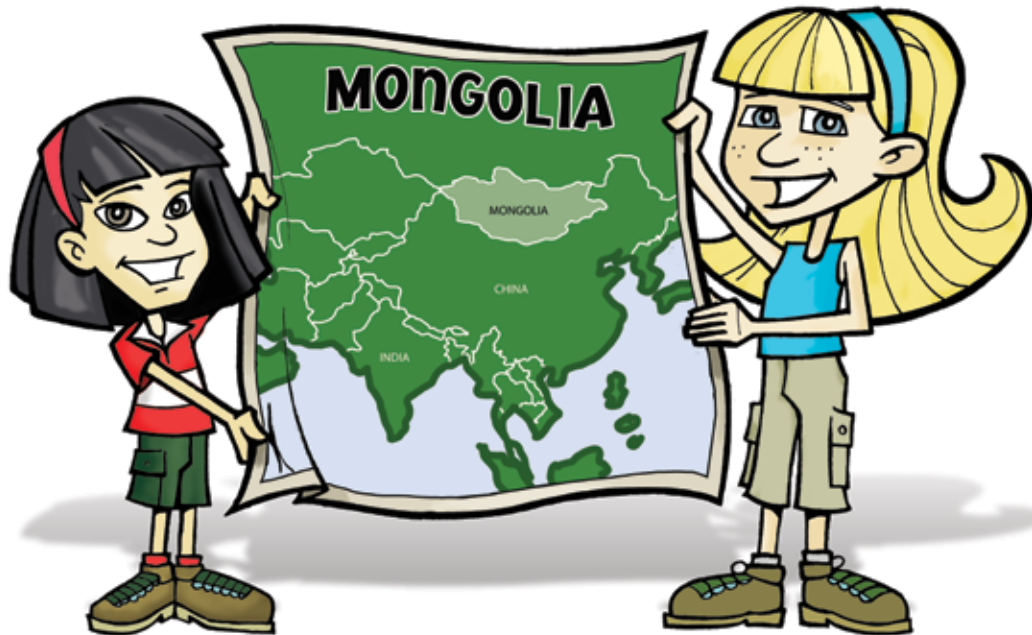


GOKIDZ

MISSIONS ADVENTURE!



WEEK FOUR

MONGOLIA



Class



Greetings

Greet the children in Mongolian, “San banool,” the response to which is “San San banool.” Or, say the more informal “Hi” used among close friends, “Sanool”; the response is “San Sanool.”

Story

Bernie and Renee Anderson tell about the children living on the streets of Ulaanbaatar.

Link: <http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/anderson-bernie-renee>

One of the saddest things to see in Mongolia is the huge number of homeless children living in the capital city, who range from three years of age to older teenagers. Street life is quite difficult.

In the summer time, you can find these children all over the city begging for money and food, especially from foreigners, and sneaking into restaurants and grocery stores.

Some sit on the sidewalks singing mournful songs, hoping passersby will place money in the upturned hat that they have placed in front of them. Some of these youth can be quite persistent.

Beyond being hungry, these kids live in unhealthy, unsanitary conditions and don't have parents to teach them right from wrong. They can't play like children and are forced to grow up quickly and care for themselves.

In the winter it gets very cold in Mongolia. This is when the kids move from the streets to the sewers. Under the streets the city's hot water pipes keep them warm, and the children can survive the winter. But it is filthy and unpleasant.

It is a challenge to minister to these children because they are constantly moving around the city, often not staying in the same place. Some are orphans, but many have run away from abusive families or families too poor to take care of them.

Our missionaries to Mongolia are working to train Mongolian Christians to reach out to those around them who are in need, including the kids living on Ulaanbaatar's streets.

Read Matthew 25:31–46, and ask the following questions:

1. How can we give the Lord something to eat and drink?
2. We don't live in Mongolia, but how can we help the street kids in Ulaanbaatar?
3. How can we help people living in this country, in our city, who are poor?



