



Connecting Kids to Justice Stories (for use with the Connecting Kids to Justice PowerPoints)

[SLIDE 1]
Connecting Kids to Justice

Day 1: Caring for Our World

*Catholic Social Teaching: Care for God's Creation

[SLIDE 2] Say: This week at Rocky Railway Totally Catholic VBS, we will talk a lot about our relationship with Jesus and how his power helps us and gives us good things always--when times are good and when times are not so good. One way that we can get closer to Jesus and wisely use the power he gives us is to help others. This week we have a chance to help people in a faraway place where the need for help is great: Bolivia, a beautiful place, but one where almost 40% of the people live in extreme poverty. [SLIDE 3, 4]

This week as we look at the lives of our brothers and sisters in Bolivia, we are going to talk a lot about the importance of taking care of the beautiful home God gave us to live in as his family. The earth is filled with the beauty of God's creation, and we are called to care for it. We are blessed to live in such an incredible world that God made for us.

[SLIDE 5] But, there are children your age in places like Bolivia, who with their families, are suffering right now. Climate change and other challenges have harmed their livelihood: severe droughts have resulted in dry fields, lakes, and water sources which hurt their crops, livestock, and fish supply. Bolivians care for their land and use traditional farming techniques to try to preserve water and land resources, but still find themselves in crisis.

Thanks to Catholic Relief Services (CRS), an organization of our Catholic community that helps people in need around the world, over 36,000 people in Bolivia are receiving critical aid. CRS helps them to learn modern farming and land management techniques in addition to their traditional ones that help Bolivian farmers to make the best use of their land in the face of many challenges. Jesus' power will help them to do these hard things, and we can be a

part of that by caring for God's creation and being generous to our brothers and sisters in need across the world.

[SLIDE 6] Supporting the work of our Church through Catholic Relief Services means helping people get healthy crops, healthy livestock, and healthy, well-managed water resources. The money we gather here at Rocky Railway Totally Catholic VBS means that families and whole communities in Bolivia will have Jesus' power to prosper. When you eat nourishing food, or drink a clean glass of water today, think about how your donations and your commitment to be a good steward of the earth and its resources can help families and children in Bolivia and all over the world.

[SLIDE 7] Let's quietly say a prayer.

[SLIDE 8 – OPTIONAL: Turn to your neighbor and take time to answer these questions]