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It all began in 1986...

Program founder Pat Kibbe, a children's book author, was waiting to give a talk to a classroom of young students in Vermont. While she waited, she read a newspaper article about "children living on the border." Included in the article was a photo of a Thai-Cambodian refugee boy holding his most prized possession... a postcard of the Empire State Building.



As soon as Pat showed the students the photo in the newspaper, they wanted to write to the boy. Her first response to the students was that the boy wouldn't be able to understand their letters because he spoke another language, so she suggested they draw pictures instead! Then the students asked if they did draw pictures for the boy, would Pat make sure that he received them? Pat said that she would try her best.

Soon, boxes of pictures were arriving at Pat's door and she became determined to fulfill her promise to the students and see how she could make certain the drawings reached the boy. Thanks to the President of Refugees International, Pat soon found herself flying on a plane to meet and deliver the pictures to Mong Kheam herself! And Kids to Kids International was born.



Mong Kheam receiving the first KTKI student-created pictures.

Visit our website for more info: www.ktki.org

Our KTKI Program in Your Classroom, Club, or After-School Program

The more students engage in learning about the children and country that will receive their books, the more they will learn from the experience. You will decide how best to integrate the KTKI program into your classroom curriculum depending on the subject you teach and the age of your students. Document your KTKI project by taking photos throughout the process! Here are a few ideas:

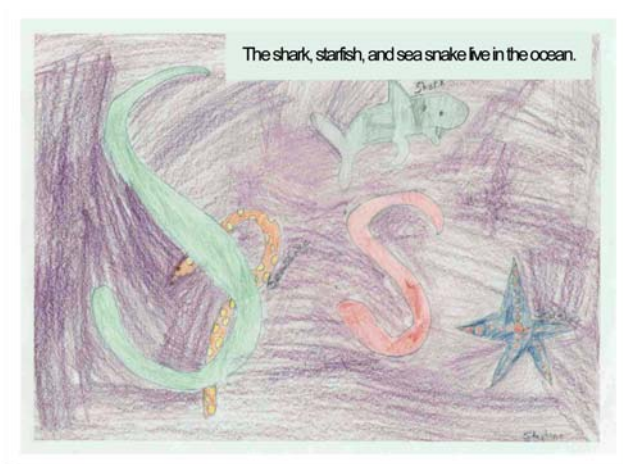
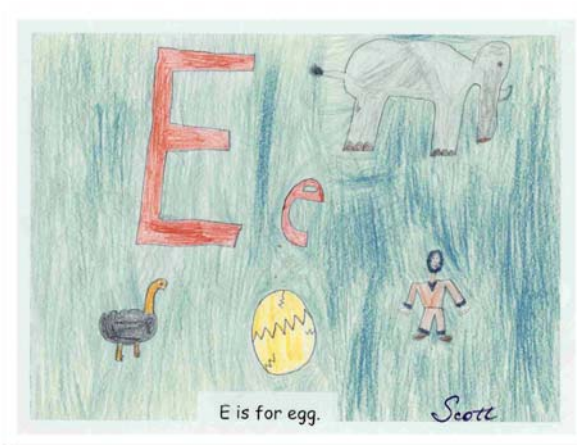
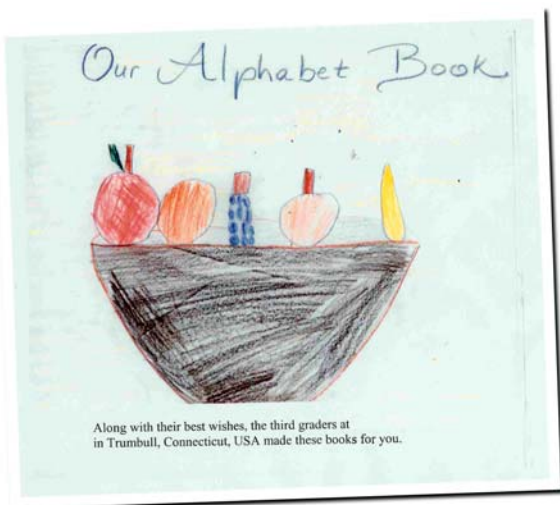
Elementary school students...



