



compassion

explorer

→ CENTRAL AMERICA



THANK You
for Your
Love



WELCOME TO MY WORLD!
Life in Haiti



What's Inside?



Welcome!

Hola, Compassion Explorers! Do you like to learn about kids from other cultures? If so, you've come to the right place. There is a lot to check out in this issue, so let's get to it!

COUNTRIES IN CENTRAL AMERICA WHERE COMPASSION WORKS



Welcome to My World!

Learn about Haiti and how two kids survived the earthquake last January.

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About the Cover

This sponsored girl from Haiti is thankful for Compassion sponsors like you!



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Compassionate Kids

Help for Haiti

The earthquake in Haiti left more than 1 million families homeless. When compassionate kids across the United States heard that news, they rallied to raise money to help kids in Haiti. Check out some of the cool things they have done!



Birthday Blessings

Sierra, Age 11
South Carolina

Sierra asked her friends to bring money for Haiti to her birthday party instead of presents.



Hot Dog!

Kids Alley Learning Center
New Jersey

Students at Kids Alley Learning Center sold hot dogs to raise money for Haiti.



A Yard Sale for Haiti

Calvary Chapel
South Carolina

Kids from Calvary Chapel sold their toys at a yard sale.



Thanks to kids like these, Haitian kids have received school desks, meals, tents, medicine and more!



So far compassionate kids have raised more than \$16,000 to help Haiti! Awesome!

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EDITOR
Leanna Summers

PROOFREADING AND EDITING
Colleen Keefe, Suellen Wenz and Debby Weaver

DESIGNERS
Josh Lewis and Callie Wilburn

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Chuck Bigger and Ephraim Lindor

WRITERS
Leanna Summers and Lorie W. Barnes

PRINT PRODUCTION
Michelle Dana

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?
E-mail us at compassionkids@us.ci.org or write to Compassion International, Attn: Compassion Explorer Magazine Editor, 12290 Voyager Parkway, Colorado Springs, CO 80921.

WELCOME TO MY WORLD!

Life in Haiti

After the Earthquake



Rosemita holds up the door that saved her boys' lives. They are standing on what's left of their house.

Learn how two brothers survived the scary earthquake last January.

On Jan. 12, 2010, a 7.0-magnitude earthquake struck 10 miles off the coast of Port-au-Prince, Haiti. More than 200,000 people were killed, and 245,000 homes and buildings were damaged or destroyed. People died because their homes and buildings were not built with strong materials because they couldn't afford the materials.

A Scary Day

Wesley and his brother, Kerby, are Compassion-sponsored kids. Wesley is 12 years old, and Kerby is 9. During the earthquake the brothers were inside their home when it crumbled down around them.

Wesley's legs were broken, and Kerby hurt his head, but their home's metal door helped protect them. Their mother, Rosemita, was working in town and rushed home after the quake hit. She dug through the pile of concrete rubble for three hours to get the boys out.

Once they were found, Compassion helped the boys see a doctor. Wesley needed a cast on each leg and crutches. Compassion also gave the family a tent so they would have a place to sleep. But mud leaked inside when it rained, so Compassion helped them build a better house.

➤ TURN PAGE FOR MORE

Haiti



CAPITAL CITY	Port-au-Prince
POPULATION	9,648,924
RELIGIONS	Christian 96% (Roman Catholic 80%, Protestant 16%), none 1%, other 3% <i>Note: About 50% also practice Voodoo</i>
LANGUAGES	French, Creole
CURRENCY	Gourde
LITERACY	People over 15: 52.9%





The earthquake was scary, and so it is important for the boys to talk about how they feel. Wesley is talking to a counselor at Compassion's child development center.



Earthquakes happen when two blocks of earth slip past each other.

1 A New House

Wesley's new home is stronger than a tent and keeps the rain and mud out.

2 Helping Mom

Wesley helps his mom carry soap out of their home. She will sell it to make some money. She works from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and earns about 75 gourdes (about \$1.85) for the day.

3 A City of Tents

More than 1 million people are still homeless and are living in tents in Haiti. The rainy season from June to November made the tents very muddy.



Learn a Little Creole!

Creole	English
<i>Kouman ou ye?</i> [Koo-mahn oo jay]	How are you?
<i>Kouman ou rele?</i> [Koo-mahn oo ray-lay]	What is your name?
<i>M rele ...</i> [M ray-lay]	My name is ...

