

Feeding 5000

Workshop Rotation Model



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Planning Guide

Workshop Rotation Model (WRM) Sunday School

Grades 1-6

Four groups

This Heifer curriculum can be a rotation on Heifer International. Connections are made between Heifer, scripture and acting out of faith. This is the educational and faith foundation for raising awareness of Heifer International. Pick among ten workshops. Invite the talents of the church to emerge to raise awareness about how faith intersects with Heifer. Use this as a spearhead to launch a Heifer fundraiser.

The Resource Kit has all of the details you need:

- How this is a Workshop Rotation Model curriculum
- Workshop overviews with scripture reference
- Fundraising ideas: Fill the Ark and The Living Gift Market
- Enhancements: Books, Amazing Math, Gathering Times

Use this planning guide to help organize your program:

Step 1: Organize the Rotation

Step 2: Choose the Fundraiser

Step 3: Prepare for Gathering Times: Build the Ark

Step 1: Organize the rotation

1. Consider the number of workshops needed:

- How many children are expected?
- How will the children be divided into groups?
 - Are there enough children for a viable class for every grade?
 - Are there some grades that can be clustered, like 2nd and 3rd grades?
 - If only two classes are needed, can they be divided based on being a reader or non-reader?
 - Will it be a one-room Sunday School?
- The number of groups equals the number of workshops. Even a one-room Sunday School will need four different workshops, one for each of the four Sundays.
- Assign Groups A-D in the chart below to each group that will go through the rotation.

2. Choose the workshops:

- Look at the Workshop Overviews in the Resource Kit.
- Choose four from the ten workshops:
 - Which ones are immediately appealing?
 - Why?
 - Are there talents in the congregation that could be invited to be teachers for the month in a particular workshop? Use the Talent column in the Workshop Overviews for some ideas.

- Write the names of the chosen workshops across the top row of the chart.
- Write the room numbers across the third row.

3. Figure out the rotation:

Workshop	Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3	Workshop 4
Teacher				
Room				
Week 1	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Week 2	B	C	D	A
Week 3	C	D	A	B
Week 4	D	A	B	C

4. Invite

Search the congregation for the talent that would really make the lesson pop off the page.
Write their names across the second row.

Step 2: Choose the Fundraiser

1. *Fill the Ark*

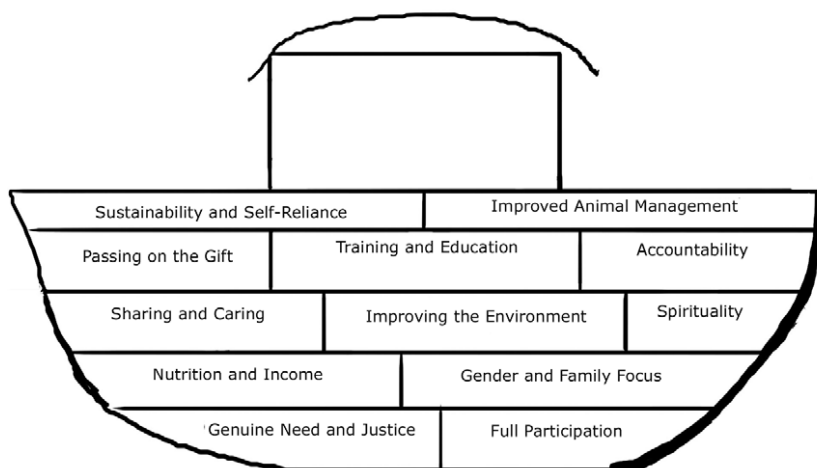
On the first week of the rotation, distribute the ark banks and calendars. On the last day, collect the arks. The Resource Kit includes an idea for highlighting the Heifer collection during a worship service.

2. *The Living Gift Market*

Run this rotation four weeks before hosting a Living Gift Market. The children can create various animal booths in their workshops. Small groups can volunteer to create and host a booth for a particular animal. The Living Gift Market becomes a celebration of the church's awareness of how their faith lives intersect with the work of Heifer International.

Step 3: Prepare for Gathering Time: *Build the Ark*

If your program includes time for the whole group to gather, four sessions are included in this packet that highlight Heifer's Twelve Cornerstones. Each week, the ark is built with planks that feature Heifer Cornerstones and scripture. A Heifer animal is added on deck. This gathering time links the group together and encourages participation in *Fill the Ark* or *The Living Gift Market*. See the Resource Kit for details.