Create picture books using very basic concepts such as ABCs, 123s, colors, or shapes. Very young students can each create one page to be combined into a classroom book. Older students can create an entire book on their own.



Tell a short story with a picture book. Have the students write and illustrate a short fictional story that has a beginning, middle, and end. Remember, it's a picture book, so use as few words as possible.



Visit our website for more info: www.ktki.org

Middle school students...



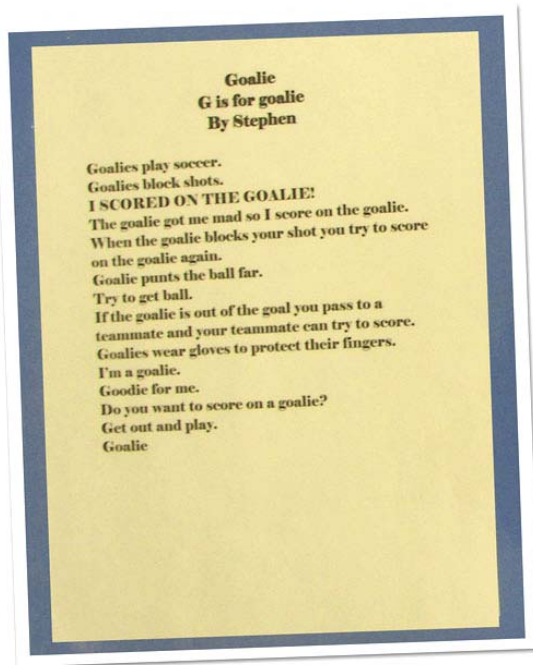
Research the country where their books will be sent.



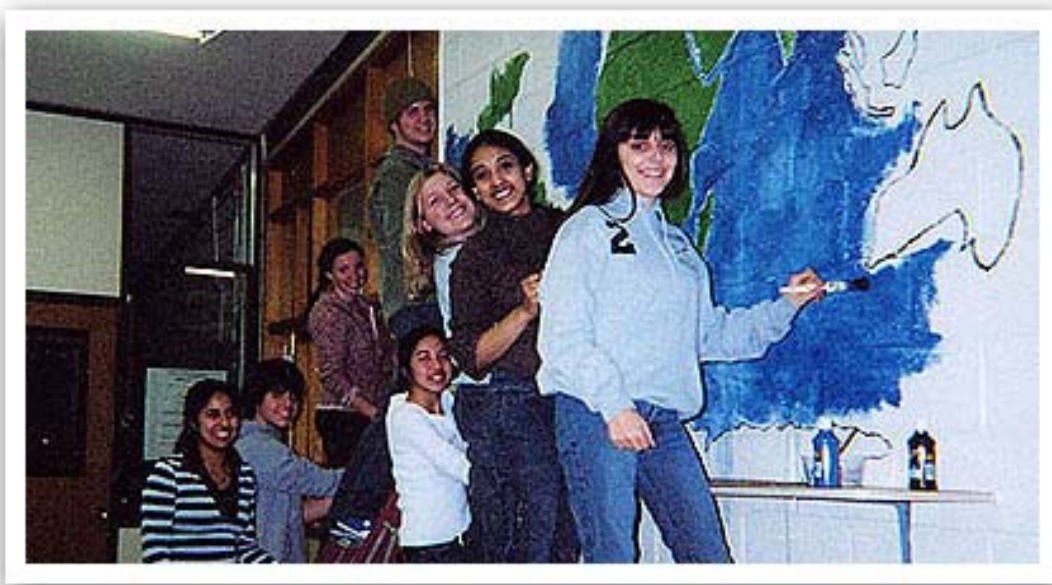
Incorporate writing skills into the creation of their picture book: Brainstorm, pre-write, rough draft, edit, and final draft!!!



Work together by creating a book in small groups or one book for the entire class.



