

Tell 'Em! Leader's Guide



Four missions experiences on introducing people to God's Word

Location: Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire), Africa

Focus verse: *Those who hear the word of God and keep it are blessed! Luke 11:28 (HCSB)*

Overall message: When we mention Africa, what's the first image that pops into your head? If you're like most of us, it probably wasn't *large urban population*. In Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), the McAfees are surrounded by an urban population exceeding 4 million. That also means they're surrounded by opportunities to tell people about the timeless truths of the Bible! Kids On Mission can learn that planting churches begins with planting God's Word in the hearts of people who know little about Him.

Before you begin: This resource is a collection of experiences to plug your kids into global missions. We hope you will take the ideas included here and expand your children's view of missions and their role in God's kingdom.

This is a product of IMB,
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Tell 'Em!

Experience 1



Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **The World in Skittles®** video.
- Download and print the **Africa map** and the **Tell 'Em! photos**.
- Bring a bulk pack of **Skittles®** candies or other color-coated candy pieces.
(Note: check with parents regarding food allergies any time you teach with food items.)
- Provide one paper plate per child.

Introduction

- **Direct kids to stand and group themselves by age.**
- **When they have done so, direct kids to group themselves by hair length (*long, short, medium*).**
- **Challenge kids to find at least four other ways to group themselves. (*Tie shoes vs. slip-ons, boys and girls, eye color, pet owners vs. no pets, etc.*)**
- **Explain that missionaries serve all kinds of people groups, but those groups have one important thing in common — the need to hear, learn and obey God's Word!**

A sweet explanation

- Show kids **The World in Skittles®** video.
- Give everyone a paper plate and a handful of coated candies.
- Guide kids to calculate and set aside one-third of the candies. Ask them to recall what that number represents (*people in the world who have never heard the gospel*).
- Guide kids to form a rectangle with their candy pieces. Remind kids about the "10/40 window" they saw in the video—a rough geographical zone with the highest concentration of people who have never heard about Jesus.



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Experience 1

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A country near the window

- Display the **Africa map** and point to Côte d'Ivoire (pronounced *coat-dee-VWAHR*), sometimes called the Ivory Coast.
- Comment that Côte d'Ivoire is directly adjacent to the 10/40 window.
- Show kids the **Tell 'Em! photos**. Explain that Mike and Heather McAfee are church planters in the city of Abidjan. To start churches in Côte d'Ivoire, they start at the very beginning—telling people how God created the world and how He has always cared for His people.

Pray time

- Prompt kids to sort their candies into groups of the same color.
- For each group of candies, prompt kids to name a group of people they can pray for, such as missionaries serving in the 10/40 window, the McAfee family, or the people of Côte d'Ivoire.
- Invite a volunteer to pray for each group. Ask God to give people all over the world a desire to know what's in His Word!



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Experience 2



Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show the **Life in the Ivory Coast** video.
- Download and print the **Tell 'Em focus verse**.
- Download and print the **Elephant soccer facts**. Cut the strips apart. Roll the strips tightly. Insert each strip into a balloon, then inflate and tie. (To shorten the time required for the activity, put two strips in each balloon.)
- Have a push pin handy.

Recap

The McAfees are urban church planters in Côte d'Ivoire. They use Bible storying to help people understand how God has been at work in the world since creation.

Elephant silly soccer

- Tell kids that the Côte d'Ivoire soccer (football) team is named the Elephants.
- Clear space for an active game. Guide kids to use chairs to mark two soccer goals at each end of your "field."
- Form teams for a silly game of soccer: instead of using their feet, players will "kick" the balloons with "elephant trunks" formed by extending their arms and clasping their hands together.
- Referee for safety. When a team scores a goal, allow a team member to burst the balloon with a push pin and read the fact inside.
- Repeat until all the balloons have been popped.

Sharing the story with Ivorians

- Play the **Life in the Ivory Coast** video. Guide kids to identify elements of Ivorian life that are very different from their own.
- Prompt kids to notice that the McAfees teach the Bible through storying (telling Bible stories) because many Ivorians cannot read.
- *Ask: If you could not use a printed Bible to share God's Word with someone, what stories would you choose to tell? Why?*



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Experience 2

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- Display the **focus verse** and encourage kids to read it aloud with you. Explain that no matter whether the gospel is shared in print or in stories, it can still change lives!

Prayer time

- Invite kids to suggest ways they can pray for the McAfees and the people in their city.
- Incorporate kids' suggestions into a prayer of your own.



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Experience 3



Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show or replay the **Life in the Ivory Coast** video.
- Download and print the **Tell 'Em focus verse**.
- Print a copy of **Storytelling pictures** for each child.
- Provide scissors, a hole punch, and hinged notebook rings or jumbo paper clips.
- Bring pencils, scratch paper and a timer.

Recap

The McAfees are urban church planters in Côte d'Ivoire. They use Bible storytelling to help people understand how God has been at work in the world since creation.