Enhancements:

Refer to the Resource Kit for these ideas:

- Related illustrated books
- Amazing Math
- Heifer Resources
- A theme song

To create a children's worship experience, add an invocation, joys and concerns and a prayer.

Countdown:

- Get supplies
- Advertise
- Coordinate with other groups to elicit the full participation of the congregation

Opportunities for Volunteers:

This is a great time to enlist volunteers. This should not be a one-person show, but rather a display of the vast array of talents within the congregation. Organize them to take on just one part of the picture and a grand event will take place. It's one of Heifer's Cornerstones: Full Participation.

- Gathering Time Leader (1)
- Workshop Facilitators
- Fundraising Coordinator

Gathering Time Leader Guides:

WEEK 1

Opening Prayer:

Creator God, to you and only you we give our thanks and praise. We know that you have given us enough so that no one needs to be hungry or thirsty or without a home, yet we see people all over the world who are in need. Open our hearts and minds so that we can learn and grow in our faith so that our lives may be connected to others in positive ways. Bless us all in our teaching and learning. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstone: Passing on the Gift

Every family who receives an animal signs a contract to pass on one or more of their animal's offspring to another family in need, and also agrees to pass on to others the training and skills that they have acquired.

Scripture: Genesis 9:16

When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

Make a connection between God's covenant with humankind and the covenant we establish among each other.

Animal: Heifer

The first animal that Dan West sent to Puerto Rico in 1944 was a heifer.

Heifer Cornerstone: Sustainability and Self Reliance

Each community must plan how to support itself.

Scripture: Genesis 41:47-49, 56-57

During the seven plenteous years the earth produced abundantly. He (Joseph) gathered up all the food of the seven years when there was plenty in the land of Egypt, and stored up food in the cities; he stored up in every city the food from the fields around it. So Joseph stored up grain in such abundance – like the sand of the sea – that he stopped measuring it; it was beyond measure.

And since the famine had spread over all the land, Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe in the land of Egypt. Moreover, all the world came to Joseph in Egypt to buy grain, because the famine became severe throughout the world.

Make a connection between Joseph's management of agriculture and how systems need to be put into place for a community to be self-sustaining.

Animal: Chickens

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Heifer Cornerstone: Full Participation

A truly effective group has strong leadership and organization and is committed to involving all members in decision-making.

Scripture: Matthew 14:13-21

Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Make a connection between the miracle of the Feeding of the 5000 and full participation in a local Heifer project.

Animal: Fish

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture cards on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Talk about the fund raiser you are doing as a congregation. Share appropriate information each week.

Fill the Ark Program:

- Hand out the ark banks and calendars
- Ask the group for ideas about how they can collect money for their ark banks

Living Gift Market Booth:

- Assign an animal/commodity to promote at the Living Market. Discover why it is such a valuable thing for Heifer to give to someone in need.
- What are the by-products of the animal? Could they be showcased in the booth?

Closing Song: Mi Chacra (See Resource Kit)

WEEK 2

Opening Prayer:

God you are our helper in all things. There are times that we want to do everything our own way and we don't listen to you or to creation. People work and farm in ways that hurt the Earth and each other. We are thankful that through the support of Heifer International people all around the world learn new things so that they support their families and work in harmony with the Earth and one another. The book of Proverbs teaches us to trust in the Lord with all our hearts and to rely on God and God's ways. Open our hearts and minds in our time together so we too can be in harmony with your will for the world. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstone: Improved Animal Management

Proper methods regarding feed, water, shelter and health care for the animals assure that the livestock will continue to be a source of well being. The species and breed chosen must be appropriate for the area.

Scripture: Genesis 41:47-49, 56-57

But I will establish my covenant with you; and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. And of every living thing, of all flesh, you shall bring two of every kind into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground according to its kind, two of every kind shall come in to you, to keep them alive. Also take with you every kind of food that is eaten, and store it up; and it shall serve as food for you and for them." Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

Make a connection between the animal management that Noah had to practice and the methods that Heifer uses in placing a particular animal with a particular family.

Animal: Bees

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Heifer Cornerstone: Sharing and Caring

If all people are committed to sharing what they have and caring about other, everyone benefits.

Scripture: Genesis 45:9-11

Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there – since there are five more years of famine to come – so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'

Make a connection between the Joseph's empathy for his struggling family and sharing from his abundance.