Visit our website for more info: www.ktki.org



High school students...



Form KTKI clubs or chapters.



Create beautiful picture books in English Language Arts, and Social Studies classes.



Make bilingual picture books in foreign language classes, for a country where that language is spoken.



Raise money for shipping, or run educational supply drives. They can also bring KTKI to the younger grades in their district, or help create presentations and displays for KTKI exhibits.

Visit our website for more info: www.ktki.org



*Camp Kakuma,
Kenya*



Get Started

The First step in introducing our program to your students is to show them children growing up in different situations around the world. Children living in developing countries, refugee camps, or disaster areas have no paper, pens, pencils, and crayons. These are items your students may take for granted.

Read the list of countries in the back of this manual, or go to the Kids to Kids International website: www.ktki.org. There you will find the countries we are currently contacting. Or you may email us at info@ktki.org. If you don't find a specific country where you want your books sent, we will send them to where they are most needed.

Use the enclosed map to show your students where the country is located. Depending on the age of your students, help them learn what a day in the life of a child growing up in that country/area/refugee camp would be like.

If you choose to have your books go to a refugee camp, here is some practical information that will help your students gain a deeper understanding.

What is a Refugee Camp?

A **refugee camp** is a camp built by governments or non-governmental organizations, such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), to receive refugees. A refugee is a person who must leave his home in order to keep his life.

Ask the students to think of some reasons why they may be afraid to stay in their homes

- Weather: hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, earthquakes, forest fires, mud slides
- Violence: war, fighting, stealing/looting, disorder
- Persecution: religion, ethnicity, language
- Health: disease, hunger, lack of water

Refugee camps are generally set up in an impromptu fashion, and are designed to meet basic human needs for a short time. When civil war or other problems prevent the return of refugees, children essentially grow up in the camps, creating a humanitarian crisis.

Ask the students to think of items they need for daily living

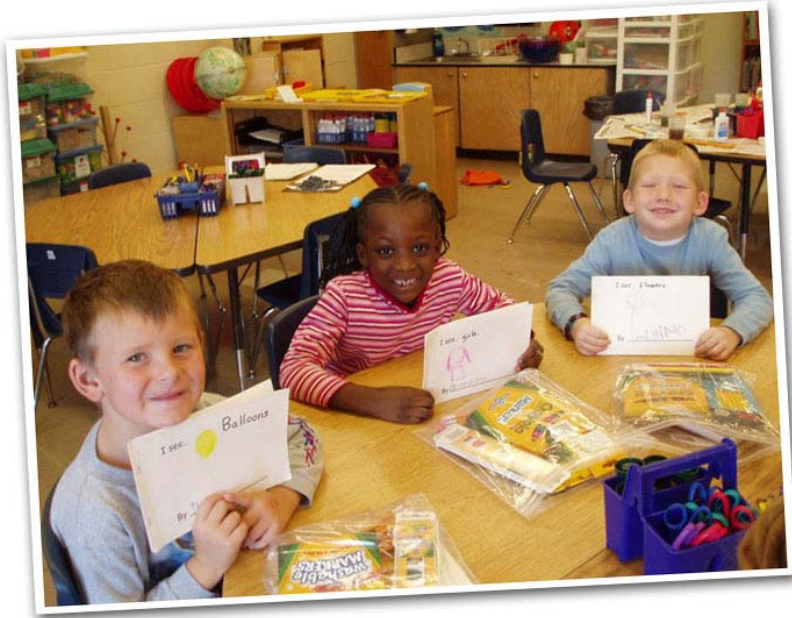
- Soap, toothpaste, shampoo, detergent
- Medicine
- Food, water
- Clothes, blankets

Many non-profit organizations are helping to provide these items to refugees.

Now ask the students to name items in the classroom they use to help them learn, do their homework or school projects

- Paper
- Pencils, pens, markers, crayons
- Erasers
- Books: textbooks, reference books
- Staplers, staples, hole punchers
- Rulers
- Binders, folders
- Calculators

Through KTKI, you will be part of a non-profit organization sending educational supplies, and student-created picture books to refugees everywhere.