All About Earthquakes

Almost 1.5 million earthquakes occur around the world each year. Many are too small to feel.

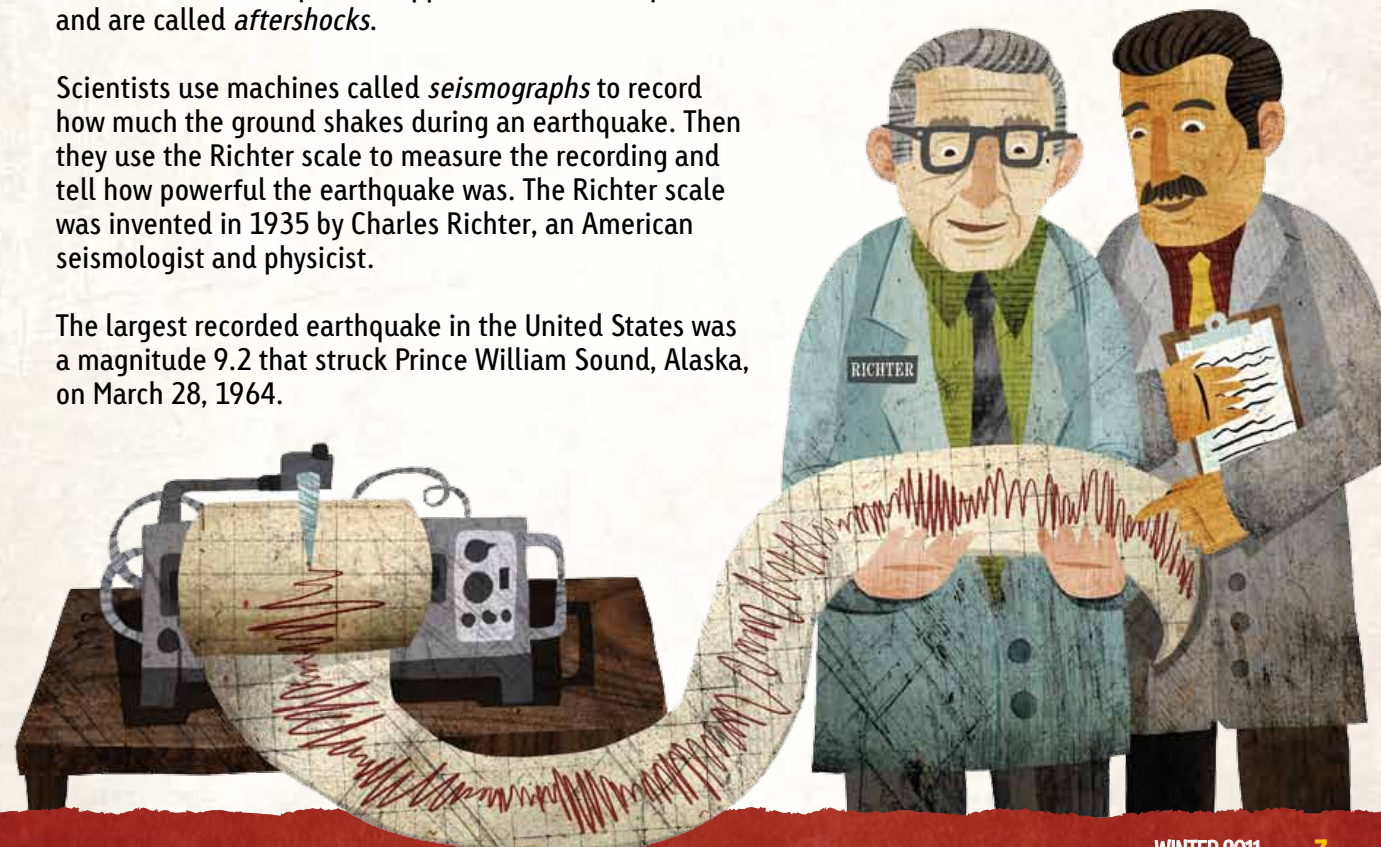
Earthquakes happen when two blocks of earth slip past each other. The place where the earth slips is called the *fault*. Smaller earthquakes happen after an earthquake and are called *aftershocks*.

Scientists use machines called *seismographs* to record how much the ground shakes during an earthquake. Then they use the Richter scale to measure the recording and tell how powerful the earthquake was. The Richter scale was invented in 1935 by Charles Richter, an American seismologist and physicist.

