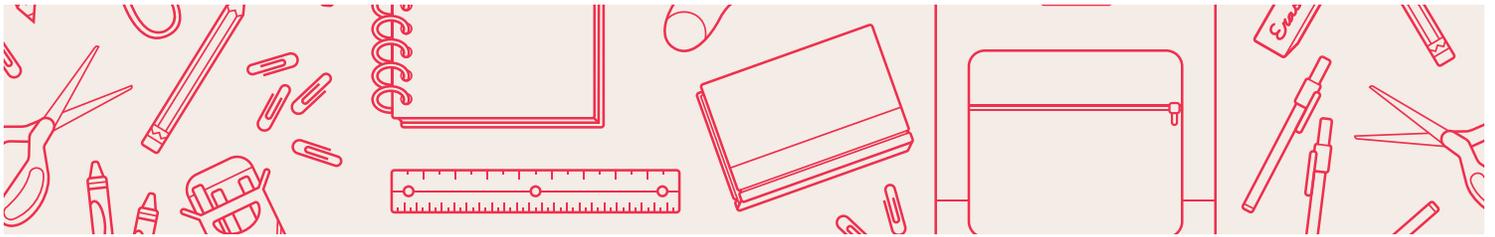




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**GlobalFingerprints  
Children's Ministry Project**



## Dear VBS Director

Why partner with GlobalFingerprints among the hundreds of missions organizations? Simply put, GlobalFingerprints and School Tools will benefit children most organizations can't reach. Because GlobalFingerprints works with trusted EFCA ReachGlobal partners in each country, we can affect kids in areas remote and sometimes hostile to the gospel. By choosing School Tools as the children's ministry project for your summer VBS, you are partnering with local churches in countries around the world to make a difference in the lives of children. Let's help our students see beyond their backyard to love and bless children around the world together!

School Tools is designed as a missions supplement to your VBS program. Use the stories from around the world for your large group time when you talk about your missions project for the week. Highlight continents and countries in your large group setting and choose the activities that make the most sense to add or to replace some of what you are already doing.

The goal of School Tools is to connect our children with children around the world by opening their eyes to the needs of their brothers and sisters, and giving them an opportunity to care for others. Children will be connected through stories, games, and videos. Your kids will also have an opportunity to care by giving money to help provide a hopeful future for children around the globe.

Throughout the world, children want the opportunity to learn. They love to ask questions and satisfy their curiosity. God has blessed us with curious minds and it's amazing to read stories and see pictures of excitement from GlobalFingerprints kids longing to go to school. For many children, their reality asks them to play the role of adult too early and they miss the opportunity to be a child and get an education. For others, access to basic school supplies, like pencils, paper, uniforms and backpacks are extremely limited. This year's donations will go toward tuition, uniforms, and other resources to help children in poverty access opportunities we often take for granted in the United States; a chance to go to school.

As a director who has used this supplement for years, thank you for partnering with us to make a difference around the globe. Have fun helping your kids see through global eyes!

Katie Bliss  
Director of Children's Ministries  
Hope Church, Oakdale, MN

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."*

*"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'"*

*"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"*

Matthew 25:35-40



## Introduction

Vacation Bible School signals a fun and busy time of year. Excited kids and their friends have arrived, and weeks of planning and preparing have happened.

We are ready for a great VBS and, more importantly, to share the gospel with kids. VBS is also a great opportunity to teach kids what God is doing in the lives of children around the world and how to care for the needs of these children. This is where GlobalFingerprints steps in. We designed the following pages as a supplement to the VBS program you chose. The stories found in the following pages are for use in times where you highlight a missions organization and encourage your kids to give. Highlight countries in your large group setting, show videos, and choose the activities that make the most sense to add or to replace some of what you are already doing. Thank you for partnering with us to make a difference in the lives of children here and around the world!

### **Goal of GlobalFingerprints children's ministry project:**

To connect American children with children around the world by opening their eyes to the needs of their brothers and sisters and giving them an opportunity to care for others.

Children have an opportunity to care by giving money to help provide a hopeful future for children across the globe.

