



A Spring of Hope

a drop in the bucket

INFORMATION PACKET





“I can’t say enough about A Spring of Hope! They are dramatically changing children’s lives for the better in South Africa. For 3 years, my third grade students have participated in the ‘Drop in the Bucket’ program, donating their dollars, or any spare change that they can, to help bring clean water to children halfway around the world. The message my kids learn through all of this is that 8 and 9 year-olds can make a difference - and A Spring of Hope keeps in touch with us long after they receive our donations. We get ongoing emails & photos of the children at the school we sponsor as they experience the new well and clean water for the first time. My students have also corresponded through emails back & forth with the students there, benefiting from this personal connection, as well. It’s a truly gratifying experience for my kids, to see first-hand the difference they can make!”

————— *Lynn Scheckenbach, Bridle Path Elementary* —————

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in A Spring of Hope's 'A Drop In The Bucket' Program!

This program offers a real life and philanthropic connection to your class's environmental science curriculum.

Your class will learn about the importance of water, the water cycle, water conservation and sustainable agriculture while raising funds for a garden project at a school in rural South Africa.

This packet will take you through the steps of:

- 1 Registering your class in A Spring of Hope's 'A Drop In The Bucket' Program
- 2 Introducing A Spring of Hope to your class
- 3 Deciding a fundraiser that is best for your class/school
- 4 Implementing the workbook and storybook into your classroom
- 5 Connecting your students to students at your sister school in South Africa
- 6 Celebrating World Water Day With A Spring of Hope

OUR MATERIALS

When you register for this program you will receive some materials that will help introduce A Spring of Hope and connect our projects to your class curriculum.

Our Storybook

You will receive a storybook to read to your class and keep in your classroom. This book was written and illustrated by the young students at our flagship school, Beretta Primary School. In this book, the students share what it was like when A Spring of Hope drilled a well at Beretta and how their school transformed.





Our Workbook

Every student will receive a workbook. Our workbook provides fun and educational activities that your students can work on throughout your water focused week.

Activities include:

- Reflection on water usage in America vs. South Africa
- Word Search With Water Vocabulary
- Measuring Steps To Water Fountain/Sink
- Fill In The Blanks of The Water Cycle
- Ways To Conserve Water
- Bottled Water Vs. Tapped Water
- Glossary defining key terms



THE PROGRAM

How To Get Started

To register for this program, please reach out to anni@aspringofhope.org. Please include your name, contact information, grade you teach, school name, and the shipping address for the workbook and storybook.

Once Emily gets your information she will reach out and send the materials to you.

We are happy to answer any questions you have on the program and assist you with creating a fundraiser that is best for your class and school.

Introducing A Spring of Hope

Once you receive the workbooks and storybooks you will be ready to introduce A Spring of Hope to your class. We suggest starting with the storybook, reading the book to your class and facilitating a conversation about the importance of water and what it may be like to live without easy access to water. You can then use our website to discuss our programs and how your class will be supporting the health of students in rural South Africa. Our Program Director, Emily is also available to host a presentation virtually to talk more about A Spring of Hope and South Africa. To introduce the program to parents we have a sample letter that can be used to send home.





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Dear Parents,

This year our class will be participating in a very special project with A Spring of Hope called 'A Drop In The Bucket'. This project will help us in discussing the importance of caring for others and the environment. We will also be pairing this with our lessons on the water cycle and the importance of clean drinking water across the globe.

Through the next few weeks, we will be raising money for A Spring of Hope to help start a school garden for _____, a school in Mpumalanga, South Africa. A Spring of Hope works to equip schools in rural South Africa with the tools they need to see their students succeed; this includes access to safe drinking water and nutritious fruits and vegetables. They have over 48 partner schools where they have installed water wells, improved sanitation, and have introduced gardening and cooking programs.

To help connect further with _____, our class will be participating in a letter exchange with the students at the primary school. Our class will have the opportunity to ask questions directly with students at the school and learn about their daily life and culture.

Please encourage your child to do a special job to earn a dollar to send in, or simply bring in any spare change. Everything counts and is "A Drop In The Bucket"! The last day to send in money will be _____. On that day we will total up the money collected and send our donations to A Spring of Hope! A Spring of Hope will keep us updated on the progress of the school garden and will send pictures and videos to us.

