



Grades
to
K2



It's OUR World

HCA Mission News  Focus: ? Oceania/Latin America  Fall 2010

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A Special Message from Polly

Hi kids! Wow, have I had a busy summer! Usually, I visit three countries and send reports back to the HCA national office in New York. This year, I flew around the globe visiting all of Oceania, Latin America, Asia and Africa! It was a lot of hard work but, it was well worth the effort. I met wonderful children and heroic missionaries. I also learned quite a lot about different cultures and customs.

In this issue of *It's Our World* I share with you information and stories about Oceania and Latin America. Oceania is a name for the islands scattered throughout most of the Pacific Ocean. Latin America includes the continent of South America, Central America and Mexico. In Advent, you will learn about Asia and our Lent newsletter will feature news from Africa. Enjoy!



"We pray for you everyday," said Bishop Gilles Cote, S.M.M., of Daru-Kiunga in Papua New Guinea. "You are truly part of our family." The donations you offer to the Holy Childhood Association help Bishop Cote run a feeding and nutrition program in his diocese for children. Thank you.



Thanks to your love, prayers and donations to the Holy Childhood Association, you are helping the children of Hogar Don Bosco learn about Jesus and His great love for them. The school is located in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

About Honduras

- Honduras is located in Central America
- Its capital is Tegucigalpa
- Honduras is about same size as the state of Tennessee
- The country's main exports include bananas and coffee

The Language of Latin America

In the 15th century, Christopher Columbus and other explorers sailed to the Americas and brought with them the Spanish language. Later, Jesuit and Franciscan missionaries came to the Americas. They opened schools and taught children about the Catholic faith in the Spanish language. As the faith grew in Latin America, so too did the Spanish language! Would you like to learn to speak Spanish? Try practicing some of these simple phrases!

Spanish

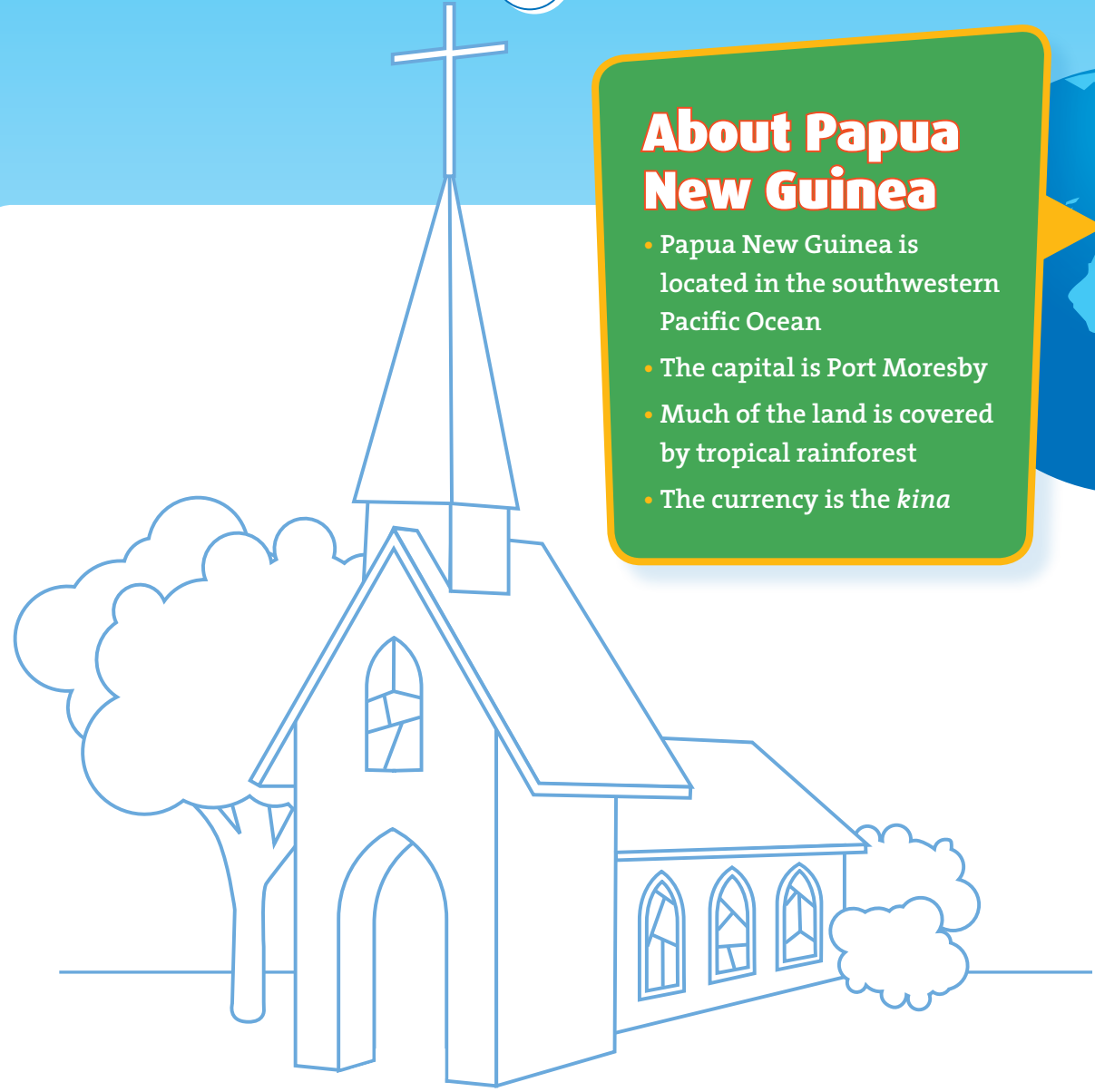
- Buenos días** [BWAY-nohs DEE-us]
- Buenas tardes** [BWAY-nahs TAR-dayss]
- Buenas noches** [BWAY-nahs NO-chayss]
- Hola**
- ¿Qué tal?** [KAY TALL]
- Estoy bien** [es-TOY bee-EHN]
- Hasta luego** [AHS-tah loo-A-go]

