

GO Introduction Guide

This guide was created to help you introduce GO to your students and gauge their existing knowledge on humanitarian aid institutions. The suggested time allotment depends on your student's worldview and knowledge of non-profit organizations; however, we suggest you allot about 10-20 minutes for this portion of the lesson.

91.7% of students “got more” out of their service-learning course than “traditional” classroom courses, and 100% of students had a favorable service experience.

GO Campaign is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping orphans and vulnerable children throughout the world build a brighter future.

Questions and discussion topics might include:

- What is a nonprofit? GO can also be classified as a charity and a non-governmental organization (NGO). Who funds NGOs? How is an NGO different than a government-supported agency?
- What makes a child vulnerable? GO defines a vulnerable child as a child without access to the basic human needs he or she requires to survive and thrive. This can include such necessities as food, shelter, medical care and education.
- What countries have a high percentage of vulnerable children? Developing countries typically have the highest percentages of vulnerable children.
- How is a “developing country” defined? While there is no single definition of the term, countries where a high percentage of the population lives in poverty (less than \$1.25/day) and where basic needs are not being consistently met are considered developing countries. The World Bank defines developing countries as those whose gross national income (GNI) is considered low or middle-income, or roughly below \$12,000/year. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Index (HDI) measures and ranks countries based on common factors such as life expectancy, literacy, education and standards of living –high HDI rankings are given to developing countries. By all measures, the countries where GO works are considered developing counties including Kenya, Peru, Haiti and Rwanda.
- What ways can our classroom have an impact on the orphans and vulnerable children in countries where GO works?

Most of the people living in poverty are children. Yet, children are our future.

GO Campaign partners with small grassroots organizations that would otherwise fall through the cracks of receiving support from larger humanitarian aid institutions (such as UNICEF). GO partner organizations are run by local community leaders who develop the projects that GO supports. GO partners only with organizations that meet our strict funding and grantmaking [guidelines](#).

Questions and discussion topics might include:

- What are the benefits of partnering with such organizations? GO project partners live in the communities they serve and have first-hand experience and knowledge of their communities deepest needs, but they lack the financial resources to implement the solutions. By working closely with small grassroots organizations, GO ensure funds go directly to helping children in a timely and efficient manner, cutting out the red tape that slows larger organizations aid.



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Universal primary education would cost \$10 billion a year – sounds like a lot – but Americans spend more than twice that on ice cream every year.

GO project partners provide orphans and vulnerable children with the basic human rights (e.g. education, shelter, health care and a suitable environment) they need to survive and thrive.

Questions and discussion topics might include:

- Do all children around the world have access to the basic human necessities they need to survive? Do all children go to school, have access to clean drinking water and have a home? (Statistics can be found on the [UNICEF](#) and [UN Millennium Development Goals](#) websites.)
- Discuss why some children do not have what they need to survive (e.g. governments unable to provide for their people, poverty, poor health care system, lack of infrastructure, disease, war, etc.)

64% of all public schools in the U.S. had students participating in community service activities recognized by and/or arranged through the school.

GO's model of helping children is founded on three principals that GO calls **Action Areas**. The GO Community, a network of students, educators, parents, concerned adults, GO project partners and the children they are caring for, unite to implement and sustain the three Action Areas.

The three Action Areas are:

I. Securing Children's Needs by providing children with basic human needs to survive and thrive.

Questions and discussion topics might include:

- What are some of the things you need to survive? What are some of the things you need to thrive and succeed? This line of questioning will hopefully lead students to distinguish between what one needs to survive and what one needs to thrive.
- What are some of the ways to help children get what they need to survive and thrive? GO helps pay school fees, provides nutritional meals, helps pay the salaries of tireless loving caretakers and health care providers, and funds programs that teach communication and life-skills. GO believes that it's important to give children what they need to lead healthy, productive and long lives.

II. Sustaining Projects & Communities by providing funds for small grassroots organizations that ensure resources are used wisely with long-term sustainability.

Questions and discussion topics might include:

- Why is it important to use resources wisely? What happens if we don't?
- What are some examples of things we do in our community to preserve our resources?

III. Connecting Youth Globally by facilitating communication between youth across the globe that leads to cross-cultural understanding and encourages youth to take action to create positive change.









Questions and discussion topics might include:



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- Why is it important to learn about others?
- What can learning about others teach you?
- What can we do to help children around the world?

Consider the numbers: Dialogue about the money we spend on things that we want, and how that same amount of money can purchase basic human necessities for children across the globe:

WANTS	\$	NEEDS
Gets you one song on iTunes		Provides a nutritious breakfast for 4 children in Tanzania
Buys you a White Chocolate Mocha at Starbucks		Buys 5 pair of flip-flops so kids don't have to walk barefoot in Malawi
Buys two tickets to a movie		Provides a single mattress for a boarding school student in Tanzania
Gives you 6 months of People magazine		Buys a school uniform for a child in Kenya
Buys you an hour massage		Provides medical attention for 20 children in Cambodia
Gets you a 16GB iPhone		Provides school books to 20 orphans in Kenya
Treats you to a one year gym membership		Puts 30 children through school for a year in Cambodia
Buys you a flat screen TV		Provides full year of medical care and schooling for 10 children in Malawi