



# Leaia's Story (Samoa)

Primary (F-2)  
Case Study with  
Learning Activities



# TEACHER INFORMATION

The learning tasks follow the 'See, Judge, Act' learning inquiry cycle used in Caritas Australia's education resources. This reflection–action process was first used by a Belgian Catholic priest, Joseph Cardijn (who later became a Cardinal) with Young Christian Workers prior to the first World War. This approach was also recommended in the 1961 encyclical letter written by Pope John XXIII called Mater et Magistra (Mother and Teacher).

**See:** A story with comprehension questions, activities and a country study

**Judge:** A Catholic worldview, reflecting on what they have learnt in light of the Catholic faith.

**Act:** Faith in action, including prayer.



## Case Study

### **Learning Intentions**

Students will be able to:

- explain Leaia's story
- explain how Caritas Australia have been able to support Leaia and her family
- describe the personal impacts on Leaia and her family
- locate Samoa on a world map.



## See

### **Success Criteria**

Students will be able to demonstrate their understanding by:

- completing comprehension tasks
- connecting Leaia's story to Catholic Social Teaching (CST)
- organising and/or reflecting ways to support people like Leaia and/or the work of Caritas Australia.



## Judge



## Act



# LEAIA'S STORY (SAMOA)

## SEE



Read Leaia's Story (pages 7 - 25) and watch the ['Day in the Life'](#) film.

### TASK 1: CLASS DISCUSSION

- Where does Leaia's family get water from?
- What impact is climate change having on Leaia's family's ability to access clean water?
- How does having easy access to clean water help Leaia's children go to school?
- How did Caritas Australia help?
- How will you share Leaia's story with others?

**Curriculum links:** English, HASS, Science

### TASK 2: PHOTO STUDY

As a class, view the photos in Leaia's Story (pages 7-25)

Ask students:

- What do the photos show you about Leaia's life?
- Which photo do you like the best? Why?
- What questions would you like to ask Leaia?
- What do you want to learn more about?

**Curriculum links:** English, HASS

Leaia (right) stands with her family in front of their home that is now connected to a rainwater tank.  
Photo: Laura Womersley/Caritas Australia





# LEAIA'S STORY (SAMOA)

## SEE continued



### TASK 6: RAINWATER HARVESTING

Explain that rainwater harvesting is the process of collecting and storing rainwater for later use, such as drinking, washing, watering gardens, washing clothes and flushing toilets.

Before the installation of the rainwater tank, Leaia used half pipes to channel rain from her roof into old fridges and containers.



If you have a water tank at your school show the students how the water is collected from the roof/surface to the gutter, down the pipe into the tank. What does your school use rainwater for? How does this compare to how Leaia's family uses rainwater?

Extension: students build a simple marble run from a surface, to a pipe to a tank.

Students think of all the ways Leaia and her family use rainwater and record them on rain drops using the worksheet ([page 28](#)).

**Curriculum link:** HASS, Design and Technology, Science



Now Leaia has a water tank. The rainwater falls onto the roof, runs into the gutter, and to the downpipe filling her tank.





# LEAIA'S STORY

## SAMOA

**PRIMARY (F TO 2)**  
**PHOTO STORYBOOK**

Photos: Laura Womersley/Caritas Australia





**Have you noticed that the weather is changing? Perhaps there are more hot days? Or less rain?**





Samoa is a beautiful island country. This means it is surrounded by water.





But there is not enough clean drinking water in some areas. This makes it very hard for some families like Leaia's.





Leaia lives with her family on the island of Upolu in Samoa.





Leaia's family makes the most out of what they have. They built their home out of recycled scraps that they collected.





Their home is not connected to a piped water system so they rely on rainwater collected in old fridges.

**Where do you get your water from?**





The climate is changing. Leaia's family are seeing shorter rainy seasons and longer dry seasons. This left them without enough rainwater to use.





When they ran out of water, Leaia and her children walked to collect water in buckets and containers from a neighbour down the street.





It can be very hot in Samoa, and the children would have to take lots of breaks because the buckets were heavy.

**Have you ever carried a bucket full of water?**





Sometimes there was not enough clean water at the school so Leaia's children stayed home.





