

# HELP SHANTI AND HER FRIENDS GET TO SCHOOL



**A HARVEST GAME  
TO HELP CHURCH SCHOOLS IN  
THE DIOCESE OF VELLORE**

For Shanti and her friends, children in villages in the Diocese of Vellore, in South India, going to school is something that they long to do. But it's not as easy for them to get to school as it is for us. There are all sorts of things that prevent them getting the education they so desperately want. As you play this game, you'll discover some of the things that stop girls and boys like Shanti getting to school. You'll also discover some of the ways people are helping these children to receive an education and change their lives. Perhaps you, too, will want to help children like Shanti get to school!

### **HOW TO PLAY THE GAME**

In the back of this booklet you will find a sheet of 'Chance' cards and a sheet of 'Challenge' cards. Ask your teacher to photocopy these. Then cut these up along the lines, and keep the 'Chance' cards and 'Challenge' cards separately. Shuffle the 'Chance' cards, and the 'Challenge' cards. You will also find a game board, with 100 marked squares. Some squares are not numbered but have a picture on them. If it is possible, ask your teacher to enlarge this to A3 on the photocopier.

You can have as many players as you like to play. Each player will need a counter. You will also need one dice to play.

- Decide which order you will play in. Each player starts with their first throw. Move the number of squares that it says on the dice ( ie if you throw 5 you move to square number 5).
- If your move ends on a photo square, you must take a 'Chance' card. Read out what it says and carry out the instructions.
- If your move ends on a square marked 'Challenge' you must read out the challenge and try to carry it out. Other players are allowed to help with the challenge.
- The winner is the first person to reach square number 100, but carry on playing until every player has had a chance to get to school!

### **Other ideas**

If your school playground has a number grid marked on it, you could play the game outside. Ask a teacher to visit the website... and print the photos for the squares in a large size. Put the photos on the right numbers in the number grid and get playing!

To raise money for the children in schools in Vellore, you could charge a fee to play, or sponsor a player or... use your imagination!!!!!!

**Before you play, you might want to read through the rest of this booklet, to help you understand what children like Shanti face as they try to get to school - and also to help you with the Challenges!**

## **Why is it so hard for Shanti to get to school?**

Well, to answer this, we're going to look at some other questions first.

## **Why are some people so poor in India?**

Not everyone is poor in India. Some people are very rich indeed. However, many of the millions of people who live in India have barely enough to get by each day.

The people of India have been divided by the caste system. Your caste is defined by your birth, and can never change. Your caste determines what you are allowed to do in India. Even if you become immensely wealthy, you can never change the caste into which you were born.

When the missionaries first began to work in the area covered by the Diocese of Vellore, they determined to work amongst the poorest of the poor people. These people were the lowest caste of people in India. They have been known as the Untouchables. Gandhi called them the 'Harijans' which means the Children of God. Today they ask to be known as 'Dalits' which means the downtrodden people.

Dalits are the people who had to do the jobs that no one else would do, including jobs that involve clearing up dung and touching dead bodies. Many of the laws keep the Dalits in the lowest positions in life. They are not allowed to take drinking water from the public wells. They do not necessarily receive a free education like all other people. They are not supposed to build brick built houses in the villages! Dalits have to live in separate villages from other caste Indians.

So, if the missionaries were going to work amongst these poorest of the poor people, of course their first converts would also be some of the very poorest people! Many of the descendants of the first Indian Christians in this area are now very important people within the Christian world - even Bishops - but they are never allowed to forget that they are also Dalits.

The Diocese of Vellore has continued its tradition to work amongst the poorest people, and offers them an education and healthcare when no other group will do so. (There are now laws in India which say that Dalits must be given certain advantages and rights. However, this does not help the church, because the law also says that if you have become a Christian you are no longer a member of any caste. So the very poorest people, if they are Christians, do not get a chance of the extra help that many other Dalits could receive).

