Your World, My World
Lesson plan 9: Our dreams

Age group: 4 - 7

Aims:
To encourage children to think about their dreams for the future.
To develop children's capacity to explain their views.

What to do:
Write out the children's dreams (referred to in the snapshots - below) on large sheets of paper. Match these up with a photo of each child. You will need:
- Large sheets of paper;
- Drawing, painting and collage materials, glue;
- children's snapshots (below).

Suggest to the children that everyone has a dream and talk about what Muluken, Cidinha, Sasha and Shakeel dream of. Discuss how dreams are important because they highlight what is important to you. Dreams may change over time too.

Now ask children to illustrate their dreams on large sheets of paper. These could be based on a fantasy or on dreams that could be real in the future. When the children's illustrations have been completed, ask them to explain their dream to a partner. You could use the active listening techniques described in the listening and hearing activity (Lesson 8).

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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.