



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES WITH THE COMMUNITY

Hygiene Program/Hygiene Kits

One of the greatest lessons we can pass on to our Honduras friends is improved hygiene and its resultant improved health. Our staff does a lot of training in the communities on this subject.

HOI's Medical Committee asks that teams are intentional about donating hygiene kits for the children in the community where you will serve. Please bring enough child size toothbrushes and tubes of toothpaste for each child according to the Village Information supplied to your team. Team members are also asked to include a lesson on tooth brushing and a demonstration in the week's activities.

Prior to your trip, collect the items needed according to the information below. Packets can be made up before you start work in the village. Collecting the items needed is a good way to involve your entire church, especially the children, in the mission team effort. This activity can make the mission trip "come alive." While the team members may be the ones handing out the packets, the whole church is, in reality, in mission.

Each packet will consist of a one gallon, heavy duty zip-lock freezer bag which holds

- a plastic sandwich baggie to separate the bar of soap from the other items
- bath-sized bar of soap
- a child-sized toothbrush
- a 4.6 oz tube of toothpaste
- a 7-9 oz sturdy plastic cup. Please make sure the cup will not crack or break too easily and that the cup meets the size requirements so that it fits into the plastic bag.
- a comb without a pointed handle for a child

Do not include toys or candy. You can enclose any personal message or decoration you would like a Honduran child to receive.

Teams can pre-purchase toothpaste and toothbrushes using the Supply Request Form provided in section 08 of the full HOI manual.

Children's Bible School

One opportunity during your mission trip to Rancho el Paraiso is to offer Bible School for the children in the community where your team will be working. We strongly encourage this activity because it not only presents the Good News of Jesus Christ to the children but it also becomes a teaching / learning vehicle for Hondurans as well as North Americans.

This is an opportunity

- to make Bible stories come alive for the local children
- for North Americans to re-visit familiar Bible stories and see them through the eyes of a rural, Honduran child
- to model for the school teacher new and fun ways to teach while you are interacting with the children and using creative, varied teaching methods.
- to enjoy intimate cultural interaction between North Americans and Hondurans.
- for North Americans to see how much is done and can be done with so little.

School is in session in Honduras from early February to mid-November. Some schools meet all day. Some have lower grades one half of the day and the upper elementary during the other half day. Most schools have as many as 70 children in grades 1 through 6 with one teacher.

If your group is going to work in the school, we will do all that we can to learn how the village school operates so you (and the teacher and children) can be prepared. Our desire is that if you choose this component that it be handled as a Vacation Bible School presentation. Although Honduran elementary schools are government operated, we are allowed to teach Bible lessons. **It would be best to plan on having VBS in the mornings (from when your team arrives in the community up until lunch). Please plan for at least 3 hours of VBS each day.**

HOI suggests that the teaching team include music, crafts, skits, games, developmental toys, puzzles and active learning ideas in lesson planning. A variety of activities will allow the children to internalize the stories by using all their senses to learn. During your planning sessions in the US, please remember to make nametags for each person on your teaching team. Just like VBS in the States, on the first day of class, be prepared to make nametags that are sturdy enough to last the week for each child. Ask the school teacher to help with spelling and writing so you can read the names.

When planning your lessons, please be aware that

- Honduran children have a much greater attention span than most North American children. Be flexible regarding time.
- Be prepared to spend more time on a project if necessary or begin something new earlier than planned. Many have never seen or done a puzzle or a sewing card. Most have never participated in a skit. If you do have the children act out a Bible story as a skit, be sure to allow time to repeat it many times so that each child may participate. Remember to include the school teacher in the skit also, as he / she may not have had the opportunity to play a role before. The children will love seeing their teacher “ham it up.”
- Because the children in rural Honduras do not have regular access to crayons and scissors as young children, their hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills are not as developed as North American children of the same age.
- Most have not been on a scavenger hunt.

The ultimate reward in this teaching / learning experience comes when the school teacher “catches on” and takes over. You will see the excitement in the teacher’s eyes when he / she has the “lights on” revelation that teaching can be approached in new and creative ways. Please let the school teacher take over the reins of the classroom, her students and the lesson. Remember that we North Americans are enablers and encouragers, helping to train the teacher as well as cherish the children.

As you conduct the Bible School activities, you will have many spectators. Parents, siblings, babies—everyone comes, including children who have dropped out of school. Although your teaching will focus on the children and teacher in the classroom, your lessons (as well as your attitude, actions and joy) will be observed by many in the village.

Regrettably, we ask that only children registered for school be allowed to participate in the Bible School activity when working in the school. Although it is hard to deny them the fun and excitement of being with their friends and the North American team members, experience tells us that if these children are not permitted to participate, they may be motivated to return to school the following year just so they can participate when the group returns. This is “tough love” but has worked on many occasions in the past to keep children in school or to motivate children to return to school.

