around their body.

Source: http://www.myanmar.cm/lifestyle/chin_lone.html

How we can play: Unless you are good at weaving leaves, it is best to make a slight alteration to the ball used. It is fundamentally the same as any ball sport where the objective is to keep the ball off the ground. You can play this game with small balloons, rubber balls or a light ball. The main differences are, the ball is relatively small and you cannot use your hands, making the sport a little harder. Remember

that it is not about teams, winning or competition, it is about the skill it takes to keep the ball up.

Marbles

Remember playing with marbles? The children in Myanmar (especially those in rural villages) have never seen an Apple product, played with an electronic toy or even had a set of coloured pencils to draw with. In some villages the most popular game is what we would refer to as Marbles.

Children gather stones and then try and hit a centre rock by rolling or throwing their stones. They also try to hit opposing rocks away from the centre rock, just as we would with marbles.

How we can play: get a set of marbles and re-introduce our GEMS and Cadets to Marbles.

Cricket

Cricket seems to be an international sport. Although not traditionally Burmese, it is growing in popularity due to the Indian Burmese influx. It is not commonly played in rural Myanmar and is generally only popular in Indian Burmese communities.

How we can play: Set up a game of cricket, any way you like. Play it just as the Burmese do, in a laneway with a bin as the stumps – or perhaps on the grass with a bin as the stumps (backyard Cricket style).

Craft and Painting

Believe it or not, children in Myanmar, both boys and girls love Craft. It's not often they get to do it, but given the opportunity – they love to bead, cut, fold, glue and create beautiful items they can keep.

Boat Racing

If you are holding a camp or happen to have access to canoes this activity will work for you.

Because Myanmar is geographically endowed with many rivers and streams, boats have been used for thousands of years. During the reign of the ancient Myanmar kings, royal armies used fleets of ships and boats either in warfare or in official ceremonies. The monarchs also sponsored boat races which were usually held around September because of the favourable weather and river conditions, and that tradition has been handed down through the ages.

In boat-racing, there are usually two contending boats with a set number of rowers in each boat. Each rower uses a single oar to propel the boat along the river or lake until the finish line is reached. One of the rowers sits at the bow and tries to reach out to grab the bouquet on the finish line to become the winner.

Source: http://www.myanmar.cm/lifestyle/boat_racing.html