Bible story brainstorm

- Form two teams. Enlist one person on each team to be the recorder. Give the recorder scratch paper and a pencil.
- Set your timer for two minutes. Each team should huddle, confer, and make a list of as many Bible stories as they can before time expires.
- As Team A reads its list, Team B should scratch off duplicate answers and vice versa. The team with the most stories remaining on its list wins the game.
Option for non-readers: Lead teams to huddle, choose a familiar Bible story, and act it out together. Challenge the opposing team to guess the story.
- Comment that Bible stories kids may have heard since they were tiny may be completely unfamiliar to people in some parts of the world.

From creation to Christ

- If kids have already seen the **Life in the Ivory Coast** video, lead them to name facts or scenes they remember from the first showing. When you replay the video, permit kids to signal “thumbs up” when they see the things they remembered.



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Experience 3

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- If the video is new to your group, challenge kids to notice how the McAfees use storying to teach people Bible stories—from God’s creation of the world to Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection.

Be a griot!

- Tell kids that a *griot* is a traditional West African storyteller. Comment that kids can continue the *griot* tradition by telling Bible stories to their friends.
- Provide **Storytelling pictures**, scissors, a hole punch, and notebook rings or paper clips.
- Guide kids to cut the pictures apart, punch holes where indicated, and thread the pictures onto the ring or clip.
- Help kids identify the story each picture represents. Call attention to the Bible reference that will help them recall the details of each story.
- Encourage kids to clip the storytelling pictures to gear bags, backpacks, or purses. Suggest that when others notice the pictures, kids can share a great story from God’s Word!

Prayer time

- Pray for kids by name. Ask God to help kids read, understand, and love His Word so they can share it with others.



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Experience 4



Prepare

- From the DVD-ROM or kidsonmission.org, prepare to show or replay **The World in Skittles®** video.
- Download and print the **Tell 'Em focus verse**.
- Download and print the **Tell 'Em! photos**.
- Bring napkins and small cookies, candy pieces, or another “countable” snack.
(Note: check with parents regarding food allergies any time you teach with food items.)
- Mark Leviticus 27:30 in your Bible.

Recap

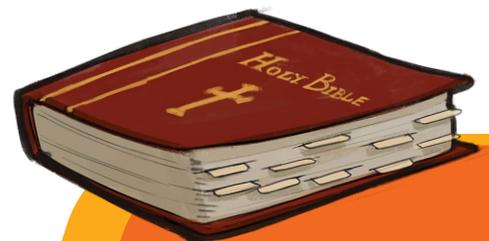
The McAfees are urban church planters in Côte d'Ivoire. They use Bible storying to help people understand how God has been at work in the world since creation.

The world needs to know

- Play or replay **The World in Skittles** video.
- Comment that the population of Cote d'Ivoire is about 23 million, or according to the mathematics of the video, about 1 1/3 Skittles®.
- Show the **Tell 'Em! photos**. Explain or lead kids to recall how the McAfees share the gospel with the people of Côte d'Ivoire.

Giving makes it happen

- Review the **focus verse** with kids. Challenge them to say it from memory.
- Explain that faithful giving makes it possible for missionaries like the McAfees to teach people about God, Jesus and the Bible.
- Distribute napkins and 10 snack items per person. Direct kids to set aside one of the snacks. Tell them that the tenth part of a person's income is called a *tithe*, and the Bible teaches God's people to give tithes to His work regularly.
- Read, or invite a volunteer to read Leviticus 27:30 aloud.
- Direct kids to set aside one more snack. Comment that kids can give offerings in addition to their tithes to help missionaries. Tell kids about special giving opportunities at your church (such as the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering™).



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Experience 4

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- Observe that, even with two snack items set aside, kids still have plenty to munch on! In the same way, God has promised there will be enough left over to provide for the needs of people who give to His work. Gather the snacks that were set aside and allow kids to enjoy their treats or encourage them to take them home to enjoy and share later.

Prayer time

- Invite volunteers to pray that generous givers support missionaries all over the world.



Tell 'Em! Going Further



More ideas using this theme

- Download and print the **Tell 'Em! parent letter**. Give to parents so they can help kids extend their missions experiences through family activities.
- If you have extended teaching time, a tasty menu of kids' lessons and activities at www.gowestafrica.org/kids will add more flavor and fun!
- Find and print online pictures of common Ivorian foods: millet, yams, plantains, cassava, peanuts, rice, and watermelon. Hold up a picture for a fast "name that food" contest.
- A video presentation of a "Creation to Christ" story can be found at <http://www.imbstudents.org/c2c/Creation-to-Christ.aspx?x=0#.V7zRumBTGUK>. Play excerpts, or the entire presentation, for older children
- Don't forget to visit kidsonmission.org for more activities and KOM experiences you might have missed. Also, like us on Facebook and see how other churches are using KOM.

