

Differentiated Reading Activity

Senior:
3rd - 6th class

What is the Christmas Shoebox Appeal?

The Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal is where people all over Ireland give shoeboxes filled with gifts to children in parts of Africa or Eastern Europe who don't have as much as we do. It is our chance to share some joy and excitement with children who need it.

The Christmas Shoebox Appeal happens every year.

Last year, in **2023**, we sent **176,615 Christmas Shoeboxes** to Albania, Ukraine, Romania, Transnistria, Moldova, Malawi, Kenya, Rwanda, Eswatini, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Lesotho and DR Congo.

Christmas Shoeboxes started off in Ireland, being made in homes or schools. Shoeboxes are then brought to checking centres where they are sealed by volunteers so make sure they get to children safely.

They then travel by truck and/or ship. Trucks take the shoeboxes to countries in Europe and shipping containers are needed if the boxes are going to countries in Africa. Christmas Shoeboxes travel a very long way!

Some shoeboxes will travel **over 15,000km** to get to their new homes.

Questions:

Where do shoebox gifts go to?

- ☐ Countries in Africa
- ☐ Countries in Europe
- ☐ Ireland
- ☐ America

Who do shoeboxes go to?

- ☐ Animals
- ☐ Adults
- ☐ Children



Fill in the map of where the Christmas Shoeboxes went last year.



4 W's Poster

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What goes into a Christmas Shoebox?

What are the 4W's?

- ☐ Wash, write, wear, wow
- ☐ Wear, Walk, Wash, wobble
- ☐ Wellies, Wow, Water, Waves

What are some things to **write** with?



What are some things to **wear**?

What are some things to **wash** with?

What are some things to **wow**?

Why do we send Christmas Shoeboxes?

Team Hope works all year round and sends Christmas Shoeboxes to countries where there is poverty. Poverty is where a person can't get enough money for their basic needs like food, shelter (a home) and education (school).

Poverty can be caused by wars, climate change, people not having enough rights and inequality.

Christmas Shoeboxes are gifts that help to bring joy to children and they also give things that they need like copybooks and pencils for school and warm clothes.

When Team Hope's partners in each country deliver Christmas Shoeboxes they meet people living in poverty and are able to help them in other ways.

When shoeboxes arrive in their new country they are separated for the different towns they will go to and can travel there by truck, van, car, bike or trailer. Our volunteers in each country know who needs a Christmas Shoebox most and they make sure it gets to them.



Discussion questions

What is poverty?

(Discuss)

What causes poverty?

(Discuss)