Create Your Picture Book

Choose a Topic

Younger students make great picture books that teach basic skills or a major topic such as the alphabet, numbers/counting, colors, and animals. Other popular topics include sports, and how they are played in this country, and holidays and how they are celebrated. Older students may enjoy telling a short story or writing a poem and illustrating. In all cases, please try to keep the amount and size of words used to a minimum.

Avoid topics like “My Favorite Foods” and make sure that the picture books do not boast about items that you may own. Pictures of pizza, cookies and candy would be inappropriate to send to children who could be starving.

Keep in mind the different culture of the children receiving your books. Remember that many of the places where your books will be sent, have little food and water, and no electricity. That means they have no computers, computer games or Internet.

Books should never include any references to weapons or violence.

Create your first draft

Good picture books help readers learn to read. They have text that may rhyme or have a repetitive structure, for example, repetition of words or phrases. The illustrations reflect the text and allow the reader to follow and predict the story.

Proofread

It's never too early to proofread. Proofread from the very first draft!

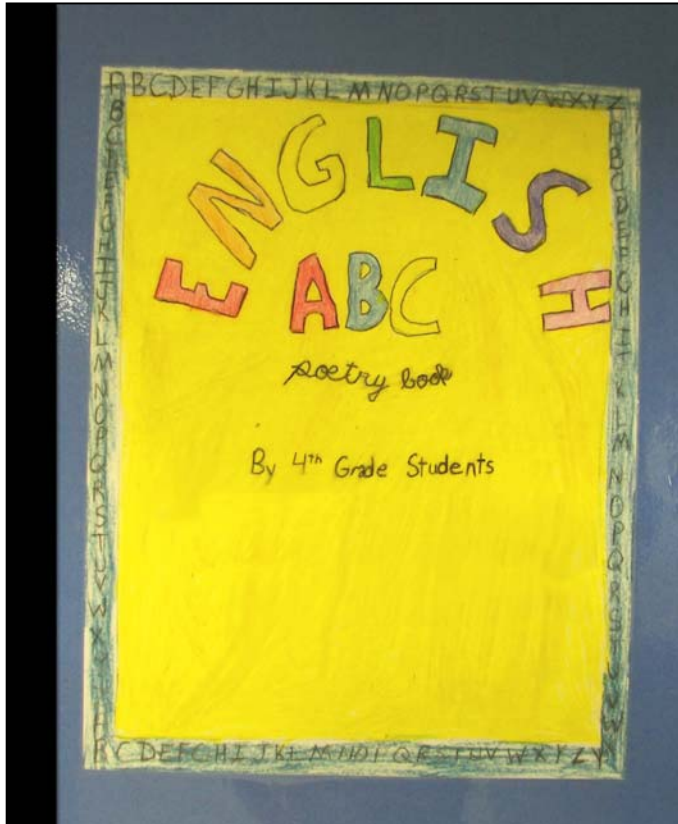
Remember that many of the children receiving your student-created picture books want to speak and/or read English. They will be using your picture books to learn! All picture books sent by KTKI should be free of spelling and grammatical errors. And remember, please make all of your corrections **before** laminating the pages of your books.

Continue to check your student's books carefully regarding **appropriate subject matter** and content!

All written words should be spelled correctly with no obvious cross outs and corrections.



