

## The aim of the project:

- To widen young children's awareness of the lives of other children living overseas.
- To bring some awareness of the dangers posed to children in Uganda Africa from mosquitoes and malaria.
- To involve the children in fund-raising for a good cause.
- To raise funds to be sent to Uganda to purchase mosquito nets to prevent malaria in children and adults.

## Materials provided:

- This leaders' instruction sheet
- "Keeping Children Safe" activity sheets - one for each child to complete with a small square of self-adhesive net.
- Word-Search answer sheet & Word-Maze answers sheet
- Large mosquito poster to be stuck on to a board or table at a height the children can reach to stick on their pieces of netting to cover up the mosquito.
- Spare self-adhesive squares of netting for the children to stick on the mosquito poster.
- Additional copies of any of the above available on request.

## How it works:

Through the use of the materials above, children are encouraged to sympathise with the plight of children whose parents are not able to purchase nets to protect them.

Children are encouraged to contribute £1 for each square of net that will be stuck on the large (50 squares) or medium mosquito poster (25 squares) displayed in a prominent place in the church, school, group, etc. The idea is to encourage the children to purchase enough squares of netting to obscure the whole picture of the mosquito.

This identifies with the idea of creating a barrier between the vulnerable children and the mosquito who wants to bite them. For each large mosquito poster covered with net (50 squares) the proceeds collected will enable Christian Hope International to purchase 5 nets through the Kimmywanyi hospital for distribution to those in need. (2½ nets for a small poster). Additionally, some of the funds collected will be directed towards providing malaria treatment through the hospital for those already ill but unable to purchase medication.

## Activities:

The three activities on the "Keeping Children Safe" sheet are directed towards increasing awareness of the main themes involved. **Children, mosquitoes, illness, prevention.**

Some activities may be too difficult for young children, whilst others (colouring) may be inappropriate for older children.



"Mosquito nets save lives"

## Malaria & Mosquito information

Mosquitoes are found in almost all hot and temperate countries including the UK.

- Mosquito bites in most of Europe will not cause malaria - only discomfort and swelling.
- Only the female mosquito bites - but all mosquitoes get swatted (*no one ever stops to check the gender*).
- The female mosquito needs blood (animal or human) in order to lay her eggs.
- Mosquitoes do not cause malaria, but they are the means of it spreading.
- If the female mosquito bites someone with malaria (caused by the malaria parasite living in the blood) and then bites YOU the infection can be passed on from the sick person to you.
- Female mosquitoes need still water to lay eggs. (*This can be seen in the UK if there are puddles in the garden during the summer or water left standing in buckets, fountains, etc. A close examination will often reveal mosquito larvae just under the surface of the water*).
- For this reason those living near stagnant water (swamps, open drains, etc.) are most at risk.
- Forty-one percent of the world's population live in areas where malaria is transmitted (e.g., parts of Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Central and South America and Oceania).
- In 2006 there were 247,000,000 cases of malaria reported (probably many more were unreported).
- In areas of high malaria transmission, an estimated 881,000 people died of malaria in 2006 – over 2500 deaths per day.
- In 2002, malaria was the fourth largest cause of death in children in developing countries.
- Most victims of malaria are young children - almost 85% in fact.