### **Why GlobalFingerprints?**

GlobalFingerprints is the child-sponsorship ministry of the Evangelical Free Church of America. Through GlobalFingerprints, and the hands-on care of local congregations, children are fed, educated, nurtured spiritually and cared for medically.

GlobalFingerprints partners in countries and areas not serviced by other sponsorship organizations. The efforts of GlobalFingerprints start with the local church within the country, moving beyond complicating factors of civil unrest and persecution. Children are identified by the local church and needs are met through whatever means the local church sees as the most successful within the cultural context. Countries currently served through GlobalFingerprints include: Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Zambia, Haiti, Panama, India, Myanmar, Indonesia, and Lebanon. In some of these countries, the gospel is direct, in others the local leaders need to take creative approaches to build relationships and spread the love of Christ.

GlobalFingerprints is a unique partnership between the country's local church and American churches.

This summer, make a difference in the lives of children hidden away from the eyes of many.



## School Tools

GlobalFingerprints children's ministry project allows us to make a difference beyond child sponsorship.

For many children, their reality asks them to play the role of adult too early and they miss the opportunity to be a child and go to school. For others, access to basic school supplies, like pencils, paper, uniforms and backpacks are extremely limited. But children around the world love to learn. God has blessed us with active minds and you will be amazed as you read stories and see pictures how much our kids want to learn and go to school. Money raised this year will go toward tuition, uniforms, and other resources to give children in poverty the opportunities we often take for granted in the United States; a chance to go to school.

### How to utilize this curriculum supplement:

In the following pages, you will find stories and explanations of the goals of School Tools for this year. Use these stories, PowerPoint slides, and videos in your large group gatherings for VBS. We want to give our kids a chance to step into another world and relate to the children there.

Day 1: Intro	page 5
Day 2: Africa	page 6
Day 3: Latin America	page 7
Day 4: Asia	page 8
Day 5: Middle East	page 9
Parent Communication	page 10

Powerpoint slides are included in resources download. Videos can be accessed at [efca.org/school-tools](http://efca.org/school-tools).

Have fun helping your kids see through global eyes!



## Day 1: Intro

(Show intro video)

This year we are partnering with GlobalFingerprints to help kids around the world get what they need for school.

**Ask:** What things do you need for school? (allow kids to answer)

### GAME

**Supplies** — Two backpacks and basic school supplies (lunch box, notebooks, text books, pencils, paper, crayons, scissors for each backpack).

**Play** — Select two teams of kids (perhaps each team could be a child from each grade level at VBS). Set up starting and finish lines. Have the children run a relay where they take one supply to the backpack and pack it for school. Have a simple prize for each team (e.g., a box of crayons per person, pencil, or the music CD from your VBS).

**Ask** — How many of you enjoy getting a new box of crayons or colored pencils for school? Can you imagine living somewhere where these supplies were hard to find? Can you imagine not having the supplies you need for school?

### LESSON

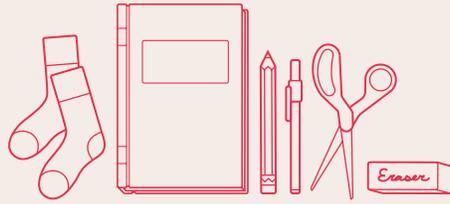
For kids around the world, this is their reality. School for these kids costs money to attend. Schools are often very simple like this mud hut (show picture). Schools lack textbooks and basic supplies. (Show picture of the inside of a school). Many times, there are no chalk boards and no paper. Kids have to memorize all their work.

What can you do? This week you can bring allowance money or raise money to donate to the GlobalFingerprints School Tools project and help a child on another continent go to school. Your money can buy books, paper and pay for tuition (show pictures of items).

Our goal this week is to raise \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank with your goal). (Show an empty thermometer gauge and where you want to go.)

You can make a difference in the life of a child.





## Day 2: Africa

This week, we are partnering with GlobalFingerprints to bring School Tools to kids around the world. Today, we will look at the impact of School Tools for kids in Africa.

GlobalFingerprints works with three countries in Africa: Congo, Zambia, and Liberia. (Show a map of Africa with arrows pointing at the three countries and show Africa video)

### GAME

**Supplies** — two bowls, whipped cream, several Lego people, two schools made from Legos with no roof, washcloths to wipe up kids after the game, a table, and a tarp for under the table.