Animal: Pigs

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Heifer Cornerstone: Improving the Environment

Heifer livestock should improve the environment by having a positive impact on ecology.

Scripture: Psalm 8:3-9

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

Make a connection between God's granting humankind dominion over creation and humankind's responsibility for the environment.

Animal: Trees

Read the attributes and cost of the trees from the card.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture cards on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Fill the Ark Program:

- Review all Heifer commodities and open discussion about what the group can afford to buy.
- Should the group buy one expensive commodity (like a heifer) or lots of affordable commodities (like rabbits)? Or a mix?
- Ask the group about stories from collecting money in their ark banks.

Living Gift Market Booth:

- Think of ways to make the booth come alive – can live or stuffed animals be on display?
- Would anyone like to dress up as the animal?
- Does anyone know someone who could bring in a live animal?

WEEK 3

Opening Prayer:

How great is your handiwork oh God? You created the worlds and all the animals that dwell upon it. When people work within the cycles of nature we can see how dead leaves and plants along with manure are turned into a perfect place for crops to grow. Dark, rich soil protects the seeds when they are planted and then gives it nutrition when it starts to grow. We know that when we treat the Earth with respect plants can grow better. Amazing things happen when animals and humans live in harmony with the Earth. Bless us as we learn and work to make the world a better place to live and grow. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstone: Gender and Family Focus

Women and men share in decision-making, ownership, labor and benefits. Heifer has a gender program, Heifer's WiLD (Women in Livestock Development) program that supports women's projects.

Scripture: Leviticus 19:9-10 and Ruth 2:2

When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest. You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien; I am the Lord your God.

And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain, behind someone in whose sight I may find favor."

Make a connection between gleaning and abundance.

Animal: Water Buffalo

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Heifer Cornerstone: Training and Education

Once a project is introduced to an area, the local people become involved as trainers in livestock husbandry and care for the environment.

Scripture: Proverbs 22:6

Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray.

Make a connection between training and creating a future of hope.

Animal: Goat

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Heifer Cornerstone: Spirituality

Heifer recognizes that spirituality is common to all people and that it often creates a strong bond among group members.

Scripture: Psalm 63:1

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirst for you.

Make a connection between spirituality and yearning to connect with the Creator.

Animal: Rabbit

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Tape the cornerstone/scripture cards on the ark and the animal card on the deck.

Fill the Ark:

Decide what the group will buy with its money.

Ask the group about stories from collecting money in their ark banks.

Remind them to bring their banks to church next week.

Living Gift Market Booth:

How can the booth become interactive?

What is the lure that will encourage people to buy one of your animals?

What supplies are needed? Where will the group get them?

Closing Song

WEEK 4

Opening Prayer:

God we know that your great desire is for all people to work together so that no one is in need and that no one is uncared for. Bless the learning that we will do today so that we might grow in our understanding and knowledge of how we can work together to achieve things none of us could do alone. We give thanks for the ways that Heifer encourages communities to work together and honors the gifts of each member of the community, old and young alike. Your son welcomed everyone to participate in your Kingdom and Heifer follows that model by inviting everyone in the community both here and around the world to participate in life changing programs. Bless us all as we work to make your Kingdom a reality on Earth. Amen.

Build the Ark:

Heifer Cornerstone: Nutrition and Income

Livestock provides for the immediate need of nutrition while also ensuring long-term economic security.

Scripture: I Samuel 28:22

Eat, that you may have strength to go on your way.

Animal: Sheep

Read the attributes and cost of the animal from the card.

Heifer Cornerstone: Accountability

Groups set their own goals and plan strategies and must submit semi-annual monitoring reports to Heifer International.

Scripture: Ezra 6:2

But it was in Ecbatana, the capital in the province of Media, that a scroll was found on which this was written: "A record ..."

Heifer Cornerstone: Genuine Need and Justice

The poorest in the community should be included in the group membership and receive priority for assistance.

Micah 6:8

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Tape the cornerstone/scripture cards on the ark and the animal card on the deck.



Fill the Ark Program:

- Collect the ark banks and estimate how much money might have come in.
- Announce the money collected. Could more be collected? Do they want to work for a Gift Ark of \$5000?
- Has a worship service been planned where the total could be announced and celebrated? Look in the Resource Kit for the Worship Celebration.

Living Gift Market Booth:

- What posters should be made? What information should they contain?
- What are the last minute details that need to get done?

Closing Song