The Five Simple Rules of Picture Book Construction



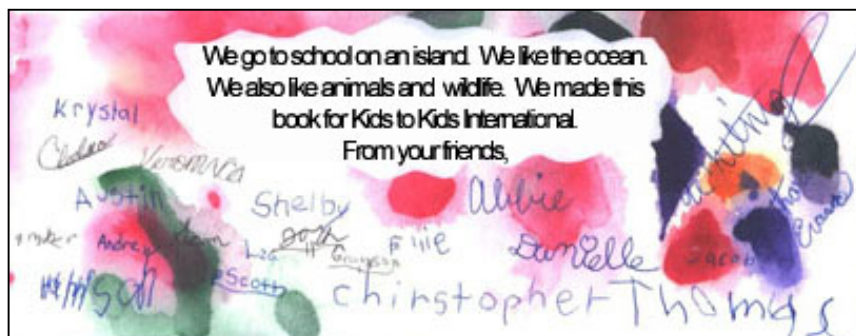
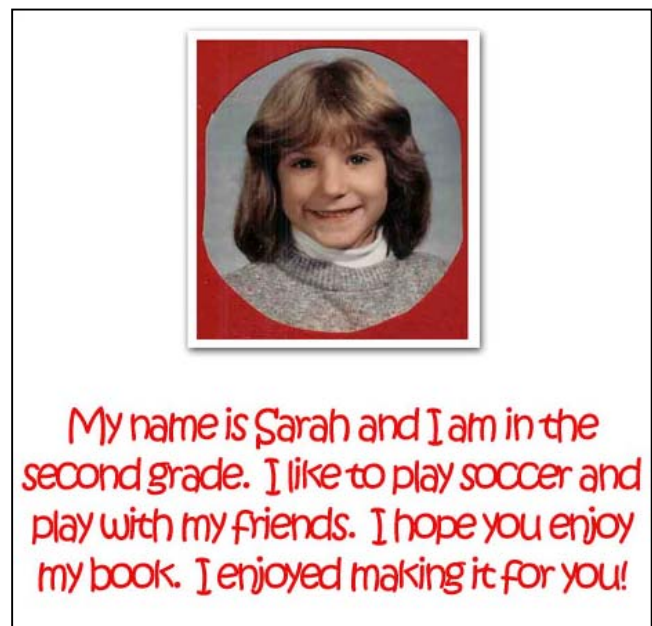
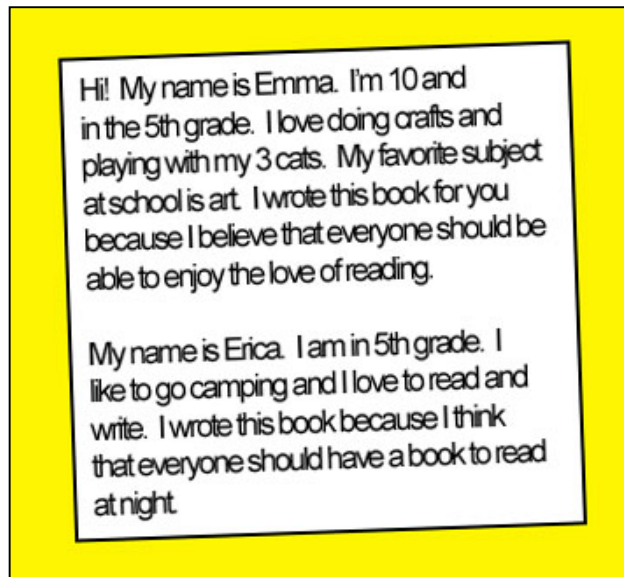
1. Size – maximum of 9" x 12" (including binding)
2. Shape – any!!
3. Number of pages – 6 to 8 pages (alphabet books can be longer!)
4. Lamination – your picture books will be handled by many children, often in very hot and humid climates. We ask you to laminate all the pages (including the cover) so the books will last longer. If lamination is unavailable, plastic sleeves can be substituted.
5. Binding - the simplest and most durable way is to staple the pages together and then bind the book with cloth tape. Binders or hard covers are acceptable, but remember that the extra weight makes KTKI shipping and handling very costly.

Author's Page

Every book sent to KTKI should include an author's page. This gives the reader an opportunity to learn about the author and to see what their new friend(s) looks like.

The picture book, including the author's page, should not include any personal information or school addresses.

The author page is very important. Our KTKI Ambassadors, who have hand-delivered your books, tell us that children look at that page with the picture of the person who wrote the book for a long time. This really makes the connection between your children and the children receiving their books very special.





Send Educational Supplies

Including educational and drawing supplies in our KTKI Friendship Boxes is optional though it can be very important to the students receiving your books. Many of our new friends who receive KTKI student-created picture books have few or no educational supplies.