**Play** — Choose two students to come up on stage and get the kids to school. How to play: Bury Lego people in whipped cream in a bowl and have the kids use only their mouths find the Lego people in the bowl and drop them into their designated school. You can either time the kids and see who gets the most kids to school in one minute and declare a winner, or end the game when all the kids get to school. Have a simple prize for each team (e.g., a box of crayons per person, pencil, or the music CD from your VBS).

### LESSON

(Show map of Africa)

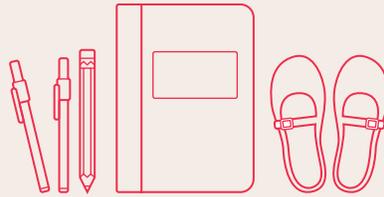
Getting to school can be a real challenge for kids in Africa (Show slide of kids walking to school). They need to pay tuition, buy uniforms, and bring all of their own supplies. This is very difficult for families and many times only one child from a family will get to attend school.

Some of the most needed items for kids in Africa are curricula for the teachers to teach from, uniforms, and shoes. (Show next two slides of these items)

Thank you for helping kids get what they need to go to school. You have raised \_\_\_\_\_ (tell the kids your amount). (Show a picture of the thermometer gauge and how it is climbing to your total goal).

Keep on raising money to help our friends!





## Day 3: Latin America

Remember, we are partnering with GlobalFingerprints to bring School Tools to kids around the world. Today, we will talk about how we can help kids in Latin America.

GlobalFingerprints works with two countries in Latin America: Haiti and Panama (show a map with arrows pointing at the two countries and show Latin America video)



### GAME

**Supplies** — 1-2 sets of uniform-type clothing. Make sure they are big sizes. Thrift stores and men’s clothing stores are great options.

**Play** — Choose 1-2 teams of students to come up on stage and have a relay getting dressed in uniform. A team of 4-5 volunteers will have one uniform. Play high energy music and set the clock for 1-2 minutes, depending on the amount of time available. Have kids stand on one side of the stage with the box containing the uniform. Explain that each child will get a chance to put the uniform on over their clothes, run to the other side of the stage to give you a “high five,” then run back and take the uniform off. The next person in line will do the same. If they beat the clock, they win! Have a simple prize for each team (e.g., a box of crayons per person, pencil, or the music CD from your VBS).

With two teams and two uniforms (4-5 on each team and the same rules), the team that finishes first wins.

### LESSON

(Show map of Latin America)

Great job! Thank you for helping each other get into uniform for school. In Latin American countries, uniforms are very important. You often can’t go to school without them and you have to buy them yourself. Your money raised will make a difference as those children will be able to buy a uniform. Thank you for making a difference! (Show picture of uniformed kids)

Thank you for helping kids get what they need to go to school. You have raised \_\_\_\_\_ (tell the kids your amount). (Show a picture of the thermometer gauge and how it is climbing to your total goal).

You’re making an impact in the lives of children around the world.



## Day 4: Asia

Thank you for partnering with GlobalFingerprints to bring School Tools to kids around the world. Today, we will talk about how kids who will be impacted in Asia.

GlobalFingerprints works with three countries in Asia: India, Myanmar, and Indonesia (show a map with arrows pointing at the two countries and show Asia video)

### GAME

**Supplies** — 1-2 textbooks, one big and one small if you want to demonstrate inequity.

**Play** — Choose 1-2 teams of students to come up on stage and have a relay balancing a text book on their head from one side of the stage to the other. How to play: if one team and one book (choose 4-5 volunteers): play high energy music and set the clock for 1-2 minutes depending on how much time you have. Have kids stand on one side of the stage with their text book. Explain that each child will get a chance to carry the textbook on their head to the other side of the stage and give you a 'high five' then carry the book and run back and hand it to the next person in line. If they beat the clock, they win! Have a simple prize for each team (e.g., a box of crayons per person, pencil, or the music CD from your VBS)

If two teams and two books (choose twice as many volunteers): play high energy music and explain the relay race. Same rules as above. The team that finishes first wins.

