

SNAKES AND LADDERS GAME

Over 130,000 people across Burundi, Ethiopia, Malawi, Sudan and South Sudan at the end of 2013 achieved an accredited qualification in literacy learning as well as becoming economically empowered through the Mothers' Union's Literacy & Financial Education Programme.

More information can be found on the website www.themothersunion.org (search literacy and financial education programme).

1. Talk about how difficult life must be if you are unable to read and write and how this can affect family life for people in developing countries - poverty, education, health, etc. Ask your members to think of problems women may have to face trying to bring up a family without a basic education.
2. Talk about Roda Poni from South Sudan (who is mentioned on the website) and tell the group how her life has been transformed. There is a lot of information here to talk about.
3. South Sudan is profiled in Families Worldwide, Issue 14. All members receive a copy so why not ask one of the members to say a few words about the country, population, etc. and the problems they have encountered recently.
4. If you have enough people at your meeting who can be organised into groups of four have a lot of fun by having a game of snakes and ladders and let your members face the problems that illiteracy can bring. A copy of the game is given here. You will need dice and markers. If you can get the game printed on light card it will be even better!
5. Finish the session with a moment of quiet whilst you think about the work of the Literacy and Financial Education Programme and pray for the people who have benefitted from the programme.
(Perhaps one of your members could prepare this before the meeting.)

If you do not have a computer you could book a Mothers' Union speaker to talk about the programme and have the game of snakes and ladder as part of the meeting. The Coordinator of the Action and Outreach Unit will also be able to give you lots of information.