

Activity 10

Show Your Concern by Writing a Letter



- When families are poor, children may not get enough food to eat. They get sick more often.
- When families are poor, children may not have a warm place to sleep at night. They fall asleep in school.
- When families are poor, children may not have warm clothes to wear in cold weather. They may stay home instead of going to school or to church.
- When families are poor, their parents may be so upset that they easily get angry with their children. The children may have no one to talk with about problems.

One way to help families who are poor is to write to your government officials asking them to provide assistance to families who are poor. Here are some things to think about when you write your letter:

- What do children need to do well in school?
- What do children need to be healthy?
- What do children need to grow strong?
- What do families need to help one another?
- What do families need to take part in the life of the community?
- What do families need, to know they are important to the community?



Here are steps to follow to help you write your letter to the official who represents you:

- Find the names of the people serving your federal and state elected officials. Ask an adult to help you. You can also find their names by entering your zip code at *www.Congress.org* on the Internet.
- Write a draft of what you want to say. What do you want to see changed? Do you have personal stories to tell? To get started, look at the sample letter.
- Read your letter. Is there something else you want to say? Did you explain why you are writing?
- Check your letter again for spelling and punctuation. Perhaps an adult will help you.
- Sign your letter, put it in an envelope. Address it and put it in the mail.

Sample Letter

Your name and address

Date

Representative _____

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

Senator _____

U.S. Senate

Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representative _____, or Dear Senator _____,

I have been learning about hunger in our nation. Do you know twelve million children live with hunger or are at risk of hunger just in our country? I believe that we have to change that. Children who are hungry get sick more easily. They are not able to do good work in school.

It is time for our country to do something about hunger. I write to ask you to support laws that help hungry people. Everyone should have enough to eat. If we work together, we can end hunger in our nation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

{your name and age}