The largest recorded earthquake in the United States was a magnitude 9.2 that struck Prince William Sound, Alaska, on March 28, 1964.

The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.
– Psalm 18:2

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LUKE FLOWERS





Tostadas – Guatemalan Style

¡Estan muy ricas! [Eh-stahn moy reekahs]
(They're really good!)

Makes six tostadas.

Ingredients

- 1 16-oz. jar salsa
- Fresh guacamole
- Beans
- 6 fried flour tortillas
- 1 c. white cheese, such as Monterey Jack, shredded

Directions

- 1 To make the beans, combine the following ingredients in a pot over medium heat, stirring often, until most of the liquid evaporates:
 - 1 tbsp. butter
 - ¼ c. onion, chopped
 - ¼ c. red or green bell pepper, chopped
 - 1 16-oz. can black beans
 - 2 tbsp. water
 - Salt to taste

- 2 To make the guacamole, combine the following ingredients in a bowl:
 - 2 avocados, peeled and mashed
 - ¼ c. onion, chopped
 - 1 tsp. salt and 1 tsp. black pepper
 - 1 tsp. fresh lemon juice

- 3 To fry the tortillas, follow these instructions:
 - Ask a parent to help you pour about ¼ cup of vegetable oil in a skillet and heat it on medium. Next, place each tortilla in the oil, and fry each side checking every 30 seconds until it is crispy. Set the tortillas on paper towels to drain.

- 4 Putting it all together!
 - Once you have made your guacamole, beans and tortillas, spread about ¼ cup of beans on a tortilla, add a scoop of guacamole and a scoop of salsa, sprinkle with some cheese, and enjoy!



The Aztecs in Mexico made guacamole as early as the 16th century. The name comes from the Aztec word *āhuacamolli* [*āhuacatl* (avocado) + *molli* (sauce)].

Pressed Tin Art → BY LORIE W. BARNES

People from Mexico have been making art with pressed tin since the 1600s. It's called *hojalata* [ho-ah-lahta], and here's how you can make your own!

Supplies

- 1 or more metal juice lids
- Hammer
- Nail
- Notepad
- 12 inches of ribbon
- Transparent tape
- Paper and pencil
- Scissors
- Permanent markers (optional)
- Felt (optional)

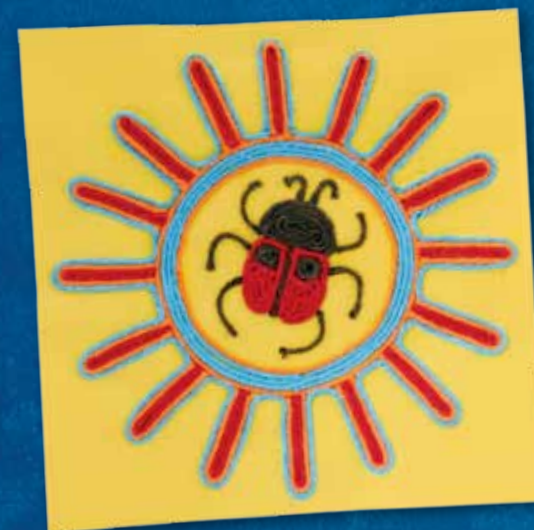


Instructions

- 1 Trace around the outside of the juice lid on paper and draw your own pattern inside the paper circle.
- 2 Cut out your circle pattern and tape it to the center of the lid.
- 3 Put the lid on your notepad.
- 4 Ask a parent to help you place the nail on your pattern and tap it with the hammer until the nail pierces the paper and lid.
- 5 Trace the pattern with nail holes. Keep going until you finish your pattern!
- 6 Remove the paper pattern, create a larger hole near the top of your lid, and tie the ribbon through the hole to hang your art!
- 7 If you'd like, you can decorate the lid with markers and cover the sharp back with a piece of felt.

Huichol [Wee-chol] Yarn Painting → BY LORIE W. BARNES

Isn't it great that you are part of God's story? He loves you and has many adventures ahead for you! The Huichol Indians from Mexico use yarn, scraps of wool, and beeswax to "paint" story-pictures of their lives. You can try it, too!