However, it's not just the caste system that keeps so many people really poor in India! Have you ever noticed that when you're already down, all sorts of other bad things seem to happen to? Well, it's just the same in India, but seems to be even worse!

## **Is harvest-time in Vellore just like it is in England?**

In some ways, yes, but in other ways, no!

One of the major crops in the Vellore area is sugar cane. Sugar is made from this. I expect you've often been caught behind a sugar beet lorry when you've been travelling in Cambridgeshire or Norfolk. In the Vellore area you get caught behind sugar cane lorries or bullock carts, all going off to the processing factory. On small farms the sugar cane is processed in the fields, making a dark form of sugar called jaggery. The sugar harvest is in January and February.

This is also the time of the rice harvest - or paddy. The paddy needs very wet fields to grow properly. When it is ready to be picked, instead of having some kind of processor in the fields, it is usually hand picked. Many people then leave all the plant, leaves and all, on the road so that the passing cars and lorries will act like threshing machines, separating the grains of rice from all the stuff they don't want (which will be given to the animals to eat). Sometimes the threshed rice will be left on the roadside to dry!

The other main crop of the area is groundnuts. Much of the land is too bad to grow anything on, but it may be possible to grow some groundnuts. You can buy a lovely sweet in the shops, made of groundnuts and jaggery - but I don't think our dentists would like it very much!

In January in Tamil Nadu ( the state where Vellore is situated), there is a special harvest festival called Pongal. Pongal takes place over three days. This festival is to give thanks for the harvest, particularly for the rice and the sugar. There is a special ceremony, when pots of rice and sugar are cooked and allowed to boil over. This sometimes happens in a field. This is to give thanks for the food, and to ask for a blessing for the next year. One day of Pongal is a special day for the animals, particularly those who work for a living. The cows, goats - even the dogs - are washed and then decorated, and given a day without any work to thank them for all they have done. But it's not all party and celebrations. Don't forget - sometimes, when you're down, everything seems to get worse.

India is a very hot country, and the south of India is very close to the Equator. This means that the land can get very dry. The people depend on the monsoon rain from June until October. If the rains are too heavy, it can ruin the planting of the next season's crops. However, if the rains do not come, everyone knows that next year's crops will be ruined! The poor people do not have the money to afford expensive irrigation equipment, even if there were water available. If there have been no rains, then the cows and goats which wander everywhere cannot get any food to eat. Those who work on the land have no work if the crops are dying, and cannot buy cattle feed and medicines for their animals. So their animals get sick and sometimes die.

There has not been much rain in Tamil Nadu for the last two years!

## Why don't some children go to school?

In Indian law, every child is supposed to go to school until the age of 11. However, there are no school support officers to make sure that children get to school. There are three answers to the question.

1) Because of poverty. If the family own a little piece of land, or a cow or some goats, the older children often need to look after this, while the parents go out to work for a much richer farmer. If a parent is sick, or has died, the family will not survive unless the children also go to work. Many children are employed making cigarettes, because their small fingers can roll these really well. In towns there are other sorts of jobs that small children can do - making jewellery, running errands, helping on building sites. These jobs don't pay very well, but the money they bring in might make all the difference for a family.

If you are a dalit, particularly from a Christian village, you cannot get a free education. Even the church schools cost a little money. School uniform is just a simple white shirt and school coloured shorts or a skirt, but these cost money too. Few children wear shoes to school. Some families have never had anyone go to school, so do not understand the need for education.

2) Because they are girls! Yes, far less girls go to school than boys. It's not fair, is it? But why? Well, even in the poorest families, boys are often treated like 'little princes' - partly because they *are* boys, which makes them 'special' (don't laugh, girls, this is true!). But also because having a boy will mean that the parents can look forward to a secure old age. When a boy marries, his bride will bring a dowry ( a variety of gifts, including money, given by her family) with her to her husband's home. She will look after her husband's parents when they are old. A girl is just expensive - she will need to be given a dowry, or no-one will marry her, and then she will go away and look after someone else - her in-laws. So many of the poorest families ask what the point of educating girls is? Someone else will reap the benefits. It's far better to use the girls for working in the fields or for looking after the younger children while the parents work in the fields!

