


7

A helping hand

Reading

Before reading

- 1 Discuss these questions.
 - 1 Do you ever help people who are poor?
 - 2 How can we help them?
 - 3 What other people might need help? Think about your own country and others.
- 2  Read and listen.

OXFAM
you can help too!

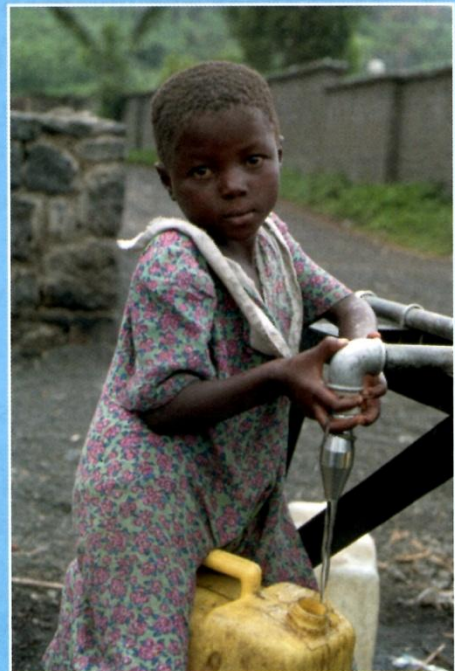


What is Oxfam?

Oxfam is a **charity** that helps people all over the world. Oxfam started in Oxford in 1942, when a group of people decided to help **victims of famine**. The group was called the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief, but the name soon became Oxfam. Today, Oxfam works in more than 70 countries around the world to make people's lives better.

What does Oxfam do?

Oxfam helps people who are poor, hungry or in trouble. Oxfam sends helpers to different countries to work with local people and try to find **solutions** to **poverty** and other problems. Oxfam trains health workers, builds schools, gives food and **shelter** and makes sure that people have clean water to drink. Oxfam also helps people in natural disasters, like **floods** or **hurricanes**.



What can you do?

Here are some simple ways you can help.

- **Raise money for Oxfam**

There are lots of fun ways to raise money. Why not organize a concert or a sporting event at your school and sell tickets? Or perhaps you could make cakes and sweets and sell them to people.

- **Give an Oxfam gift**

Are you looking for a special gift for a friend? When you buy an Oxfam gift, your friend will get a card and Oxfam will send a gift to a poor country. The gift can be something like a meal, clean water, a tree or a goat. Sometimes a few friends put their money together to buy a big gift, like a water tank to give clean water to a whole village.

- **Read and learn**

It is important to learn about what is happening in the world. Read newspapers and use the Internet to learn more about the world we live in. There are lots of ideas for school on the Oxfam website, with information about disasters, famine, clean water and environmental subjects. When you know about the problems in the world, you can start to look for solutions.

- **Spread the word**

Your friends and family care about what you think, so tell them your ideas. What do you want to change in the world? How do you think we can make that change? Talking to people is the first step to making things happen. You can find people with the same opinions and ideas and work together to make your world a better place.

Vocabulary

3 Use the words from the text to complete the sentences.

- 1 Oxfam helps victims of famine and other disasters.
- 2 When there is a _____, a lot of water covers the land.
- 3 Scientists are trying to find _____ to the problem of pollution.
- 4 When there is a _____, the wind can pull off the roofs of houses.
- 5 Floods and earthquakes are natural _____.
- 6 A _____ happens when there is not enough food in a country.
- 7 My aunt works for a _____. They collect money for ill children.
- 8 When houses are destroyed in a flood, people have no _____.
- 9 There are poor people in all countries. Sadly, _____ is a global problem.
- 10 Our school sold cakes to _____ money for charity.

Reading comprehension

4 Write *True* or *False*.

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------|
| 1 | Oxfam started 100 years ago. | False _____ |
| 2 | At first, Oxfam had another name. | _____ |
| 3 | Oxfam works in lots of countries. | _____ |
| 4 | Oxfam doesn't try to help people when there are floods. | _____ |
| 5 | You can sell cakes to help Oxfam. | _____ |
| 6 | You can pay for a new water tank in a poor village. | _____ |
| 7 | Oxfam is going to have a website next year. | _____ |
| 8 | It's important to tell people what you think. | _____ |

5 Circle the correct words to make true sentences.

- Oxfam wants to make people's lives / jobs better.
- When it began, Oxfam wanted to help victims of *floods* / *famine*.
- In some places, Oxfam trains *health workers* / *police officers*.
- Oxfam builds *shopping centres* / *schools* in some countries.
- Oxfam makes sure people have clean *homes* / *water*.
- You can organize *football matches* / *exams* to raise money for Oxfam.
- We can learn more about our world from *newspapers* / *computer games*.
- The *Oxford* / *Oxfam* website can tell you how to help people.

6 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | Oxfam is | a | people who are hungry. |
| 2 | Oxfam helps | b | has built schools. |
| 3 | When there are natural disasters, | c | your friend will get a card. |
| 4 | In some places, Oxfam | d | we can make a better world. |
| 5 | You can do lots of things | e | a very large charity. |
| 6 | If you buy your friend an Oxfam gift, | f | Oxfam tries to help. |
| 7 | Then Oxfam will send the gift | g | to people in a poor country. |
| 8 | If we all work together, | h | to raise money for Oxfam. |

7 Discuss these questions with a partner or with your class.

- Do you think Oxfam is a good organization? Why or why not?
- What charities are there in your country? How do they help people?
- How do you try to help other people?



GIRLS RAISE MONEY FOR HOSPITAL

Kent schoolgirls Lily and Poppy Brook have collected £80 for their local hospital. Last month, their brother Olly's life was saved by the hospital's emergency team after he was in a bike accident. The girls decided to say 'thank you' by raising money for new equipment at the hospital.

They put on fancy dress costumes to get people's attention and asked them to donate money. They collected £80 in only one hour! Lily and Poppy now want to do more. They plan to have a collection at school next month. 'We want to make sure the hospital continues to save lives,' said Lily.

When you write a news report ...

- Write a short **headline** in the present tense. Don't use *the* or *a*.

GIRLS RAISE MONEY FOR HOSPITAL

- When you describe people, you can **put information before their names**:

Kent schoolgirls Lily and Poppy ...

- Use **quotes** to make the report more interesting:

'We want to make sure the hospital ...'

- 8 Change these sentences into news report sentences. Put information before peoples' names.

- 1 Sita Patel, who is a teenager from London, raised £250.
- 2 Ivan Zukov, who is a doctor working at the Manchester Hospital, saved her life.
- 3 Mary Connolly, who is an ambulance driver from Belfast, was first to arrive.
- 4 Mr and Mrs Parsons, who are tourists visiting from Canada, saw the accident.

- 9 Write a newspaper report. Use the information below.

LONDON SCHOOLBOY SELLS PAINTINGS FOR FLOOD VICTIMS

Name	Jack Walters (aged 14)	Quote	"I was going to sell my paintings for £1 each, but people wanted to pay more. One man paid £100 for a painting."
Sold	his paintings		
Raised	over £400		
Disaster	flood in Thailand		