

Water Board Game

Learn how a reliable source of fresh water has impacted on Peter's school in the Solomon Islands.

You need:
A dice
Counters for each child

Start

1

2

You could not find water. Go back to the start.

3

4

You help in the kitchen. Roll again.

5

6

No water in the well. Miss a turn.

7

You plan to save water. Roll again.

14

13

12

Dirty water gives you a rash. Go back 2 spaces.

11

10

9

You help dig trenches. Move forward 2 spaces.

8

15

You miss class to find water. Go back 3 spaces.

16

17

Tanks are full from rain. Move forward 3 spaces.

18

19

You are tired from the walk. Miss a turn.

20

21

School gets a new water tank. Go forward 2 spaces.

22

23

Your school has clean water. Roll again.

29

28

27

26

You cannot wash. Go back 2 spaces.

25

24

Finish

30

School



PETER, SOLOMON ISLANDS

Does your school have clean water? How far do you have to walk to find clean water at school? At Peter's boarding school in the Solomon Islands, finding water has been a challenge for the past 60 years. Students used to walk kilometres each day in search of clean water. With Caritas Australia's support, the school has created a new water system. Students like Peter are now in better health and can work towards a hopeful future.

Peter who was born in the Lau region of Malaita Island, never takes water for granted. "Water is part of our culture, a symbol in our dancing and our drumming. Lau means people who live in the islands," says Peter.

Peter's childhood has not been easy. As he grew older, Peter became ill and now walks with the aid of a stick.

The Solomon Islands are surrounded by water, but still suffers drought and water shortages – similar to land-locked Zimbabwe (Project Compassion story, Week 1). In the country areas of the Solomon Islands, around 70% of people don't have access to piped water and around 85% don't have access to flushing toilets. (World Bank, 2015)

Water is hard to find at Peter's school. Groundwater sources at the school have dried up and rainfall is not regular enough. Water in surrounding wells and boreholes near the school often made students sick or gave them rashes.

Caritas Australia, and partners Caritas Australia in the Solomon Islands (CASI) and the Solomon Islands Government Rural Water Sanitation and

Hygiene division (RWASH), teamed up with the school community to tackle the problem with new water tanks and a pump.

Staff and students took part in training opportunities, dug trenches, carried equipment and are helping to develop a water management plan, which teachers have linked to the school curriculum.

Thanks to this hard work and commitment, the school has access to a safe water system. Peter is no longer getting rashes or becoming sick from the dirty, smelly water.

"Now we can stay at school to wash and not interrupt our official class time, it makes our life much easier."

- Peter "

After school, Peter likes to hang out with his friends. They joke and entertain each other by dancing. Peter hopes to help others in the future by working for an aid and development agency like Caritas.

"I would like to thank the people of Australia and hope for Caritas to do more things for us, for our school."

-Peter

However, there is still much to be done at the school with taps, toilets, water and sanitation hardware still in great need at the school.

"I think the future is in our hands because we are the future for the world and if we cooperate with each other and work together and discuss together, I think we will make a better world in the future, that's my dream."

- Peter