

Children's Resources

# Carriers of Hope

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In 1 year MAF flies over 230,000 passengers and 7600 tonnes of cargo. We fly anything from doctors to ducks, Bibles to blood, teachers to toys.

Get your group thinking about how MAF flies hope to those in need with this series of activities:

## Precious Cargo!

### Teddy relay

You will need: A blanket and a sheet or towel for each team. Teddies and dolls, enough for four for each team.

Put the children into teams of at least four so that each child holds a corner of the sheet. Have the teddies piled up at the opposite end of the room and set up a couple of easy obstacles for them to negotiate. Get each team to go to one end of the hall pick up the first teddy and carry it back to the other end, placing it on the floor. If a teddy falls out in transit, the team have to go back to the start of that run and begin again. The winning team are the first ones to transfer all their teddies to the other side of the room.

### Blind custard

You will need: Scarves to use as blindfolds, bin bags, cold custard, jugs and egg cups, mugs or small containers of some kind.

Keeping the same teams, place as many egg cups as there are team members on top of a bin bag at the end of the room, with the children at the other. Select one child to go first, blindfold them with the scarf and give them a jug of custard. The aim of the game is for the team to direct the team member to the egg cup and for them to pour the custard into it. Each child must take it in turns to do this. The team may not touch the child who is blindfolded, they can only shout to them to tell them where to go. The difficulty of the course is up to you – little ones may need additional help. The team who fills up their cups first, wins.



# Story time

## Diana's Story

When 9 year old Diana was helping in the family vegetable patch a wild boar bit her badly on her legs and chest. She was more than a full day's walk from the nearest first-aid post and bleeding very badly. Her father and Uncle had no choice but to take it in turns to carry Diana from home to the airstrip at Mengamanau to find help.

The next day, MAF pilot Mike was flying just minutes after the emergency call came in. Diana's Dad had made it to the airstrip and called MAF to take her to hospital. During the flight, Diana became suddenly very sick and everyone was worried. When they landed an ambulance took Diana to the emergency department at the hospital where she had a big operation to repair the damage.

Getting better took a long time. Wild boar bites are slow healing but the MAF staff helped, taking meals to the hospital and Diana is now back in her village. None of us will know exactly what Diana does in her life, but we are thanking God that we could be part of it.



# Bible bit...

Watch this animation of Mark 2 v 1-12: Jesus heals and forgives a paralysed man.

## **CLICK HERE:**

<http://www.max7.org/resource.aspx?id=2d5a8faa-bb42-4b05-a9e7-32e26798f083&creatinguser=1>

Tell the children that they are going to interview the different characters from the story. Ask different members of your team to represent the paralytic man, a friend who carried him and Jesus. They could even be in a different room and you could take the children into to meet them.

The paralytic man is stood holding his mat, the friend is resting after his long walk and Jesus is preaching. Get the children to ask questions to each person about what happened and have each of your team stay in character to answer the questions.

### **Prompt questions could be:**

Paralysed man – How far were you carried? Are you embarrassed to have been brought to Jesus in this way? How do you feel towards your friends?

Friends – Whose idea was it to bring him? Is he heavy? Why did you decide to help? Why did you think the idea would work?

Jesus – How do you feel about being interrupted?

Finally ask the children: If MAF's work was a character in this Bible story, who do they think it would be?

## Reflection and prayer

MAF longs to see isolated people physically and spiritually healed. We are friends of the poor. We carry the needy. We overcome every barrier to rest them at Jesus feet.

You can help us by carrying those people to Jesus in prayer.

Using the directional sheet attached, make paper aeroplanes with your group so that they have one each. Encourage the children to pray and, as they do, throw the plane.

### **Prayers could be:**

- Jesus, keep every MAF flight safe and help the pilots to do their best for You.
- Jesus thank You that You only have the power to heal and the power to forgive.  
Please forgive me for the things that I've done wrong and bring healing to those I know who are sick.
- Jesus use me to carry the hurting to You.