(Optional: you can use two different size books, making it easier for one team, then talk about how the kids we are helping with our offering money have a disadvantage to kids who have money of their own. When kids have what they need, they thrive! When they don't, it is a struggle.)

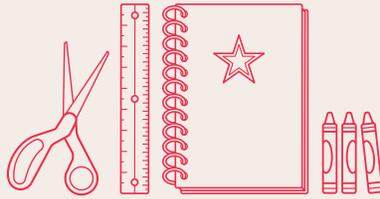
### LESSON

(Show map of Asia) Awesome job! You're helping get kids the necessary books. In Asia, kids have to buy their own textbooks. Books can be very expensive. You are making a difference and helping a child learn.

Thank you for helping kids get what they need to go to school. (Show three slides of kids studying). (Show a picture of the thermometer gauge and how it is climbing to your total goal). Keep up the great work!

Note: if this is your last day! Congratulate the kids for their efforts this week and celebrate what they raised (even if they didn't quite make the goal).





## Day 5: Middle East

We are excited to partner with GlobalFingerprints and their work in the Middle East. GlobalFingerprints is working with the local church in Lebanon to bring love and Jesus to Syrian refugees. (Show a map with arrows pointing to Lebanon and Syria and the Middle East video)

### GAME

**Supplies** — One tray full of as many different school supplies as you can come up with (e.g., pencil, eraser, post-its, paper clip, binder clip, pen, notebook, book, and white out). This can be an all play game or you can bring some kids up on the stage to play.

**Play** — Explain to the group or kids on stage: You will see a tray full of school supplies. Look at them and then I will take them away. Once they are put away you will have one minute to write down as many supplies as you saw.

For those on stage, show the kids the tray for 10 seconds and then give them paper to write. The child with the most items written down wins. If you are having all the small groups play, take a picture in advance of your tray and display the tray on a screen for 10 seconds. Then, give the groups one minute to write down supplies. The group with the most items wins. Have a simple prize for each team (e.g., a box of crayons per person, pencil, or the music CD from your VBS)

### LESSON

(Show map of Middle East) Kids in Lebanon face many challenges. These children are Syrian refugees, which means they have had to leave their own country of Syria because it was no longer safe due to war. These kids have had to leave so much behind. (Show photo of apartment building) They don't have school supplies. They often can't find a safe school to go to in Lebanon and are bullied by Lebanese children. The church in Lebanon is trying to make a difference by providing a safe learning center and the chance to know Jesus. (Show two slides of kids in playground and classroom) Your donations will help kids get the supplies they need to learn.

Thank you for helping these kids! You have raised \_\_\_\_\_ (tell the kids your amount). (Show a picture of the thermometer gauge and how it is climbing to your total goal). Thank you for making a difference in the lives of kids in several countries! Congratulations on a job well done this week! You are a blessing by providing the School Tools and education children need.





## Dear Parents,

The goal of School Tools is to connect our children with children around the world by opening their eyes to the needs of their brothers and sisters and giving them an opportunity to care for others. Children will be connected through stories, games, and videos. They will also have an opportunity to care by giving money to help provide a hopeful future for children around the globe.

For many children, their reality asks them to play the role of adult too early and they miss the opportunity to be a child and go to school. For others, access to basic school supplies, like pencils, paper, uniforms and backpacks are extremely limited. But children around the world love to learn. They love to ask questions and satisfy their curiosity. God has blessed us with curious minds and you'll be amazed as you read stories and see pictures of how our kids long for the opportunity to go to school. This year, money raised will go toward tuition, uniforms, and other resources to provide children in poverty the opportunities we often take for granted in the United States; a chance to go to school.

This week, we will hear stories about children in other countries who we get to come alongside. Your kids will also get the opportunity to play games and see videos of kids around the world to help them connect with this need. We are excited to help our kids think big this summer!

Little-by-little, through the offerings of your children this week at VBS, we will make a difference in the lives of children in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Zambia, India, Indonesia, Haiti, and more. Your dollars will help these children succeed by helping to provide basic needs and education. You can make a difference in the life of a child a world away from you.

To learn more about how to sponsor a GlobalFingerprints child, go to: [globalfingerprints.org](http://globalfingerprints.org).