Tips on planning craft activities:

- Do not use food as part of the craft. Hondurans regard food only as something to eat and not as something to play with.
- Glue sticks usually work better than liquid school glue, such as Elmer’s.
- Children willingly share crayons so there is no need for each child to have his / her own supply

- Older siblings usually help their younger brothers and sisters
- The children (and teachers) love to have their photos taken—often the only pictures they have of themselves. A photo printer is available for groups' use at the Ranch. Please contact the Missions Coordinator to learn what type of paper and ink is needed for the printer.
- Children especially like crafts they can take home. They can show their parents what they made and relate the accompanying Bible story, thereby involving and educating the entire family.

Tips on planning music:

- The children love to sing...beginning each session with a song is a great ice-breaker.
- Learn a few songs in Spanish that you can teach the children with hand motions.
- Write the words (in Spanish!) on a large poster, so the children can read them.

Whatever creative directions your planning takes you, have a great time with the kids. Teach them the love of Jesus Christ. Prepare them to participate in the Dedication Ceremony by singing songs they have learned with you or to re-enact one of skits they did earlier in the week. Prepare yourselves to experience a defining moment in your life and lose your heart to these wonderful children.

Family Prayer Visits:

If a mission team is interested in family prayer visits, the Ranch Pastor will reach out to the community to see who would like to pray and share stories with their North American brothers and sisters. This is a very casual meeting and a wonderful opportunity to create deeper bonds with the folks you'll be working alongside throughout the week. Two or three people from your mission team will accompany HOI's Ranch Pastor one day during the week to visit a few families. He will begin the discussion with introductions and guide the conversation. You are welcome to share scripture, your spiritual journey or something God puts on your heart. It is a time to share God's love with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Cooking Demonstration:

Our Agriculture, Medical, and Community Development programs have collaborated to address the nutritional needs of the residents in the villages we serve. The medical program has identified where malnutrition is prevalent and the Ag Program has identified nutritional needs and vegetables that can be grown to expand the diet and improve the health of the families in need.

The community development program is partnering with our mission teams to demonstrate cooking methods designed to encourage eating new (to them) produce and which help to retain the vitamin content of the food, and include them in their diet.

A cooking demonstration would take place one afternoon in the community your team is partnered with. If someone on your team is interested in leading a cooking demo, please contact the Mission Coordinator for more details (sample recipes, list of available ingredients to plan recipes around, etc.)

USEFUL SPANISH TERMS & PHRASES

English

Hello
How are you?
Very well, thank you
Very badly
So, so
Good morning
Good afternoon
Good night
So long (See you soon)
So long (Until we see each other again)
Good bye
Yes / No
My name is.....
What is your name?
Nice to meet you
Delighted
I live in....
Please / Thank you
You are welcome
I am on a Christian Mission trip
Where is....?
Where is the room key?

Construction terms

hammer
nail
wood
measure / measurement
shovel
concrete
cemento
handsaw
sand
hole
chimney
block(of wood)
hose
rake
desk

Food and meals

breakfast
eggs
beans
cereal
fried sweet rolls
milk
syrup

Spanish

Hola
¿Cómo está usted?
Muy bien, gracias
Muy mal
Mas o menos
Buenos días
Buenas tardes
Buenas noches
Hasta luego
Hasta la vista
Adios
Si / no
Me llamo....
¿Cómo se llama usted?
Mucho gusto
Encantado (a)
Vivo en....
por favor / gracias
de nada
Estoy en un viaje misionera Cristiana
¿Dónde es....?
¿Dónde está la llave de la habitación?

el martillo
el clavo
la madera
la medida
la pala
el hormigón/el

el serrucho
la arena
el agujero
la chimenea
el bloque
la manguera
el rastrillo
el pupitre

desayuno
huevos
frijoles
cereal
pan dulce
leche
jarabe

pineapple
watermelon
cheese
cabbage salad
avocado
rice
tortillas
chicken
pork
sausage
spaghetti
beef

Other

plate
cup
napkins
knife
fork
spoon

Numbers

(0) cero, (1) uno, (2) dos, (3) tres, (4) cuatro, (5) cinco, (6) seis, (7) siete, (8) ocho, (9) nueve, (10) diez, (11) once, (12) doce, (13) trece, (14) catorce, (15) quince, (16) dieciséis, (17) diecisiete, (18) dieciocho, (19) diecinueve, (20) veinte

Days of the Week

Sunday
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

Months of the Year

January
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December

piña
sandia
queso
ensalada de repollo
aguacate
arroz
tortillas
pollo
cerdo
salchicha
spaghetti
carne de res

les Otros

plato
taza
servilletas
cuchillo
tenedor
cucharita

el domingo
el lunes
el martes
el miércoles
el jueves
el viernes
el sábado

enero
febrero
marzo
abril
mayo
junio
julio
agosto
septiembre
octubre
noviembre
diciembre