3) Because of health issues. Here, if we are sick, we just ring up the doctor, make an appointment and go to the surgery. It's not so easy in India. There are not surgeries in the villages. Even in towns, going to the doctor costs money. There aren't free medicines. So if you are ill, your parents will wait to see if it cures itself, or maybe find some 'village' cure for you. Also, there's not much knowledge about what causes illness, so people might get sick time and again, maybe from drinking very bad water. It might be some time before anyone decides that they really do need to find the money to take you to the doctor in the town. People don't always understand about conditions that children are born with, such as deafness or cerebral palsy, so these children do not get a chance to have an education.

### **Does anyone care that they don't go to school?**

Oh yes, indeed. The Christians are not the only people who care in India, but are actually the biggest group of people who try to change things.

So what sort of things do they do? These are just some of the things that Christians in the Diocese of Vellore are engaged in.

- Schools: the diocese of Vellore runs as many schools as it can for the Dalit children. Fees are kept to the very minimum, and many children pay nothing.
- Many of the secondary schools that it runs have hostels where the children stay during term time. This means that children from remote villages can come to the schools to continue their education
- At least one school is working with gypsy families who live nearby. Gypsies have never received an education. This school makes sure that all the children get a lunch, even if they haven't been at school that day. It also employs the gypsies to make garlands that the school give to visitors, thus guaranteeing a small income to the families.
  
- Some projects offer breakfast to children before morning school.
- Some people donate things like school uniforms for poorer children
- There are schemes for sponsoring children at school, so they don't have to pay the fees
  
- there are special projects to help girls get an education. One scheme run by the Church of South India offers evening classes to girls. If they attend for a certain number of weeks, the family get given a goat. The hope is that eventually the family will have a few goats, and get an income from these, so that the girl can then go to school
  
- there are daycare centres being run by the diocese
- the diocese runs two projects for older children to receive training for a skill - in sewing or in carpentry or electronics. Another project, for computer training, has been set up by a group of Christians who care about young people.
  
- there are special centres for children with cerebral palsy, deafness or polio, to help these children receive the special education they need. There are also outreach workers to go to the villages and towns, to identify the needs and help the families
- the Christian hospitals support local healthworkers who work in the villages, and amongst the poor people, offering health advice and education, and giving all sorts of primary healthcare. If someone needs to see a doctor, they will arrange for them to get to the hospital. Some also monitor all pregnant women and children up to the age of 5 to help them stay healthy.

- they also run special camps in the villages, where specialists go out to give information on particular problems. Some camps look out for problems with eyes - usually cataracts for older people, but also identifying problems with children's eyes; others give health awareness lessons.

So people really do care. Some of this work is supported by agencies in the western world. Many are supported by a German agency. One woman built a whole therapy block for a special school by baking a Christmas cake that was 100 m long, and selling slices to her neighbours. But much of the money has to come from the diocese itself. And don't forget, many of the Christians were amongst the poorest people in the country. Some will help by putting a handful of rice away each day. At the end of the week they will bring that rice to church, where it will all be sold and the money go to help the diocese.

It's small wonder that there isn't a lot of money left over to repair school roofs or buildings, or to build a toilet!

The name Shanti means 'peace' It's the same as the word 'Shalom' that the Bible uses. When the Bible talks about 'shalom', it doesn't just mean no fighting. It means that everyone is helping one another and that things are fair for all people. Some of the Biblical writers get quite cross when things are not fair, and say that God would not like it at all. So, as we help Shanti get to school, we are doing what God told us to do. We are helping peace, real peace and fairness, come to schools in the Diocese of Vellore.

There might be other questions you want to ask about life for children in India. There are a number of books that can help you. There are also internet sites. Although we might not have all the answers you need, Dr. Shirley Hall and Rev. Fiona Brampton, who put this pack together, might also be able to help.