Supplies

- Yarn (or fabric) scraps
- Glue
- Cardboard or construction paper (about 5 inches x 5 inches)
- Scissors
- Ruler

Instructions

- 1 Draw a design that tells a story about you on your cardboard or construction paper.
- 2 Cut the yarn into short and long lengths.
- 3 Squeeze glue onto the lines of your design.
- 4 Work from left to right and place the yarn on the lines of glue.

Welcome to My Neighborhood!

Poor families can't always afford to replace roofs.

Scraps of tin and wood make each home.

Sponsored Child
Bianchi Gomez Encarnacion,
 age 4,
 Dominican Republic

Bianchi's Mom

Bianchi's House

Bianchi's Brother

This bridge is made from logs, wood scraps and cardboard.

There's no trash service here.

Home, Sweet Home

Compare these homes in Central American countries with the home in the United States. What are some similarities and differences between them? Can you think of other similarities and differences between life in the developing world and life in the United States?

Dominican Republic



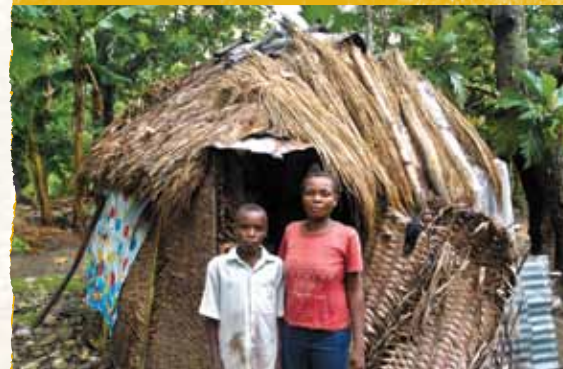
Wood scraps and metal don't always keep the rain out.

Nicaragua



Metal walls get hot in the sun.

Haiti



A grass roof needs to be replaced often.

United States

Sturdy aluminum siding, a tar-paper roof with shingles, and glass windows keep out rain, wind and snow.

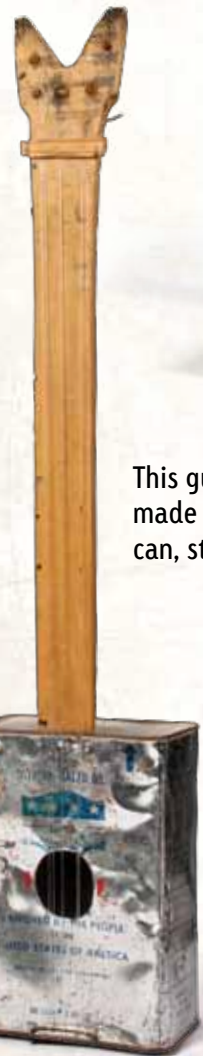


A Treasure Chest of Toys

Take a look at what happens when we use the creativity God gives us. The poorest kids in Central America and the Caribbean can't afford to buy toys, so they make or find fun toys to play with, like these!



Recycled tires are fun to roll!



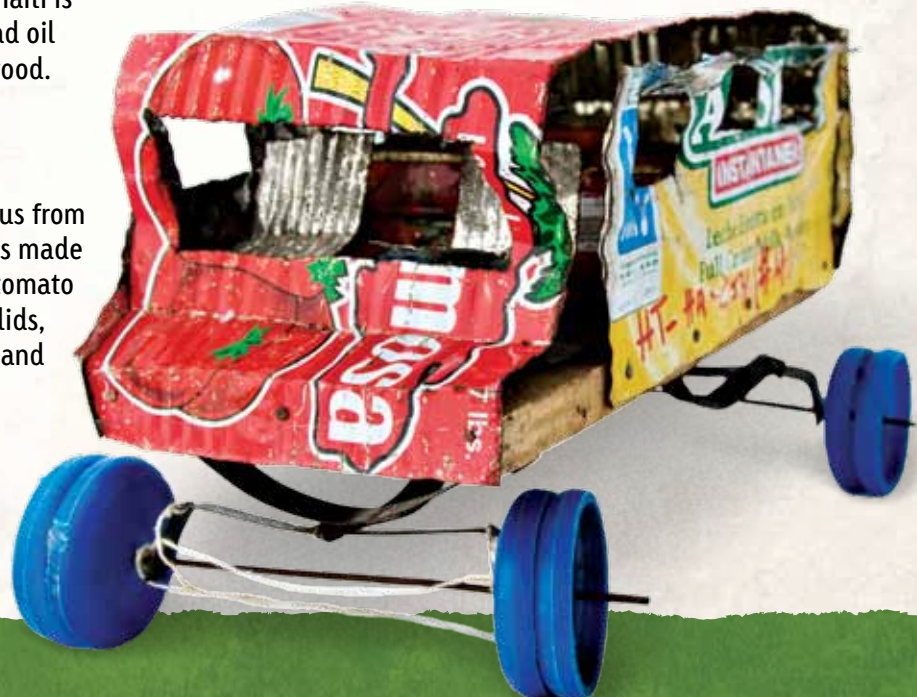
This guitar from Haiti is made from a salad oil can, string and wood.



