



Love Restores

EXPEDITION TITLE

Love Restores

Expedition Driving Question:

How do I love God and my neighbors?

Expedition Deep Hope:

Be empowered by love to seek restorative transformation in broken relationships

Expedition Verse:

"We love because he first loved us." – 1 John 4:9

LEARNING PLAN TITLE

Relationships in the Wider World: Connect

Learning Plan Number: I4

Learning Targets:

1. I can recognize my relationships as stories woven together in God's larger story.
2. I can show love to my sponsored child by strengthening our relationship through letter writing.

Habit(s) of Learning:

Joy-filled Collaborating

CUMULATIVE TIME



80 MIN

ICON KEY



Learning activities that support your document panel with visual artifacts are indicated by a push-pin and paper icon in the activity title.




Learning activities connected with sponsored children are indicated by a helping hands icon in the activity title.





Learning activities that support your community engagement project are indicated by a community icon in the activity title.



ENTRY EVENT

ACTIVITY TITLE	TIME	RESOURCES
<i>Nancy's Story</i> Engage the Learning Target (ELT)	 5 min	<input type="checkbox"/> Nancy's Story video: https://youtu.be/pLmdzxUZ80I
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite students to watch the video of Nancy's story. • Ask, "What examples of loving God and loving neighbors did you see in this video?" 		

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

<i>Twisted Strings</i>  Introduce the Learning Targets (ILT) Engage the Learning Targets (ELT)	 20 min	<input type="checkbox"/> Pieces of thick string or yarn (about two feet long, enough for each student to have two) <input type="checkbox"/> Tape
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask students to silently consider this question: "What is your story?" Tell students their stories include what has already happened to them, what is happening now, what is important to them, their interests, likes, dislikes ... everything about them. Their stories are still being written. • Read the first learning target for this learning plan: <u>I can recognize my relationships as stories woven together in God's larger story.</u> • Remind students of the activities they did with string in learning plan I: the web they created to represent relationships, and the string they cut and tied together to represent restorative transformation. Tell students we can also use string in another way to help us understand relationships. • Pass out two pieces of thick string (yarn may work best) to each student. Explain that one string represents his or her story and the other string represents his or her sponsored child's story. • Have students tie the strings together in a knot about three inches from one end (you may want to have this part done ahead of time for students). • Tape the short ends of the string down on students' desks, and instruct students to twist the two strings together tightly. Have them keep twisting until they create a twist at least one foot long. • Once students have finished twisting the string, have them keep holding the end with one hand, and press down in the middle of the string with a finger from the other hand. • As they gently fold the twist in half and release the finger from the middle, the twist will twist around itself to make a rope. • Help students tie the two loose ends together. The other end will have a loop. Now the rope can be used as a bracelet or bookmark! • Remind students that these two strings represent their stories and their sponsored children's stories. Ask, "What happened to these two stories?" Guide students to see that relationships are stories woven together. 		



ACTIVITY TITLE	TIME	RESOURCES
<i>Our Story</i> Engage the Learning Targets (ELT)	10 min	<input type="checkbox"/> Salin's Story video: https://youtu.be/KfGT6ojqWUU <input type="checkbox"/> Piece of thick rope
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer back to the “creation,” “fall,” “redemption,” and “restoration” cards on the document panel from learning plan three. Remind students that these four words represent God’s story—the story of the world. Explain that your life, students’ lives, and the lives of your sponsored children are all stories too, and these stories are all part of God’s story. Show students a piece of thick rope. Tell students that this rope represents many, many stories – our stories – woven together in God’s larger story. Watch the video: “Sailin’s Story.” Ask, “How is Sailin’s story part of God’s story?” “Is it part of your story? How?” Reread the first learning target for this learning plan and point out how we can use our twisted strings to understand what it means. Read the second learning target: <u>I can show love to my sponsored child by strengthening our relationship through letter writing.</u> Tell students that we now have a visual example of relationships as ropes of string woven together, and we make those ropes stronger by loving others. We are going to do that through letter writing. Add these learning targets to the document panel, along with an example of the twisted strings. 		
<i>Letters to Sponsored Children</i> Engage the Learning Targets (ELT)	40 min	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tell students to focus on two topics in their letters. First, invite students to share part of their story with their sponsored child. They could write about where they were born, who is in their family, their interests and hobbies, etc. Second, students will ask their sponsored child to tell his or her story. Remind students of the driving question for this learning expedition: “How do I love God and my neighbors?” Ask students to keep this question in mind as they write, filling their letter with love for their sponsored child. Have students either type their letters to be emailed or write paper letters to be mailed. 		

EXIT EVENT

<i>My Story</i> Reflect on the Learning Targets (RLT) Assess the Learning Targets (ALT)	5 min	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.14.a Student Material: “My Story” exit ticket
Have students complete the “My Story” exit ticket individually.		



LEARNING EXPEDITION VISUAL GENERATED THROUGH THE LEARNING PLAN
 ADD TO DOCUMENT PANEL

- Learning plan 14 learning targets
- Learning plan 14 artifact: twisted strings

OPPORTUNITY TO DEEPEN THE LEARNING

- After students have written letters to their sponsored children individually, invite small groups to read each other's letters and give feedback. Does the letter include a description of the student's story and a request to hear the sponsored child's story? Does the letter show love for the sponsored child?
- Combine all of the twisted strings from this learning plan to create a larger rope. Discuss how all these relationships tell one larger story.
- Spend some time praying for the relationships in your sponsored children's communities. Pray for students' relationships with their sponsored children and for the letters to be blessings of love.