



# Journey to a New Planet

**IN THIS ACTIVITY,** the participants will differentiate between wants and needs and demonstrate understanding of basic human rights.

TIME REQUIRED: 20 MINUTES | INTENDED FOR GRADES 1-5



## MATERIALS NEEDED

- » Butcher paper and markers
- » Copies of Resource, “Wants and Needs Cards,” found on page 25. You will need to create one set of cards for every two participants. Note: Choose any 16 from those provided.
- » Prepare a simple drawing of the solar system and a spaceship (optional).
- » Visit [worldvision.org/lp/acsi-teacher-resources](http://worldvision.org/lp/acsi-teacher-resources) for a video you can show to support this lesson. (optional)

## Activity Steps

1  
2  
3

**INVITE THE PARTICIPANTS** to each find a partner.

**EXPLAIN THAT MISSION CONTROL** (which you represent) has discovered a new planet and each pair will go there to start up a new community. Set the mood by naming the planet and the reasons for going there.

**ASK THE PARTICIPANTS** to close their eyes and imagine the new planet. Tell them to form a picture of this community in their minds. Ask them to quietly consider these questions:

- » How long will it take to get there?
- » What does it look like?
- » Do other people live there?
- » Where will you set up the new community?
- » What will you want in this new community?
- » What will you need in this new community?

4

**ASK THE PARTICIPANTS** to open their eyes and discuss their ideas with their partners. Allow a few minutes for the discussions to take place.

5

**PROVIDE EACH PAIR** with a set of cards that you created from the resource. Then, explain that Mission Control will provide each pair with 16 items they may bring with them to set up their new community. Ask them to spread out the cards and examine them.

6

**ANNOUNCE THAT MISSION CONTROL** has warned that space on the spaceship is limited. The pairs can now take only 12 items on the spaceship. Ask the pairs to decide which four items they will eliminate and to set aside those cards.

7

**INFORM THE PARTICIPANTS** that Mission Control has issued an emergency announcement that even less space is now available. The pairs can now take only eight items with them. Ask them to decide which four items they will eliminate and to set aside those cards. Each pair should now have only the eight most essential items for their survival.

8

**GATHER THE PARTICIPANTS** into a large group and engage them in discussion using the following questions:

- » What was difficult about doing this activity? What was easy?
- » Which items were easy to discard first? Why?
- » Were some items harder to eliminate than others? Which ones? Why?
- » What is the difference between a want and a need?
- » What does a person truly need for survival?

9

**CONCLUDE BY INVITING** the participants to join you in prayer. Pray for the rights of all people throughout the world. Pray that all people, especially children, will have what they need to thrive. Pray for a world where everyone is treated fairly and needs are always met.

(This activity is adapted from Susan Fountain, *Education for Development: A Teacher's Resource for Global Learning*; London, England: Hodder and Stoughton Publishing, 1995. © 1995 by Hodder and Stoughton Publishing. All rights reserved. Used with permission.)

**RESOURCE**

## *Wants and Needs Cards*

Nutritious Food	Clean water	Music
Television	Fast food	Vacation
Spending money	Fashionable clothing	Shelter
Clean air	Protection from discrimination	Education
Your own bedroom	Ability to express your opinion	Medical care
Friends	Family	Your own computer

Permission to reproduce is granted. © 2011 by World Vision Inc.