English

- Good morning**
- Good afternoon**
- Good night**
- Hello**
- How are you? / What's up?**
- I am fine**
- See you later**

Did You Know?

Many years ago, decorated cloths, or textiles, were highly valued in Latin America. They were worn in ceremonies, given as gifts, and even buried with the dead. These textiles were special because their elaborate designs and patterns told stories about the beliefs and traditions of the people who made them. Today, cloths like these are still made in the traditional styles and are preserved as treasures.



About Papua New Guinea

- Papua New Guinea is located in the southwestern Pacific Ocean
- The capital is Port Moresby
- Much of the land is covered by tropical rainforest
- The currency is the *kina*



A Rainbow Neighborhood

La Boca is a neighborhood in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, known for its many colorful houses. Argentina is a country located in South America. If you had the chance to repaint your parish church, what would it look like? Would you paint it to look like the houses of La Boca? Maybe you would paint it your favorite color and make stripes or polka dots. You could also paint it in the colors of the World Mission Rosary to remind everyone in your parish that we're all missionaries! To learn more about the World Mission Rosary, visit www.worldmissionrosary.org.

Planting Seeds of Faith

Here is a project to help remind you that as an HCA member you help “plant the seeds of faith” all over the world! It’s also a reminder to be a good steward of God’s creation. Recycle everyday items – and create your own planter.

What you’ll need

- Coffee can lid or pot pie tin (for drip tray)
- Potting soil
- Any flower seed that is hardy (sunflower, daisy, astor, or herb seeds, as examples)
- Plant food
- A sunny ledge with some air flow
- A large plain paper cup
- Assorted craft paints
- Paint brushes

Instructions

- With the help of your parents or another adult, poke three small holes in the bottom of the cup. Paint and decorate your cup. If you would like, write the words, “I plant the seeds of faith worldwide!” on the cup.
- Let the paint dry overnight.
- Follow directions on the seed packet for planting your seeds.
- Place your planter on the ledge you have selected, or outdoors Place the drip tray underneath.
- Water regularly and add plant food as needed.
- Watch the seed grow!



Don't Forget!

World Mission Sunday is celebrated on October 24.

A Mission Prayer for Back to School

Help me, Lord, to be Your missionary wherever I am. Teach me to see You in all my brothers and sisters on this earth. Help me to live my life in such a way that all my words and actions will let everyone know that You are Christ, our loving Lord!

Santa's Island Home

The Republic of Kiribati consists of 33 islands in the central Pacific Ocean. It is part of Oceania. Most of the islands are low atolls, or coral reefs surrounding a lagoon. Kiribati includes three island groups — the Gilbert Islands, the Phoenix Islands, and most of the Line Islands — as well as Banaba Island.

The islands are spread over about two million square miles (five million square kilometers). Kiritimati (called Christmas Island because the “ti” is pronounced “s”), in the Line Islands, is the world’s largest coral atoll. It makes up nearly half of the country’s land area. Kiribati has hot weather year-round. Most people in Kiribati either farm or fish. Main crops include coconuts, taro, bananas, breadfruit and papayas.

(Source: Britannica Junior Encyclopedia. Britannica Online for Kids)

