

Fundraising activity

tree of life



You will need:

- A large wall space
 - A WEE BOX to collect donations
 - Paint/drawing materials and frieze paper
 - Photocopies of the leaf shapes on the reverse of this sheet
 - Scissors and colouring pencils
- Optional - WEE BOX DVD-ROM and multimedia projector.

Time and again the people from El Salvador and Nicaragua repeated the same words, “Trees are our life”. The families featured in this resource pack understood that trees absorb CO₂ and lessen the impact of climate change. Trees also protect their soil and shade their crops from the harsh sun. The fruit from trees also helps to nourish their families and the fallen leaves provide vital compost for their next harvests. Trees also protect villages from landslides when the floods come.

This Lent, SCIAF is asking you to create your very own **tree of life** to support your fundraising and Lenten activities. Creating your own **tree of life** is a fun whole-school activity that:

- gives a visual representation of the new life that your school gives to others through your WEE BOX donations
- helps pupils understand that Lent is a time of growth and renewal, and a time to give, reflect and act
- supports Eco-School activities and highlights the importance of trees in our natural environment

Step 1 Draw or paint a large picture of a bare tree, showing the trunk and branches, in your classroom, school foyer or assembly hall. Create your own or project the image provided on this year’s WEE BOX DVD-ROM onto a wall and trace around it.

Step 2 Explain to pupils that the tree represents the new life they give to families and communities around the world through the donations they give to SCIAF. Each time they make a donation they can colour in a leaf and add it to the tree. The aim is to make the tree burst into bloom.

Step 3 Invite your pupils to suggest how much each of the leaf shapes should be worth. Write these onto the leaves before photocopying the sheets for your class or school. You may also want to use the fruit, flower or bird shapes provided on the WEE BOX DVD-ROM. These should be allocated a higher value than the leaf shapes.

Step 4 Email a picture of your completed **tree of life** display to youth@sciaf.org.uk so we can create a **forest of life** photogallery on our youth website at www.sciafyouth.org.uk



Remember the environment – use scrap paper or scrap material for the leaf shapes. Or create a virtual **tree of life** on your computer to project at assembly or onto your interactive whiteboard.

Decide on the appropriate value of the leaves e.g. 10p, 20p, 50p or £1. Write this amount into the boxes provided before photocopying.