Prayer

Encourage the students to pray for the street kids. Have them pray specifically for Mongolian Christians to have compassion on these children and show them the love and mercy of Christ. You can also pray for Bernie and Renee Anderson. Check their Web site for more prayer requests. <http://www.remembermongolia.org>



For the one-hour class, use the “Greetings” and “Story” components suggested for this week’s 10-minute class; add some, or all, of the additional activities listed below.

Video

Watch an outstanding video on YouTube [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZyZ8ohaqc>] that features children singing a Mongolian children’s song and includes photos of the country.

Mongolia’s Children (Photos)

Teacher’s Note: Share with your class the following facts that are also captions to correspond with 11 photos for this week’s lesson. (Feel free to use the PowerPoint presentation or print the photos and mount them on cardstock.)

1. A lot of children live in Mongolia; more than half of the country’s population is younger than 30 years of age. Mongolians feel it is very important to raise their children well.
2. Mongolian traditions say that you must never frighten a woman who is going to have a baby, or make her unhappy, so that the baby will be happy.
3. Those who live in the countryside teach their children about how to raise animals.
4. Parents want their children to grow up strong so that they can help with the herds. They make sure their children drink milk and eat healthy foods.
5. As the children grow, they are given toys and taught games that help to sharpen their intellects, and encourage them to be honest and trustworthy.
6. Children go to school and are also taught Mongolian traditions and customs. Most of the people in the country can read and write.
7. At a young age, children are taught to respect their parents, other people and their possessions, and even nature.
8. Children learn some of the following traditional beliefs:
 - Don’t lean against the support column of a ger because it may bring bad luck.
 - Don’t whistle inside a ger because it may cause heavy rain and strong winds.



- Don't walk in front of older people.
- Don't spill milk, which is considered holy.
- Don't put trash or even water in the fire—it is sacred.
- If you step on a person's foot, immediately shake that person's hand so he/she knows it was an accident.

9. When Mongolia received its independence from Russia, many people lost their jobs. Families moved into the cities so fathers could find work.
10. The Russians also introduced Mongolians to alcohol. Some men began to drink when they couldn't find work and didn't treat their children kindly anymore. Kids began to run away from abusive fathers.
11. Can you guess how old this boy living on the streets was when the picture was taken? Although he was only 12 at the time, his face looks much older since life on the street is so hard. Pray for Mongolian Christians as they seek ways to work with these children and that the kids on the streets will come to know the love of Christ through these efforts.

Game: Tsorog-Bombog

Encourage your students to play this game that Mongolian children enjoy. It is best played in a gym or parking lot.

Supplies:

- Two cardboard cones/funnels and tape (The opening on the narrow end should be about one inch in diameter; the wide end should be large enough for a child to put his or her face into it; secure the funnels with the tape.)
- Four chairs and two small wooden blocks (Set two of the chairs next to each other, about four yards apart. Set the two additional chairs opposite the first set of chairs, about 12 yards away on the playing field.)

Directions:

To begin the game, two players each sit on a chair at one end of the playing field; each has a wooden block in front of his or her feet. When you say "Go!" the players put the funnels up to their faces and hold them as they begin kicking their respective blocks to the other end of the room. (They need to hold the funnels on their faces the entire race and not peek.) Once a block is kicked it can easily go out of sight, so the players need to keep looking for their respective blocks in order to kick them again. Be sure the players are kicking the blocks, not dragging them.

The goal is to kick the block between the legs of the second chair at the other end of the playing field; the winner is the first person to do so.

You may want to make the blocks different colors in the event that they cross paths. You may also want to play Tsorog-Bombog as a relay.

Prayer & Review

Make a copy of several of the pictures shown over the past few weeks during your study of Mongolia. As you hold up a picture, encourage the kids to remember what was talked about, and then say one sentence prayers for the missionaries and people of Mongolia.