Why not write to them at

Ely Diocesan Office  
Barton Road  
Ely  
Cambs  
CB7 4DX

or e-mail to [shirley.hall@ely.anglican.org](mailto:shirley.hall@ely.anglican.org)

and ask your question, or tell us what you thought of the game and the pack, or what your school is doing to help Shanti get to school.

## GUIDE TO THE PICTURES ON THE GAME BOARD

(these are also found on the web site)

The pictures on the game board show something of the stories of the children at church schools in the Diocese of Vellore. They tell of their struggles and also of their hopes. Please feel free to go onto the web site and enlarge the pictures to help your own understanding of our brothers and sisters across the world.

### Picture at square 5      Welcome dance



It's a really exciting time at school if visitors come. When guests visit a school the normal programme of lessons is often suspended, and an impromptu programme of entertainment to be arranged. These girls attended a school in the village in Latteri Pastorate. They were chosen to do a few local folk dances for their visitors. The school is typical of the schools sponsored by the

Diocese of Vellore. It is in a small village, and the pupils come from the poorest families. The diocese sees its mission to all the children of a village, and not just those who are Christian. Many of the children are Hindus. In some areas, Hindu, Muslim and Christian children all learn together in the same school. The schools will only offer Christian prayer and worship.

### Picture at square 13      The village of Selambu turn out to meet visitors.

This school, run by the Diocese of Vellore meets in the tiny village church, and has insufficient space. The building is made of mud and thatch. The foundations for a new school and a new church have been laid, but the school is waiting for money to be able to build properly. On this occasion, not only the school students, but the whole village and a band turned out to meet the visitors to their school. They gave the visitors a garland and took them on a tour, complete with the band, all around the village (which was only small!)



**Picture at square 22 Beattie Memorial Teacher Training Institute in Ranipet**



This teacher training college is run by the Diocese of Vellore. It offers people who want to be primary school teachers a training within a Christian framework. The students stay in the hostel attached to the college. The Principal would very much like to explore the possibility of exchanges with teachers and students in Cambridgeshire, so that

there is a continuous influence of other methods and ways of life etc. Do you think we should send one of your teachers to India for a little while?

**Picture at square 29**

**Boys at Katpadi Industrial Institute**

Katpadi Industrial Institute is over 100 years old and was started by missionaries to provide skills training for the boys of poor rural families, who are unable to go for higher studies. Originally it taught pottery, weaving and aluminium work. Now the Institute has an electronics course, an electricians' course, a carpentry and cabinet making course and a



welding course. A number of girls are taking the electricians' course! The electronics and electricians courses take students who are over 16 years old. The carpentry and cabinet making course takes some students who have had to drop out of school, and is a three year course. Many students on the welding course are deaf and dumb. When choosing students, the school still prefers to choose students from poor families, because 'that is mission' the Director of the Institute explained. Once they've begun a course, students are allowed to finish, even if the family can no longer afford the very low fees.

As well as running the Katpadi Industrial Institute, the Diocese of Vellore also runs the Palamaneer Women's Industrial School. This was started nearly 100 years ago, by missionaries, to help some of the poor women in the area. Today it works with girls, mainly from poor rural families. The girls are taught needlework and embroidery, but also learn about finance, health awareness, gardening, cookery, and Bible Study. Some of the students have passed their 10<sup>th</sup> standard exams (aged 16) and are working towards a government certificate. Other students are from age 11 upwards, and have had to drop out

of school, usually because they have not attended enough school to pass the end of year exams. These girls have a three year course. At the end of the course each child has a skill and a sewing machine so that they can go back to their villages and earn money.

Both Institutions receive funding from western agencies, but the funding is being reduced whilst the needs continue. The Diocese faces the challenge of how to raise the money necessary to maintain these Institutions to face the 21st century.

