

Helping Each Other, Near and Far

Dear Teacher:

You know that first grade is an important time to increase students' awareness of the larger world. Lessons about family and community naturally extend to discussions of people in other places, near and far. This Scholastic program offers learning materials to teach students about Africa. In the process, your students will learn how they can affect the world around them, while discovering powerful connections with children in Africa.

Developed around a brand-new storybook, *Nets Are Nice*, the program introduces students to the problem of malaria—a deadly yet preventable disease that affects millions of children in Africa and other areas of the world. By learning how individuals—including children—can join forces to stop malaria and other serious health and developmental problems, young students are empowered with the understanding that they can make a difference in the lives of others.

Three teaching lessons—based on national standards in reading, writing, science, and geography—work in harmony to build students' knowledge of Africa and their sense of power and pride as capable individuals.

- Lesson One provides a reading lesson for class listening and discussion of *Nets Are Nice*.
- Lesson Two expands students' introduction to Africa with a focus on geography and climate.
- Lesson Three explores ways students are contributing members of family, school, community, and places in the world like Africa.

The *Nets Are Nice* storybook and poster teaching program have been created by Scholastic in partnership with Malaria No More, a nonprofit group that is joining the fight against malaria. The program is made possible through the generous support of the Abbott Fund, a philanthropic foundation dedicated to creating healthier global communities.

Together, we can help your students discover how cooperation can solve a critical world problem as they learn about—and learn from—children in Africa.

Sincerely,



Steve Palm, Scholastic Inc.



John M. Bridgeland, Malaria No More