You can find more information on A Spring of Hope at their website, aspringofhope.org. I have also attached a report on _____ and a description of their current needs.

I am looking forward to our class participating in this project and I am excited to support A Spring of Hope in their journey to bring clean water to schools in rural South Africa.

Thank you

Fundraising for a Garden Project

Once you sign up for this program, you will be paired with a school in Mpumalanga, South Africa that is in need of garden materials and garden support. The cost of sponsoring a garden is \$2,500.

A school garden project includes:

- Sustainable Gardening Workshops for staff, teachers, and students
- Assistance with designing and creating a garden
- Garden tools
- Shade netting that will protect the garden from the direct sun during the hot summers
- Mulch & Manure
- Seedlings
- Fruit Trees

There are several ways to fundraise with your class and it is really up to you and your school

on how you would like to do so. Fundraising can be as simple as collecting spare change in a bucket for a week or month while your class learns about water and works through the materials provided.

Other Fundraising Ideas Include:

- Candy Sale or Pretzel Sale
- Schoolwide Walk For Water
- Schoolwide Movie Night

**Our team is available to assist with planning a larger school wide fundraiser*

Once your fundraiser concludes and the donations are received we will begin the garden project at your sister school. We will keep your class updated every step of the way with pictures, videos, and a thank you letter to share with the students and send home to parents.



Connecting with Your Curriculum

Our workbooks provide a great connection to your science curriculum surrounding Earth Systems and Earth & Human Activity. Our projects provide a great example of the importance of water conservation, sustainable agriculture, and sanitation in communities most vulnerable to climate change. Our workbook focuses on helping explain how fortunate we are to live in such a resource rich area and how we often take water for granted.

To further connect with the curriculum, our team is also happy to host a virtual mini lesson teaching your students about our gardens and how the climate and lack of water affects the growth in gardens and how we can solve these issues with sustainable gardening practices.

Connecting with Your Sister School

We will send you a packet with pictures and information of the school you are supporting to share with your students. You will be matched with a primary school and a class that is the same grade as yours. We are happy to set up a pen pal exchange so that your students can practice their writing skills, ask questions

of students in South Africa, and further connect with the program.

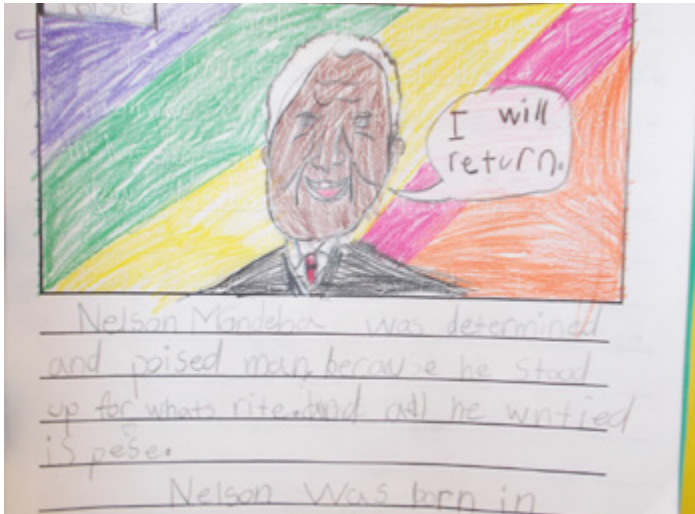
We will also share videos and we will keep you updated with the progress of the school garden.



Celebrate World Water Day With Us

Join us in celebrating World Water Day! On March 22nd, plan some fun activities for your students that will spark conversation about the importance of water. You can host a school wide Walk For Water, getting all students and faculty involved. Women and children in Africa walk on average 3.7 miles to collect water. To represent this, a Walk For Water would include having students carry a bucket of water the distance of 3.7 miles (or as far as possible/ many laps around a track). We are also happy to come to your school or video call-in to discuss A Spring of Hope more and our water projects at our partner schools. We are happy to help you find the perfect activity for your school during World Water Day! Please reach out to us to learn more, emily@aspringofhope.org.

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