This plane from the Dominican Republic is made from snack bags and bottle caps.



This helicopter from Nicaragua is made from glue, papier-mâché and aluminum foil.

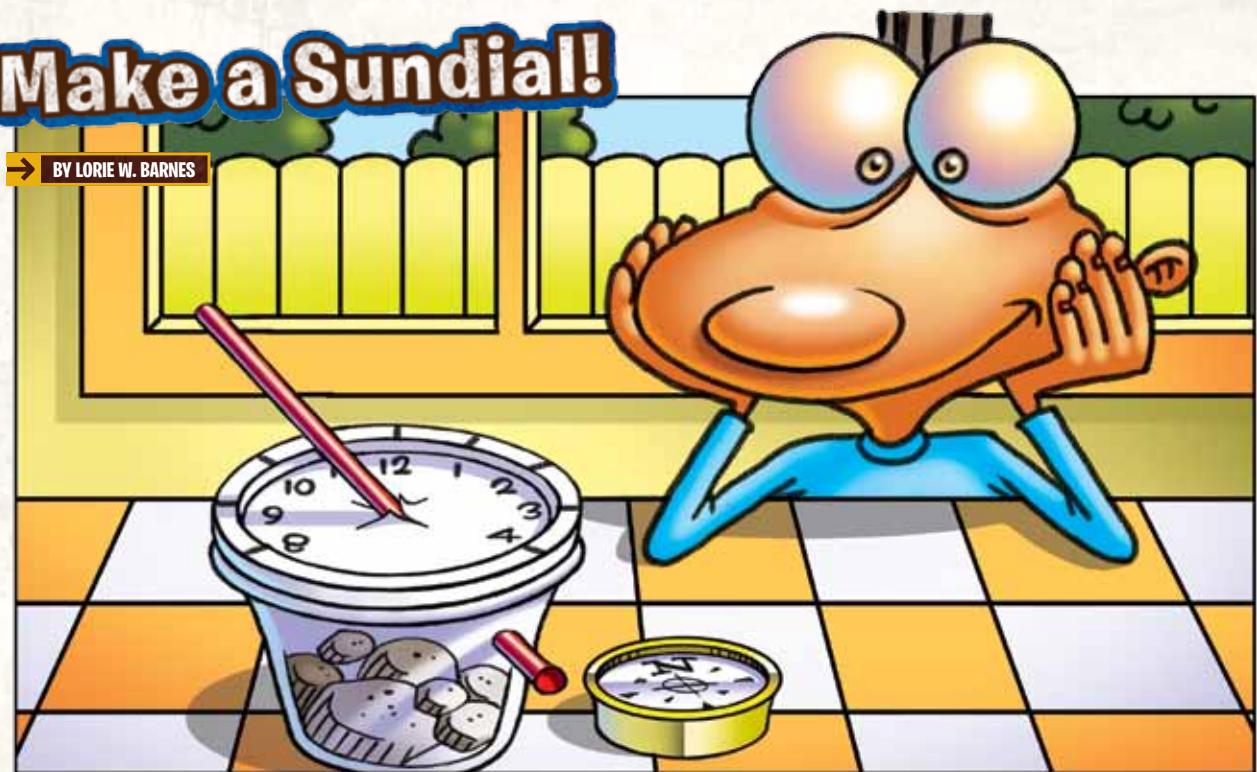


This bus from Haiti is made from tomato cans, lids, wood and wire.

Science Is So Fun!

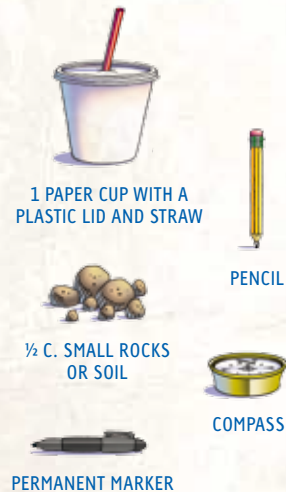
Make a Sundial!