With the help of Caritas Australia's local partner Caritas Samoa, Leaia and her family got a really big water tank at their home.





This means that the family can now have easy access to clean water for drinking,





cooking,





and washing.





Now, instead of spending lots of time collecting water, Leaia and her children can spend more time on other important things, like going to school.





Next, Caritas Samoa is going to help Leaia and other families build new toilets which will help them stay healthy.





**“I hope this program helps other families in need, like mine. Thank you, Caritas, for the water tank and the opportunity. It has helped us and made our daily life easier.”**

Leaia







The money you donate to Project Compassion can help families in Samoa to have clean water and toilets!



# WORLD MAP





# Water Board Game

Learn how a reliable source of clean water has impacted on Leaias family in Samoa

You need:  
A dice  
Counters for each child

**Start**  
1

2

3  
You run out of clean water. Go back to the start.

4

5  
You help in the kitchen. Roll again.

6

7

8

9

10

11  
No water in the tank. Miss a turn.

12  
You plan to save water. Roll again.

13

14

15  
Your bucket has a hole in it. Go back 2 spaces.

16

17

18  
You collect water from a neighbour. Move forward 2 spaces.

19

20

21

22  
School gets a new water tank. Go forward 2 spaces.

23

24

25  
You miss school because there is no clean water there. Go back 3 spaces.

26

27

28

29  
Tanks are full from rain. Move forward 3 spaces.

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42  
You cannot wash. Go back 2 spaces.

**Finish**  
30

School

ring  
ring

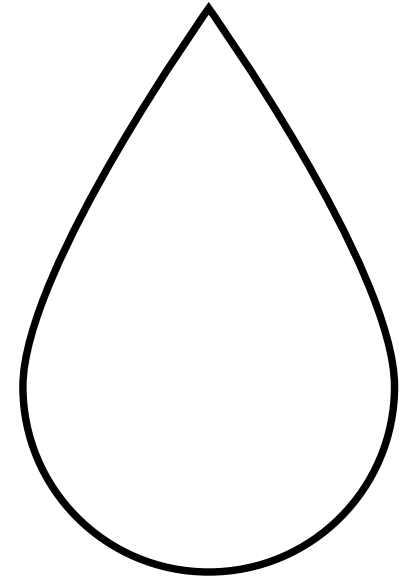
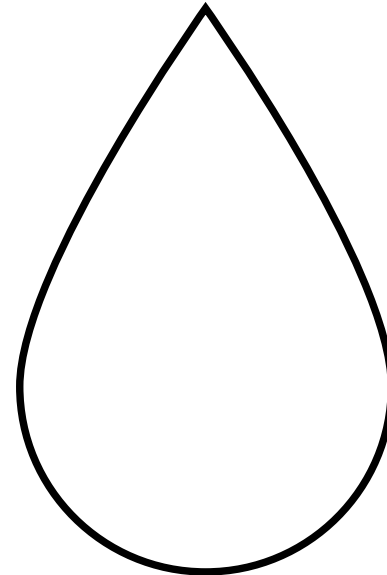
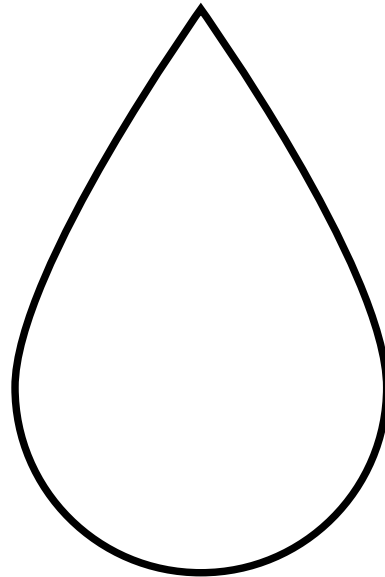
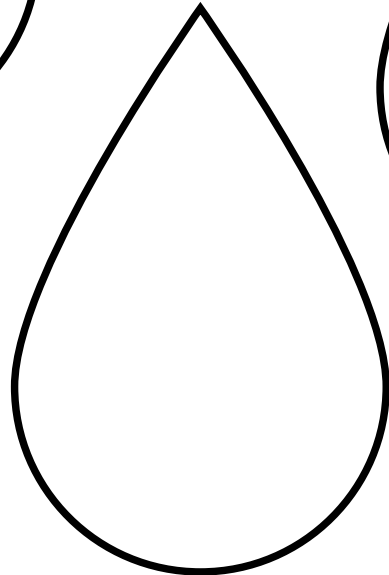
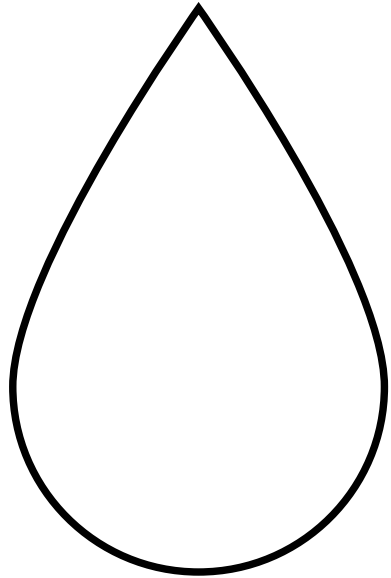