#### **Picture at square 34                      Ramapuram Daycare Project**

This project is run by CSI Diocese of Vellore and cares for 75 children. Their mothers work on the farms in the area, and have to be out all day. It cares mainly for children between the ages of 6 months and 3 years. Staff have received a nursery nurse training. The children get breakfast, lunch and a light meal in the afternoon, and have stories, rhymes, painting, drawing and games. This



picture was taken during afternoon rest time. Older children come for morning prayers and breakfast, before going on to the Elementary (primary) school nearby. They come back after school, for tiffin (a simple tea) and extra tuition. The children also come for  $\frac{1}{2}$  a day on Saturdays. The project also carries out extension work amongst the families, talking about child care and health care. It also offers a simple loan scheme so that families can buy goats, cows or even a small shop and become independent. Much of the funding for the scheme comes from a western agency, who will be withdrawing their funding soon and putting the money into direct social work amongst families.

#### **Picture at square 44                      The sewing class at Gangapuram**

Gangapuram is a small village to the south of the Diocese of Vellore. The village is supported by a number of individuals from Germany and France, who have given money for a project called 'Nila Home'. This project runs a small tailoring unit for girls who have dropped out of school, teaching tailoring, embroidery and weaving. It



pays for medical aid for villagers to receive hospital treatment. It provides micro credit loans, to enable people to purchase a goat or a cow. Those who have received these loans are experiencing an improvement in the standard of living, although recent droughts have meant that the cows and goats are beginning to suffer. The project also supports education. Small grants are given to able students to pursue higher education, at university or nurses training. Subsidies are paid each month to a number of families where one parent has died, so that the children can carry on their education. 50 children from the village, of elementary school age, are given breakfast each morning and once a year are given a new school uniform. A teacher is also appointed to give the village children study support in the evenings.

### Picture at square 52

### Children at Anbu Illam, 'House of Love'



Anbu Illam supports 80 children with cerebral palsy. The centre is full of a unique kind of love for these children. It really is a 'House of Love'. All of the children come from very poor families. There is no state help for differently abled children, and their parents often have little understanding of how they can be helped. The children 'live in' during term time, from the age of 6

until they are in some kind of trade. The children receive a primary school education at the centre, and then go to local secondary schools. Some remain at Anbu Illam whilst going on to university vocational training. There is also a vocation and training centre within the centre for those who need it. Here the students learn things like cycle maintenance, weaving, making cleaning materials. Every student receives physiotherapy. The centre engages in special training for parents before the children are old enough to come to the school, during vacation times and after the student has left the centre. It has programmes to identify children with need at an early age, and offers help and physiotherapy to children unable to attend the centre. The centre aims to equip all the residents so that they can participate in life in the community when they leave. Funding comes from a western agency, with spiritual support from the Diocese of Vellore. A new therapy department was opened in 2001. The money for this was mostly raised by a German lady who baked a Christmas cake 100metres long, and sold slices to all her community! The western funders would like to change the system so that the children are less 'institutionalised' - perhaps receiving only 2 or 3 years of residential care and much more support from outreach workers.

**Picture at square 59**

**Ambedkar Computer Academy**

As you can see, the students in this academy are slightly older. It takes young people aged from 16 - 18, who have failed their 10<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> standard exams (like GCSEs and A levels), or those who have been unable to continue their education. The students are all Dalits, from the poorest families. As well as computer training, the students receive



lessons in English (essential for business life in India), social studies, scripture and play sports in the evening. Computers are becoming as important in business in India as they are in England. Most of the wealthier schools in India have computers in them. However, the schools where the poorer children go cannot afford computers. Even the Diocese of Vellore secondary schools only have one or two computers. So children from poor families are very disadvantaged when they want to get a job. This academy was started to change the balance, and give the poorest students a chance to find jobs in the towns.

Most of the funding for the project comes from a western agency, but some comes from individuals. The Diocese of Vellore has said that, since computers are so important in education in the West, they will not recommend anyone to go for further studies in foreign places unless they have completed a course at this Academy.

