



Resource—5 Side—1
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1—Giving Nation action plan

So far, the Giving Nation programme has looked at:

- What charities are and what they do – How charities help lots of different causes, in the UK and around the world
- Why people start charities – People feel passionately about an issue and want to do something about it
- How charities use the money we give them – How charities and the Charity Commission make sure your money is well spent
- How charities try to get our attention – The different methods charities use to try to win our support

The tables below suggests ways you could get involved.

Raising money

- Sponsored bike ride
- Talent show
- Washing cars
- Fashion show
- Quiz night

Speaking up

- Getting a campaign started
- Writing to your MP
- Writing to the newspapers
- Getting a petition together
- Writing to the local council

Helping locally

- Being a mentor for younger pupils
- Helping out at the community centre
- Helping an elderly neighbour with their shopping
- Joining a Youth Action Group
- Cleaning up some of the local environment



What's in it for you?

You may not think so, but giving is a two-way process. As well as helping others or supporting a cause because you care, giving is also about getting something back. You get a sense of satisfaction and perhaps make new friends and do new things.

People often say, 'The more you give, the more you get.' So, make your plan and see what happens.

Where could you start?

First, decide what you want to do.

Here are three ways you could help others:

- Raising money to promote a cause or support a charity
- Helping people out locally by giving your time or the benefit of your skills
- Speaking up for someone who can't speak for themselves – eg by writing letters or campaigning

What could you do?

It depends on your skills and how enthusiastic you are. Perhaps you would be good at getting a group together to make a bigger impact. Maybe you can think up an original way to attract other people's attention or can organise who does what to make sure that everything runs smoothly.

Who could you help?

In the previous lessons you may have thought of lots of people you want to help. It's important that you choose to do something that will leave you feeling satisfied. Work out what that could mean for you.

Remember – people power!

Think who you could get together with, to boost what you can do – the more people get behind something, the more powerful it can be. If you decide to support a charity that is already up and running, you're joining in with hundreds, if not hundreds of thousands, of others.

How can you get people together in your school?

Does your school have a school council or a charity committee? If not, why not think about starting one? You would need to consider the following:

- How would you decide who should be on the committee?
- Where would you meet?
- What would the committee do?

Giving Nation has lots more ideas for events and tips on how to ensure they run smoothly.

Visit www.g-nation.co.uk to find out more.



Resource—5 Side—2
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2—Case study: The power of charity in action

Stroud High School for Girls has always done a lot for charity, and everyone gets involved. In 2004, they won the Giving Nation Award – and an unusual prize. This is why they won, and what happened next:



One day, someone from the Philippines Trust came to the school. They talked about how many children in the Philippines have no education and no money for food, and survive by scavenging on rubbish dumps for things they can sell.

A lot of the pupils were distressed to hear this and wanted to help by raising money to help build a school. Stroud High has a really good system for supporting charities: each term, each class votes on which charity it will support over the coming term. This time, it turned out that the entire school wanted to support the Philippines Trust.

So, the school gave every pupil £1 to invest in fundraising with the aim of doubling it at least. Everyone did something, from cake sales to gym displays. They thought they would raise £5,000, enough to build a classroom – but they actually raised £11,500, which was enough to pay for a whole school and a lot of equipment besides. Today in the Philippines 300 children are getting an education as a result of the hard work and commitment of the girls of Stroud High.

The school won the 2004 Giving Nation Award for two reasons: because the idea of giving every pupil £1 to double at least was really unusual and because everyone rose to the challenge.

As a prize, eight of the girls flew to India to visit a Save the Children project in Rajasthan. Here, Save the Children is working with local people to provide education for 90 girls who would normally not be able or allowed to go to school. The girls from Stroud lived with the Indian girls and, even though they didn't speak the same language, they all worked together on a puppet show that told people how they felt about girls being allowed to go to school.

Everyone loved the show: the British High Commissioner to India (who the girls met in Delhi), the local villagers and their fellow pupils back in Stroud.

The trip had a big effect on the girls. When they got back to England, they wanted to help the new friends they had made on the other side of the world. They cooked some Indian food one lunchtime and sold it to their teachers and fellow pupils. Now they are planning more events, to raise the money to buy a computer for the school in Rajasthan – and of course they are staying in touch with the great friends they made there!