



A short test

Question: should young schoolchildren **(a)** help to fetch water or **(b)** attend their early learning classes?

Question: do young children get the best start to their education in **(a)** dilapidated, dangerous and packed classrooms or **(b)** well-maintained, safe classrooms with enough space to learn?

Question: do parents in rural Africa see a good early years' education as **(a)** a waste of time that should be spent on the farm or **(b)** something that will help lift a child and their family out of poverty?

Of course, while the answer to all these questions should be **(b)**, the sad reality is often **(a)**, and this makes the early years of school in rural Africa a false start rather than a head start.

Please send a donation today to help our youngest learners

Here is my donation of: other amount

I enclose my cheque/PO/CAF voucher payable to Build Africa

OR I wish to pay by Mastercard/Visa/American Express/CAF Charity Card/Maestro (Switch)

Card Number

Security Number

Start Date

Expiry Date

Maestro (Switch) Issue No.

/ /

Signature

Date

/ /

If you would prefer not to receive acknowledgement of your gifts, please tick this box

giftaid

www.build-africa.org

Don't forget to check out our wild and wonderful Rafiki Club. Sign up is easy. Details on the back page.

Why IS early learning so important?

Children learn more than just reading, writing and arithmetic in an early learning class. They learn to be confident and sociable too; acquiring essential life skills that help them get the most out of life.

Some startling facts:

- 20% of first year pupils at our primary schools have to retake their first year.
- In some of the districts that we work in only 1 in every 100 students understands a simple English sentence by the end of their third year at primary school.
- Only 23% of Ugandan children in the areas that we work finish primary school.
- Only 5% of children go on to complete secondary school.

But it's not all bad news. Here's what we've done because of your support:

Thanks to your invaluable support, our education programme has worked with 115 schools, improving the lives of 150,000 schoolchildren since 2004. In 2013 alone we improved the education and life prospects of 66,000 schoolchildren in 148 schools.

- Parental support: we've shown uneducated parents how important a great start to school is and helped them support their children at home.

- Buddying up: because school can be scary, we've encouraged older pupils to support the youngsters; we also provide taster days to help them feel comfortable in their new environment.
- Tailored teaching: newly-trained teachers stimulate their youngest learners by using resources imaginatively. And we ensure that there are enough books to go round.

We need you to help our youngest learners. Please donate today.

We need your help to reach more children at this most critical stage of their education. A simple donation can do so much to put our youngest schoolchildren on the road to prosperity. Simply return the donation form in the envelope provided:

- **£20** could provide stimulating books for four children – inspiring pupils and teachers alike;
- **£45** could help us establish a 'getting ready for school club' for our most vulnerable children;
- **£70** could train a School Management Committee member to represent early learners and oversee improvements at school.

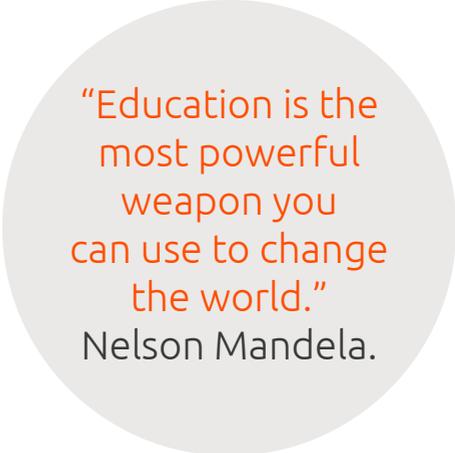
Alternatively, you can change a child's life by donating over the phone or via our website. Call us on **01892 519619** or visit www.build-africa.org/early.

What's next?

By 2018, we want to improve the quality of life of more than a million people in Africa by raising the quality of primary school education and increasing the ability of families to secure sustainable livelihoods. By responding to this appeal, you will be helping us to do just that.

There's more to do to ensure good early learning across rural Africa, but with your help, we can find the answers.

Thank you for your support.



“Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.”
Nelson Mandela.



Everyone wins with our wild and wonderful Rafiki Club

Do you know a 6-11 year old who wants to make friends with children in our Ugandan and Kenyan schools? Our Rafiki Club will give them a fun and rewarding introduction to life and learning in Africa, and much more besides:

The goodies you'll receive include:

- Your very own Jambo the Giraffe toy or collectible eraser set
- Two fantastic audio books for download – 'We All Went On Safari' and 'How The Crane Got Its Crown' – read by actress Penelope Wilton
- Lots of stickers, puzzles and games with an African theme
- A Blott Store voucher offering a special Rafiki discount on a great range of stationery
- Jambo's newsletter three times a year, packed full of fun facts, games and information about Africa, and a special message on your birthday.



Sign up for just £3 per month.

To find out more:

visit build-africa.org/kids

or call 01892 519 619