**Picture at square 66**

**A village school near Latteri**



This school is a very typical village primary school. This particular school had its buildings repaired quite recently, so they are very proud of their brick building. You can see the children sitting on the floor. This is how they sit for all their lessons. The teacher stands at the front. There are often lots of children in a class - more than 60 in some schools. The children

learn very similar things to schools in England, but you won't see much display work on the walls of a classroom.

**Picture at square 80**

**Lessons outside at Gingee Fort school**

For us, it is a treat to have lessons outside. It usually means that the weather is good, and the teacher wants us to learn something a bit different. For these children, at the school in the town of Gingee, every lesson is outside and the treat has worn off! The church school is very old, and its buildings are in poor condition. But there are so many children at the school that these children do not have a classroom at all. During monsoon time, when it rains, they have to squash into another class, making it difficult to learn properly.



**Picture at square 87**

**Village school at Vilaichitteri, Arni Taluk**



These children were very excited, because they were expecting some visitors. But when the visitors arrived, the children and staff were a bit embarrassed. Why? What on earth could the visitors have done that was so rude they embarrassed the school? They asked to use the toilet... and the school does not have one! Instead the

head teacher had to find someone in the village who had a toilet, and ask to borrow it. Many homes in villages do not have toilets, and the people go outside the village to the fields, so it is not a great problem for the children. But most of the teachers come a great distance to teach at the school. They live in towns, often with a toilet that they can use. Can you imagine, not being able to go to the toilet all day long?

**Picture at square 90**

**The school at Muthatoor**



If you look closely at this picture, you will see lots of children, and quite a small, funny shaped building behind them. The building behind is actually a church, built in the Indian style, a bit like Hindu temples. It does not have any walls. That's probably a good thing, because during the week it becomes

school for all those children standing on the steps. It doesn't seem possible that they will all fit in! As with every Diocese of Vellore school, the children even get their lunch there, which they eat in the Indian custom, on a metal plate and using their hands instead of knives and forks. Next door to this primary school is a secondary school, also run by the diocese, which does have proper buildings, even if they are very old!





### Picture at square 98

### Learning in Latteri

This is another school where one class has to work outside. The buildings here are really old, and one of them is unsafe to use anymore. Fortunately for the children, Latteri church is next door to the school, and the children without a classroom are allowed to use the church when it rains. It must be very distracting to have lessons outside all the time. The ground is very dusty.

Not many of the schools have fences around them, so there are often dogs who play in the school grounds, or people wandering through.



100 YOU'VE ARRIVED AT SCHOOL!	99		97	96	95 Challenge	94	93	92	91
81	82	83 Challenge	84	85	86		88	89	
	79	78	77	76	75	74	73	72 Challenge	71
61	62	63	64	65		67	68 Challenge	69	70
60		58	57	56 Challenge	55	54	53		51
41	42	43		45	46	47	48	49	50 Challenge
40	39 Challenge	38	37	36	35		33	32	31
21		23	24 Challenge	25	26	27	28		30
20 Challenge	19	18	17	16	15	14		12	11
1	2	3	4		6	7 Challenge	8	9	10

