Every child has the right to learn

Nelson Mandela once said, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” Yet in 2018, 100 million youths worldwide were illiterate. Development professionals agree that without education, it is almost impossible to break out of poverty. This means that education is at the very heart of sustainable development.

OUR COMMITMENT

Through the Education Signature Initiative, World Vision commits to IMPROVE LEARNING OUTCOMES through award-winning principles and practices for children—including those living in fragile contexts and emergency settings.

OUR APPROACH

World Vision’s award-winning Unlock Literacy program empowers parents and children to value education and its life-changing potential. We focus on immersing students in words while enhancing community structures that contribute to learning.

To do this we:

1. **ESTABLISH** after-school reading camps with trained volunteers and age-appropriate books for children to take home, so they’re excited about reading.

2. **EMPOWER** parents to learn along with their children and understand the value of education, so they prioritize school.

3. **EQUIP** primary school teachers with quality training and resources to end the cycle of illiteracy.

“Readers access a wide range of opportunities that simply aren’t possible for the illiterate. Meaning and possibility are everywhere for kids who can read.”

—Jen Wolford, World Vision National Leadership Council member
Solving the literacy challenge

Even when children are in school, gaining literacy skills isn’t guaranteed. The students’ commitment to study must be met with the right tools and instruction. Although literacy has improved overall in Rwanda, in the Akageru and Kivu regions where World Vision works, 40% of people still don’t have literacy skills. Class sizes are larger than average, too—with around 60 students to each teacher.

Rwanda’s national strategy for development and poverty reduction is helping children get into, and stay in, school: 97% of elementary-aged children enroll in classes, and over the past five years the country’s dropout rate has decreased from 14% to only 5.6%.

World Vision’s plan to help keep these educational outcomes moving forward builds on Rwanda’s own support for students using the Unlock Literacy method. In Nepal, the difference this approach made in children’s reading was clear: While only 7% of students could read and comprehend a written passage before the Unlock Literacy program, 51% could do so after—a much higher rate than the 32% of children in schools that did not use the program.

Together with you, we can help vulnerable children live into a future of their choosing by empowering their education today.

› A FULL SOLUTION TO POVERTY

We work in thousands of communities worldwide to help people address not only education challenges but a variety of needs, including water, health, economic opportunity, and child protection—partnering with them to deliver a full solution capable of breaking the cycle of poverty.

› HIGH-IMPACT PARTNERS

World Vision is able to reach more people because of our local and global partnerships within the public and private sectors—and with supporters like you.

Making all the difference

Education is the most critical aspect of human development. When mothers are educated, there’s a reduction in preventable child deaths, maternal mortality rates, and HIV transmission. Children’s nutrition and vaccination rates also improve. Each year of secondary education for girls reduces the likelihood of child marriage. And just one additional year of schooling can raise an individual’s hourly earnings by as much as 9%.

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.