

The Power of Water Narrative—lesson 3—Write your own WaterAid Blog for a school in Bangladesh

ReRead the information below for some more information on the work of WaterAid

Resource 3a Fitawrari Habte Giorgis Primary School. Addis Ababa Ethiopia

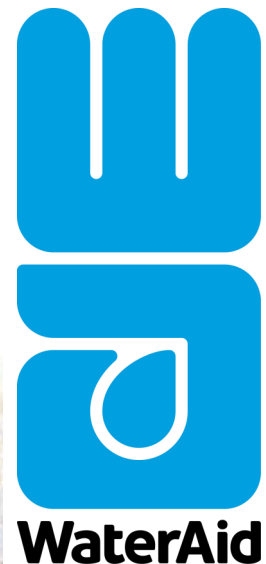


Credit: WaterAid/ Behailu Shiferaw

This is a picture of the toilet facilities at a school in Ethiopia.

The issue of not having access to decent toilets and clean running water was unbearable. The children would rather go home than use the toilets at school. During morning and lunch breaks, the students would have to stand in long queues, and when the bell rang all the students who were still queueing and waiting had to go back to their lessons without using the toilet.

The old toilets did not have doors and were not fitted with water connections, making it difficult to keep them clean. They were dirty and smelly. Children would end up going to the toilet by the entrance because they didn't want to go inside the toilet.



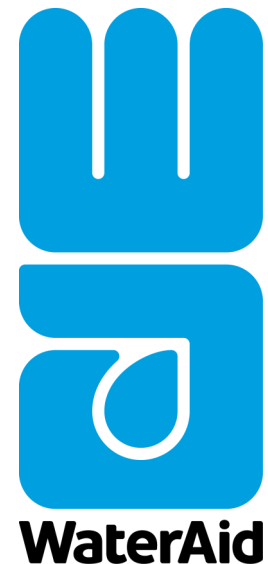
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ReRead the information below for some more information on the work of WaterAid

In 2016, WaterAid and members of the local community worked together to build toilets for the children at this school in Ethiopia.



"The new toilets are inclusive but we don't have many students with disabilities in my school, although that does not mean they don't exist. We know there are many disabled children in the area, but they don't come out and register for school because they are afraid of having to deal with poor facilities. Now, when parents hear that this school is inclusive and a safe space for their children with disabilities, they bring them out and get them registered. I think that's a great thing."



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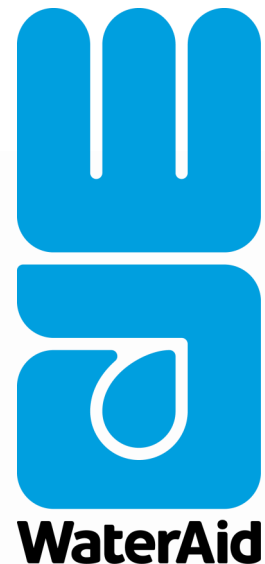
ReRead the information below about Pa from his blog.



Credit: WaterAid/ Ernest Randrianimalala

Six year old Pa lives in a country called Madagascar. He describes what daily life was like at his school before they had taps and decent toilets.

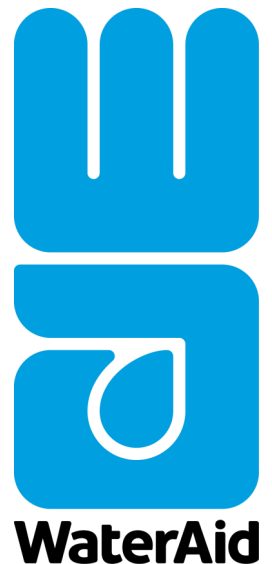
"In school, we learn to read, write and pray. During break time, I play football with my friend using a ball that we make with plastic bags. At my school there was no clean water and nowhere for us to wash our hands. Every day I suffered because there was no clean water to drink. I would be in school for six hours a day, starting from 7 am to 1 pm. Without water to drink, I couldn't concentrate on the lesson. Sometimes I was sleepy because I was thirsty. I like going to school because all my friends are there. We do stuff together and play together. When I am older I would like to work. I would love to work in Antananarivo (the capital of Madagascar) because I've never been there."



Reflect on how Pa feels and how you would feel and how it would effect your life at school. Make notes below or on a piece of paper to start you thinking about what it would be like.

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Read the information below about Pa after WaterAid had funded water in their school from his blog.



WaterAid/ Ernest Randriarimalala

Pa describes what school life is like now that they have taps with clean running water.

"We have running water in our school and in our village now. Going to school is now much better than staying at home as we have everything we need here. We have tables, chairs, a nice toilet and running water from taps. Now we have nice blue latrines, a shower and taps. It's so nice.

In my school we can now drink water at any time. Sometimes our teachers have to tell us not go to the toilets and taps all the time, but we do because it's so nice! I can drink very clean water and wash my face with it every day. We can even have a shower after sports or even when we just want to.

I am no longer thirsty and sleepy in class. The water we get from the tap is very clean and fresh. I no longer have diarrhoea when I drink water from the taps. We have more time to play and to be with our friends as we no longer fetch water from far away. Our water source from before is no longer used because it is far away and dirty. There isn't even any way to get there anymore as people have stopped fetching water and weeds have grown along the path."

Reflect on how Pa feels now and how you would feel and how it would effect your life at school if these improvements had been made to your school.

Make notes below or on a piece of paper to start you thinking about what it would be like.

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Now have a go at writing 2 blogs pretending to be from a school in Bangladesh that does not have running water, taps and clean toilets.

The first blog entry will be before WaterAid help—so no running water, clean toilets or taps.

How will you feel? What might have happened to you and your classmates (illness)? Can you work properly? How do you drink? Eat?

The second blog will be after WaterAid have sorted running water, taps and clean toilets.

Use the skills from session 2 to help you.

Once you have written it—typed or however you want.

Go back through and check:

- You have used capital letters at the beginning of sentences and for names of people or places
- You have used full stops
- You have used relative clauses
- You have used fronted adverbials
- You have written in first person
- You have used informal language
- You have checked any spellings you were unsure of

Use a different colour pen to edit

Using a highlighter or different colour pen, underline the relative clauses and fronted adverbials you have used.

Then ask your parents if they are able to email us it to:

y5teachers@shirleyschools.co.uk