**Help Shanti get to school**



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>The monsoon rains have not come and the crops are dying. You cannot go to school because there is no money.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Miss a turn</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>The monsoon rains are too heavy for you to walk to school. There is no other way you can get there.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 3 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>With no rain, the family cow has died because there is no food. The whole family will have to find work in the fields, including you.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 4 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>Your nearest stream has dried up. You must walk 1 mile to the nearest well to get water for the family. You will be late for school</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 1 place</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>Good monsoon rains means that the river between you and school is full of water. You must take a longer route to cross by the bridge.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 2 places</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>The monsoon has been good this year. There will be a good harvest, with plenty to sell. Your parents can afford to send you to school</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 4 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>This year's good rice harvest means that Pongal will be a real celebration. One farmer sends sugar cane for all the children at school to have a treat.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 1 place</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>The family has been given a loan for a cow. Although you have to look after her in the morning and evening, and help milk her, you will be able to go to school</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Have an extra turn</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>A charity has paid for a well to be dug in the village. The walk for the daily water will only take 5 minutes</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 1 place</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>As a thanksgiving for a good harvest, the village decide to make a simple footbridge over a river, so that the children can get to school more easily</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 3 places</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>It is monsoon time, and your school roof is leaking. No school this week!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Miss a turn</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>Ants have been eating the wooden roof beams of your school. Last night the roof collapsed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 4 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>There is no space in the school for your class, so you have lessons outside. Today it is very hot, and you feel sleepy</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 2 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>School is cancelled for the day - there is a tummy bug among the staff, and the school does not have a toilet!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 3 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>You have to walk three miles to your school, and your legs are tired.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 1 place</b></p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>Great celebrations, because money has been raised for your school to have a new roof, which will keep everyone dry.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Have an extra turn</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>Great news! Your school is to be given an extra teacher, who has just finished at the teacher training college. Classes will be a little smaller next year!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 4 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>The village church has held a meeting. The pastor has offered to let the school use the church for classes if there is not enough room in the school.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 2 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>The diocese has been given some money to repair schools, and has decided that a toilet for your school is a priority.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 3 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>A group of villagers build a simple cart. The cows can pull it, and it will take the younger children to school.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 1 place</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>Your brother has broken his leg looking after the goats. Your parents go with him to the hospital many miles away. You must care for the goats instead.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 3 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>You have a fever, probably because the village water is bad. You cannot go to school today</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 2 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>You are getting headaches at school. Your family cannot afford to take you to a doctor in the town.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Miss a turn</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>It's time for the rice harvest, and everyone is working in the fields. You must stay at home to look after your sister, who has cerebral palsy.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 4 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>You have had a bad cough for a long time. There is no doctor nearby, and your family cannot afford to take you to the town, or to pay for medicines.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 1 place</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>An ambulance has been provided to take people from the villages around you to hospital when they need it. Trips won't take so long now.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 3 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>Health workers have come to talk to all the village about keeping healthy. You understand why you should only drink water from the well</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 2 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>The town church has organised an 'eye camp' for your village. One of the doctors recognised that you need glasses. The church will pay for these</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 4 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>A home visit has been made by the outreach worker from Anbu Illam. Your sister with cerebral palsy can go to school there next June.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Have an extra turn</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>The big hospital has set up a regular surgery nearby. Everyone in the village can go there if they are worried about their health.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 1 place</b></p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>You tore your only white shirt when you played football after school. You cannot go to school until it is mended</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back three places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>You are unlikely to be able to continue at school after year 5, because the only secondary school is too far away.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Miss a turn</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>You have missed too much school because you have to look after the family. You probably won't be able to go back after the holidays</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 4 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>Your sister cannot go to school because she has to look after the younger children. You try to help her to read and write, but it takes too much of your time.