BY LORIE W. BARNES



© STEVE GRAY

Supplies



How to Do the Experiment

- 1 Rinse out the paper cup, lid and straw (if previously used).
- 2 Use a pencil to poke a hole in the side of the cup about 2 inches from the top. Insert the straw in the lid and angle it through the hole you just made.
- 3 Fill the cup with rocks or soil to weight it down so it is not easily knocked over. Put the lid on.
- 4 Place the cup in a sunny window or on a table near sunlight.
- 5 With your compass, find the arrow that points north. Place your cup with the straw facing in the same direction as north on your compass.
- 6 Every hour when the shadow of the straw falls on the lid of the cup, use your marker to mark the lid to show the time. Soon the lid will look like the face of a clock. Repeat this every hour until 3 or 4 p.m. Then, the next time you check your sundial, see if the time on the lid is the same as the time on your clock!

The day is yours, and yours also the night; you established the sun and moon.

– Psalm 74:16

Explorer Notes: You can tell time by looking at your sundial because as the Earth turns, the sun casts a shadow on your straw (pointer) in different places at different times of the day. The pointer of a sundial is called a *gnomon* [nahm-on]. In the Northern Hemisphere (where we live), the shadow moves from left to right (clockwise), just like a clock's hands!

When the sun is rising at your house it's setting on the other side of the world. As you check your sundial, pray for children on the other side of the world.



DID YOU KNOW? The ancient Mayans in Central America used sundials to tell time!

The Grungy Truth About Dirty Water



1 Waste enters the river and bacteria grows.



2 Kids get water from the river.



3 Kids drink the water.



4 Kids get sick.



Compassion helps kids stay healthy by giving them clean water since many can't afford it.

In the developing world, children die every day from preventable illnesses like diarrhea, which they get from drinking unclean water. In fact, nearly one in five child deaths – about 1.5 million each year – is due to diarrhea. It kills more young children than AIDS, malaria and measles combined.

ILLUSTRATION BY LUKE FLOWERS

Being Afraid?

→ BY LORIE W. BARNES

Compassion Explorers, let's discover what God says in His Map for Life: the Bible.

Have you ever been afraid in a storm? Imagine what it would be like to be caught in a storm out on the ocean.

A long time ago many famous explorers sailed the "high seas" of the Caribbean Sea in search of gold and new lands. There were storms, and many explorers were shipwrecked near islands, and their treasures were lost or buried.

The Bible tells us about the apostle Paul who was caught in a storm and was shipwrecked on an island in the Mediterranean Sea. Read or listen to Acts 27:13-44 to find out who was afraid and how God helped.

What treasures did Paul discover so he wasn't afraid? Write each treasure below.

1 Why was Paul not afraid in the storm?

2 How did Paul help the soldiers and the prisoners?

3 How has God helped you when you were afraid?



© Stockphoto.com/DN159



PRAYER

Dear Jesus,
Sometimes I am afraid. Help me to trust You more and to be brave. I pray for _____ (insert the name of a friend) who might be afraid. Also, please help poor kids in Haiti to trust in You when they are afraid, too.

In Your name,
Amen.

Just for Grins and Giggles



Compassion-sponsored kids have fun washing their hands near a center in Nicaragua. They don't always have clean water at their homes, so this is a good way to keep the germs away!

Can you write a caption for this picture?

Send it to: Compassion International,
 Attn: *Compassion Explorer Magazine*
 Editor, 12290 Voyager Parkway, Colorado
 Springs, CO 80921. Or e-mail it to
compassionkids@us.ci.org.

Remember this picture from the Fall 2010 issue of *Compassion Explorer Magazine*? Here are some of your great captions!

Hey, you can hold me too, you know!

Madolyn, 9
 Scranton, Pa.

Give me back my kid. He's very baaaaaad.

Aaron, 11
 Altoona, Pa.

Come on! I'm not planning to take care of two kids!

Judithanne, 11
 Honolulu, Hawaii

Help Mom, I'm being held captive by whateverhisnameis!!!!!!

Andie, 10, and Josie, 9
 Everest, Kan.



Parents, check out our
Bible for kids at
COMPASSION.COM/KIDSBIBLE