Students do a great job raising funds for these supplies by having bake sales, raffles, community read-a-thons, recycling projects, or a school drive, etc. PTA's have also made contributions.

If you choose to include educational supply packets with your picture books, see the following page for our list of items and how to package them for shipment.

Educational Supply Packets:

For each book you are sending, place a set of supplies in a large ziplock bag.

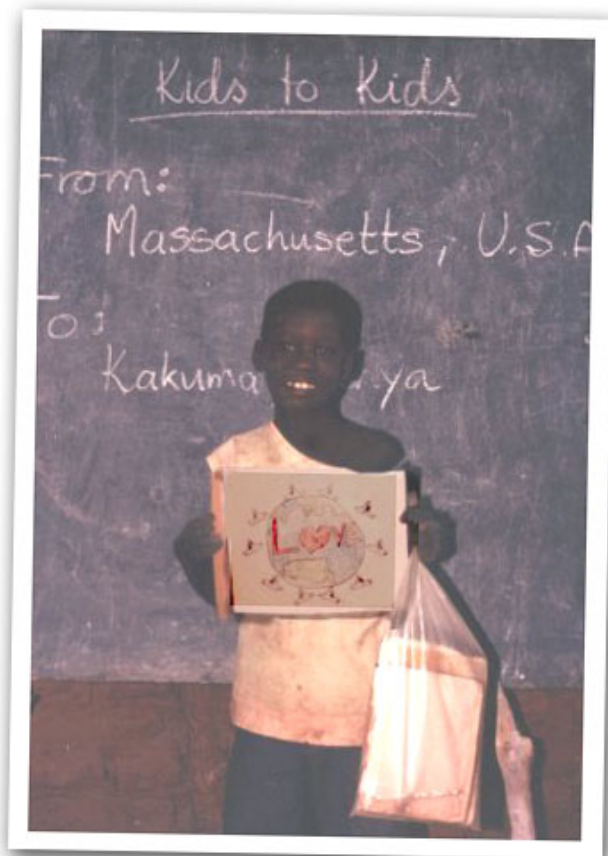
All supplies should be NEW and can be designated for a student or a teacher recipient.

Student supply packet contents:

- pencils
- pencil sharpener
- eraser
- pack of crayons or colored pencils
- 8½" x 11" drawing pad
- magic markers and/or watercolors are also appreciated.

Teacher supply packet contents:

- hole punch
- brass fasteners
- ribbon
- fabric tape
- stapler/staples
- ruler
- extra paper
- extra cover materials



A child receiving your educational supplies in Camp Kakuma, Kenya.

Visit our website for more info: www.ktki.org



Pack and Send Your Boxes to KTKI

Picture books and educational supplies should be packed in a sturdy box and sent to our office. Please use the checklist on the following page.

Visit our website for more info: www.ktki.org

Packing Checklist

- Laminated picture books with author's pages
- Student supply packets
- Teacher supply packet
- Letter from the class (optional)
- Photos of your students making their picture books (optional)
- A Photo release form completed for every child in your photos (page 17)
- Kids to Kids Packing List (copy as needed)

Send to:

**Kids to Kids International
1974 Commerce Street
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598**

Visit our website for more info: www.ktki.org



Kids to Kids Packing List

Include this packing form in your box.

Date sent: _____

Name of school: _____

School address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Teacher(s): _____

No. Boxes Sent: _____

No. Books: _____

No. Supply Packets: _____

No. Students Participating: _____

Preferred Destination (if any): _____

Additional comments/suggestions: _____



Kids to Kids Photo Release

I, _____, as legal guardian do authorize my son/daughter,
PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME

_____, to be included in photos taken by their teacher as part
PLEASE PRINT CHILD'S NAME

of the Kids to Kids International Program (KTKI). I understand that when submitted to KTKI, the photos may be used in Official KTKI publications and on the Official KTKI website located at www.ktki.org.