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Leaia and her family rely on rain as their water supply.

In the raindrops draw or write all the ways you think Leaia's family uses rainwater.

# RAIN!





# LEAIA'S STORY – LEARNING ACTIVITIES

## JUDGE



### TASK 7: CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING LINK – HUMAN DIGNITY

#### Human Dignity

- We are all special because God made us.
  - All people – ourselves and others – should be treated with respect and fairness because God made each one of us!
- A. How is human dignity demonstrated in Leaia's story?
- B. How is supporting Caritas Australia one way you can uphold the dignity of others?

For more teaching resources on Human Dignity refer to our [CST Toolkit](#)

**Curriculum links:** Religious Education

### TASK 8: RE LINK

*Fratelli Tutti* is a letter from Pope Francis about love and friendship. *Fratelli Tutti* means we are all brothers and sisters. Pope Francis reminds us that we need to treat everyone like a sister or brother and when we do so, this is called fraternal love; love that reaches out and helps others, no matter where they are from or where they live.

*“Those who enjoy a surplus of water yet choose to conserve it for the sake of the greater human family have attained a moral stature that allows them to look beyond themselves and the group to which they belong. How marvellously human! The same attitude is demanded if we are to recognize the rights of all people, even those born beyond our own borders.”*

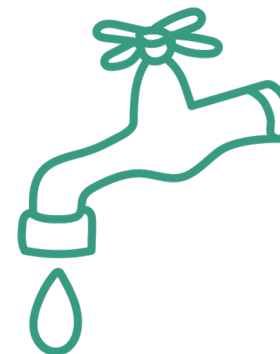
(Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti* n117)

Explain the quote from *Fratelli Tutti*. For example, some people have more water to use than what they need. Instead of wasting water, they save it for others who don't have enough. This is an example of fraternal love; thinking about and caring for other people, not just ourselves or our own family and friends. This is the type of love we need to show to everyone all around the world.

Caritas Australia is helping Leaia's family and community to have enough clean water. When we support Caritas Australia, we are also part of the story, sharing our love and compassion with others. *How marvellously human!*

Students share ways they can be *marvellously human*.

**Curriculum Link:** Religious Education





# LEAIA'S STORY – LEARNING ACTIVITIES

## ACT



### TASK 9: PRAYER

Write a prayer for Leaia. See worksheet on [page 31](#).

Here are some ideas to assist you in writing your prayer:

- Prayer of Thanksgiving: I am thankful that Leaia and/or Leaia's community in Samoa ...
- Prayer of Petition: I ask that Leaia and/or Leaia's community in Samoa...
- Prayer of Intercession: I pray that Leaia and/or Leaia's community in Samoa and/or people like Leaia are able to ...

**Curriculum Link:** Religious Education





Name:

# My Prayer for Leiaia





# THANK YOU



## PHOTO CREDITS

Leaia's Story (Samoa) – Laura Womersley/Caritas Australia

## TEACHERS

For more school resources, please visit:

[caritas.org.au/resources/school-resources/](https://caritas.org.au/resources/school-resources/)

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## GENERAL ENQUIRIES

[education@caritas.org.au](mailto:education@caritas.org.au)



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