Your World, My World
Lesson plan 8: Listening and hearing

Age group: 4 - 7

Aims:
To encourage children to develop listening skills.
To help children develop empathy with and focus on the positive aspects of Muluken, Cidinha, Sasha and Shakeel's lives.

What to do:

You will need:
• All photos from the photo gallery, except 1 and 13 (in Power Point), pinned up on the wall with their captions (below);
• The snapshots (below), displayed near the photos.

Ask the children to pick one child from the photo set and imagine that this person is their special friend. What do they like to play together? What is nice about where their friend lives? What is their friend's favourite food etc? Encourage children to focus on the positive aspects that they find.

Now ask children to get into pairs with someone who has chosen a different 'friend'. Explain that they are going to practise listening to each other very carefully. Before beginning, ask children how you can show that you are listening - not interrupting, showing encouragement by nodding or smiling (as appropriate), looking at the person, using gestures etc. This is called 'active listening'.

Now ask the children to introduce their friends to each other. The first child in the pair (A) should spend one minute talking about his or her 'friend' to child B. While child A talks, child B should listen carefully.

When child A has finished, child B should repeat back what has been heard. Finally child A can add in anything that may have been missed out. The children then swap roles and repeat the process.

Now come together as a class and talk about the active listening that has taken place.
• How did children know they were being listened to?
• What did it feel like being listened to?
• Why is it important to listen?
• How does listening show that you care?
• What can you do if you disagree with what someone is saying?
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Captions for photos

1. Muluken, who lives in Gerba Sefer village in Ethiopia.
2. Muluken and her family.
3. Muluken shares breakfast with her sister.
4. Muluken and her sister wash their faces and hands before breakfast.
5. Muluken and her friends playing shop.
6. Muluken sleeps on her mother's lap.
7. Cidinha in her hammock.
8. Cidinha helps out at home by hanging out the washing.
9. Cidinha helps her mother break babassu nuts.
10. Cidinha and her friends play a skipping game.
11. Cidinha's family and neighbours watch TV while they have dinner.
12. Cidinha dances with her friends.
13. Sasha is all dressed up for the winter.
14. Every morning Sasha helps to dress his younger sister, Yulya.

15. Sasha helps with the cooking.

16. Sasha at school.

17. Every two days, Sasha and his brother Vanya collect water from the well.

18. Sasha inside the house that he made out of snow.

19. Shakeel's mum helps him get ready for school.

20. Shakeel and his family have breakfast.

21. Shakeel's favourite lesson is craft.

22. Shakeel plays football during break time.

23. Shakeel's special job is feeding the goats.

24. By nine o'clock Shakeel is in bed.
Snapshot of Cidinha

Cidinha helps her mother break babassu nuts

Photo: Julio Etchart/Oxfam

Name: Cidinha Rodrigues Alves
Age: 7
Address: Ludovico village, northern Brazil
I live with my mum and dad, my brothers Rosenilton, Osmar and Francisco, and my sisters Osalide and Rosanilde. I am the youngest.

My house
My house is made from earth and wood, with palm leaves on the roof. It has small windows which means that it stays lovely and cool in the hottest weather.

Favourite food
Pork and beans and rice. We have it at Christmas and on special days.

Helping at home
I like helping my mum break babassu nuts. We sell the oil from the nuts and it is used to make soap.

Favourite games
We play skipping games and make hoops out of bicycle wheels or tyres. Sometimes we play football or go swimming.

Best friends
Maria and Sueli. They live across the street.

My dreams
When I grow up I want to be a famous singer and dancer.

Other things you might like to know about me
My favourite subject at school is Portuguese. This is the main language in Brazil.

At home we grow our own vegetables. I like spring onions and lettuce best.
Snapshot of Shakeel

Shakeel feeding a goat
Photo: Rajendra Shaw/Oxfam

**Name:** Mohammad Shakeel (called Shakeel)
**Age:** 7
**Address:** Hyderabad, India
I live with my mother and father and brother and sister.

**My house**
My house is in a big city. It is made of stones and earth. My dad built it himself. I like to help him when he's painting the house.

**Favourite food**
Gosht. This is a meat curry which we eat once a week, usually on Sundays.

**Helping at home**
My special job is feeding and milking the goats in the morning and evening.

**Favourite games**
We play cricket, football and marbles. I also like riding my bike.

**Best friends**
Rahim, Moulana, Ahmed and Suleman.

**My dreams**
I dream of a brand new bicycle. When I grow up I want to be a teacher.

**Other things you might like to know about me**
At school I like doing art best.

In the evenings before bed, I like watching TV or listening to stories that my sister reads.
Snapshot of Sasha

Sasha and his brother Vanya collect water from the well

Photo: Sarah Errington/Oxfam

Name: Sasha Oreshkin
Age: 8
Address: Lekarstvennoye village in Siberia, Russia

I live with my mum, stepfather, granny (called Babushka), brother Vanya who is six, and sister Yulya who is two.

My house
My house is made of wood. It has three rooms. There are always a lot of flowers around it in the summer.

Favourite food
Borsch. This is a soup made from potatoes, carrots, beetroot, cabbage and meat.

Helping at home
I fetch water from the well with my brother. I help with the cooking.

Favourite games
I like building houses out of snow. It takes all day. I can also build furniture inside the house from snow.

Best friends
At school my friends are Kolya and Artur. My best friend is my brother Vanya. At home I have a pet cat called Pushok (Fluffy) and a dog called Fil'ka.

My dreams
In my dreams, our house is turned into the Kingdom of Happiness. When I grow up I want to be a lorry driver.

Other things you might like to know about me
At school I like reading best. There are only 14 children in my class.

My cat Pushok always sleeps on my bed - he is my toy and my blanket!
Snapshot of Muluken

Muluken (left) and her sister wash their hands before breakfast

Photo: Rhodri Jones/Oxfam

**Name:** Muluken Kassa  
**Age:** 7  
**Address:** Gerba Sefer village, Ethiopia  
I live with my grandmother, father, and two sisters. My mum lives with us in the school holidays and at weekends. I have two sisters. Esketsenaf is nine and Mekdes is two.

**My house**  
My house has walls made of earth and wood. The roof is made of corrugated iron sheeting. There are trees all around.

**Favourite food**  
Bread and meat. I like mekoreni which is macaroni (pasta).

**Helping at home**  
I fetch clean water from the pump in the village. I collect firewood.

**Favourite games**  
Playing shop and hopscotch.

**Best friends**  
Yemdiralem, a boy, and Tsehayinashi, a girl like me.

**My dreams**  
I would like to see a big town or city. I want to be a teacher like my mother.

**Other things you might like to know about me**  
I live high in the mountains. My favourite place is a high rock where you can see for miles around.  
I am a Christian and go to church sometimes.