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 1 place</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>After you have done your chores in the morning, there is no time to have any breakfast. You are hungry all morning</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go back 2 places</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>A charity has provided school uniforms for all the children in the village. Now you feel like a real school student.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 3 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>You have been chosen to have a place in a secondary school hostel. This means that you can carry on your education</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Have an extra throw</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>Your pastor has recommended that you go to one of the vocational training schools in the diocese. Your fees will be paid and you will learn a trade.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 4 places</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>The Church of South India has chosen your village as part of a scheme to give girls an education through evening classes. Your sister can learn to read properly</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 1 place</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chance</b></p> <p>A local childcare centre opens. Your chores include taking your younger brother here. With all the school age children, you get breakfast before going to school.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Go forward 2 places</b></p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Is a Dalit</p> <p>a) a privileged person in India? b) a type of food? c) an Indian of the lowest caste?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Another name that Dalits were known as was</p> <p>a) Unbelievables? b) Untouchables? c) Unthinkables?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">In India</p> <p>a) everyone is poor? b) some people are very rich, but some people have nothing? c) no one is poor?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">The first missionaries in Vellore worked mainly with</p> <p>a) people who were very poor? b) people who were already Christian? c) people who were rich?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">If you are a Dalit,</p> <p>a) you must live in a separate village? b) you must not build a brick house? c) use a separate drinking well? d) all of these?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">In Vellore the farmers grow</p> <p>a) lots of sugar beet? b) lots of beetroot? c) lots of sugar cane?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Growing rice is also known as</p> <p>a) caddy? b) paddy? c) faddy?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">As well as lorries, what carries sugar cane to be processed</p> <p>a) bicycles? b) bullock carts? c) buses?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Pongal festival happens in</p> <p>a) May? b) October? c) January?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">If there is not enough rain</p> <p>a) the cattle get sick and die? b) the people have a chance to sunbathe? c) the cattle have a chance to sunbathe?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">School uniform in villages is</p> <p>a) a blazer, tie, and smart trousers? b) a white shirt and shorts or a skirt in the school colour? c) there is no uniform ?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Some children in India do not go to school because</p> <p>a) they want to watch television? b) they have to help earn money? c) they want to go shopping?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">A son is seen as more useful than a daughter because</p> <p>a) when he marries, his wife will help look after her in-laws? b) he is stronger? c) he will leave home?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">A dowry is</p> <p>a) gifts given to a bride's in-laws? b) a type of boat? c) an Indian costume?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Drinking bad water can make you</p> <p>a) sing like Gareth Gates? b) very sick? c) hungry?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">In India</p> <p>a) everyone cares about the need of the poor? b) no one cares about poor people? c) Christians are the biggest group of people who care?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Some girls are encouraged to go to evening classes and are given</p> <p>a) a new sari? b) a pet dog? c) a goat?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Christian hospitals have</p> <p>a) built doctors' surgeries in every village? b) built a hospital in every village? c) supported health workers to work in villages?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Some projects</p> <p>a) offer breakfast to children b) sponsor children at school c) give them school uniforms d) all of these?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Secondary schools have hostels</p> <p>a) because boarding schools are fun? b) because children are naughty c) because children from villages need to continue their studies?</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p>Which do you think would be the worst thing to have</p> <p>a) a leaky school roof? b) no toilet at school? c) part of the school falling down? and why?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p>What would be the worst thing about going to school barefoot? and why?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p>Would you rather miss school because</p> <p>a) you had to work in the fields? b) you had to look after the younger children ( and no TV)? c) you had to make cigarettes? and why?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p>What do you think is the worst thing about being a girl in some Indian villages, and why?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p>Would it be better to have</p> <p>a) too much rain? b) no rain at all? and why?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Act out !</p> <p>You need to clean and decorate an animal ready for the Pongal festival</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Act out!</p> <p>Your brother is sick, and you need to find someone who will help get them better.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Act out!</p> <p>You are a deaf child, and you have been offered a place in a special school where you will finally get an education.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Act out!</p> <p>You have been offered a place at secondary school, with a hostel place. It is the first time you have ever left home.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Act out!</p> <p>You have been told you can have no more education because you have missed so much schooling to care for your brothers. Now you have been offered a place at an Industrial Institute.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Act out!</p> <p>Fetching water from a well</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Act out!</p> <p>walking barefoot to school</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Act out!</p> <p>Making very fine silver jewellery for rich people to wear</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Act out!</p> <p>Working in the fields, to plant the rice.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Act out!</p> <p>Feeling very ill from drinking bad water</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p>Name three types of things that are grown in the fields of the Diocese of Vellore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p>Spell the name of the Diocese where Shanti lives</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p>What is the name of the rains that happen between June and October?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p>Why are boys in India treated like 'little princes'.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenge</b></p> <p>Describe 2 ways people are helping poor children to get an education?</p>