Signature

Date



Kids to Kids Photo Release

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PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME

_____, to be included in photos taken by their teacher as part
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Signature

Date



KTKI Ships Friendship Boxes

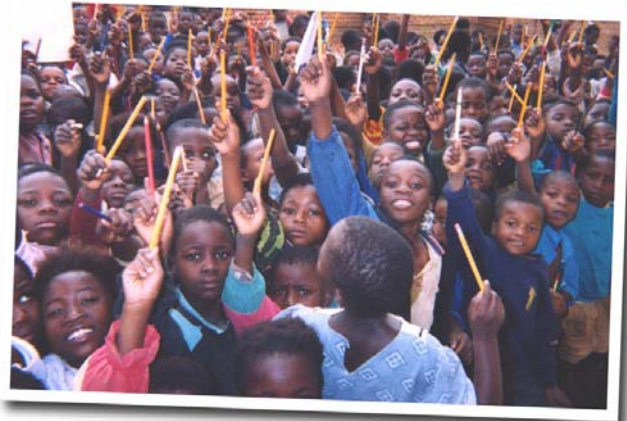
We will send you a postcard when we receive your box in the mail. Then we open the box to see all of the wonderful student-created picture books and educational supplies you have sent us! Each picture book receives a KTKI logo sticker on the back cover, and is logged into our records.

Our next step is to pack everything into a KTKI Friendship Box. We add the following items to each box:

- World Maps
- The Latest KTKI Newsletter
- A Letter from KTKI to the teacher and children receiving the box
- Your Photos
- Disposable camera

Visit our website for more info: www.ktki.org

KTKI Box provides a **disposable camera**, and an envelope addressed to our office for the camera's return. Whenever possible we will share these photos with you.

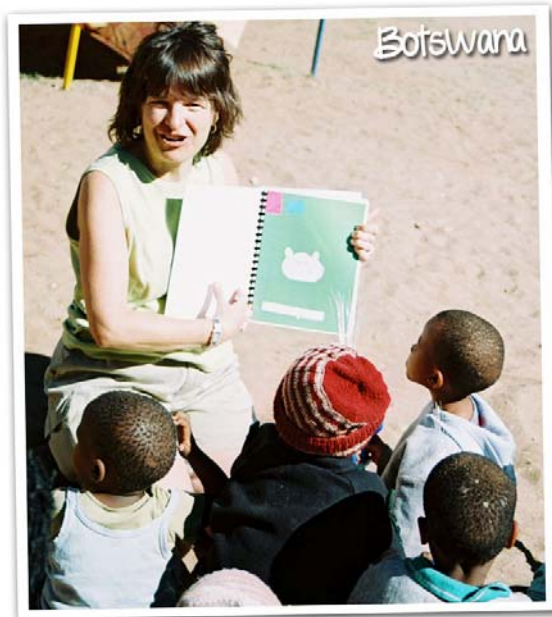


Clockwise from left: Girls at Camp Kakuma Kenya receiving educational supply packets; Children in Malawi show off their new pencils; Students in Pakistan read a student-created picture book.

KTKI will send your class a packet containing a "Certificate of Appreciation" and photos of children who have received our student-created picture books if possible.



Our Teacher/Student Ambassadors



Visit our website for more info: www.ktki.org

Country List



Afghanistan	El Salvador	Nepal
Armenia	Ghana	Nicaragua
Australia	Guatemala	Pakistan
Bangladesh	Haiti	Panama
Bosnia	Honduras	Peru
Botswana	Hong Kong	Philippines
Brazil	Iceland	Russia
Burma	India	Senegal
Burundi	Ireland	Somalia
Cambodia	Israel	South Africa
Chad	Jamaica	Thailand
Chile	Japan	Turkey
China	Jordan	Uganda
Costa Rica	Kenya	Ukraine
Croatia	Kosovo	Uruguay
Cuba	Liberia	Venezuela
Dominican Republic	Lithuania	Vietnam
Ecuador	Malawi	West Africa
Eritrea	Mauritania	
Egypt	Mexico	

