

Vietnam – Teaching Resource



Country Profile

Vietnam is an S-shaped country in South East Asia, it is close to China and has a population of 82 million.

There has been lots of conflict and war in Vietnam over the last 50 years which have left it a very poor country now. Over 50% of people have less than 65p a day to spend on their clothes and food, pay for their house and their school fees. Life is very difficult for many people.

The government believes that nearly half of young children do not get enough to eat, and as a result they are unhealthy and very thin.

Vietnam is a very beautiful, green country. It grows lots of rice, and there are many pretty mountains and islands. Vietnam also has a lot of coastline, which means it has many beaches too. There is a lot of rainforest in Vietnam, so there are lots of animals and plants in the country. It is also very hot because it is near the equator.



SOS Children's Villages in Vietnam

The first two SOS Children's Villages in Vietnam were opened in 1969, in Go Vap and Da Lat. The government in Vietnam closed these villages in 1976 after the war. SOS Children fought very hard to reopen these Villages, so that orphaned and abandoned children in Vietnam could have a home again. They reopened in 1987.

As the population is so poor in Vietnam, SOS Children has also built schools and hospitals here. Today in Vietnam there are:

- Eleven SOS Children's Villages.
- Nine SOS Youth Homes providing accommodation for older children at the villages

- Ten SOS schools and eleven SOS nursery schools
- Two SOS medical centres which provide local people with healthcare and support

In total over 16,000 people currently benefit from SOS Children in Vietnam. Because so many people in Vietnam are poor, they cannot afford to send their children to school. The children go out to work instead as the families rely on this money. Sometimes, parents are so poor they cannot look after their children, so the children live on the streets instead, all alone. They have to ask strangers for food and money. The government in Vietnam thinks that there are over 21,000 children living on the streets in Vietnam. This is why SOS Children is working in Vietnam, and why we are opening another Children's Village here. We want to give more children a safe and loving home, and we want them all to have a mum.

The '6 villages for 2006' campaign

The "6 villages for 2006" campaign is a joint project between FIFA, and SOS Children's Villages which will run until the end of the 2006 football World Cup.

The aim of the campaign is to raise money for six new SOS Children's Villages and provide more orphaned and abandoned children with a new home and hope for the future. One of these six villages will be at Dong Hoi, one of the poorest towns located in Central Vietnam.

120 children will live in this new Children's Village, and there will be 12 family houses. We are also building an SOS Nursery School here, which will have room for 180 children from both the SOS Children's Village and the town.





Case study about Loi

In November 2000 Li and his brother Sang came to live in SOS Children's Village Go Vap, near Ho Chi Minh City.

Loi was well behaved from the beginning and was interested in going to school. Whenever he was free, he always helped his mother. Loi is most interested in playing football. He plays in all the matches in his district and has won a silver medal and 7 gold medals in local competitions.

Loi practices a lot and has had coaching to improve his skills. When he first arrived in the village, Loi did not pay much attention to his studies but football has encouraged him to study better. Now he also performs well in his studies.

Loi is quite thin but he moves very quickly in every match. His favourite football players are Quyen and David Beckham but in every match he likes to wear football shirt no. 9. Like other football fans, Loi collects many photos of different football players or football teams and these can be found everywhere on his study table or in his closet. He loves watching all the football games on TV too.

Now many people in the city know about Loi and his love of football. "I want to become a professional football player", is Loi's reply when asked about his dreams.



Vietnamese Banana Cake



Ingredients

3 eggs
 1 cup sugar
 1/2 cups cream
 1 1/2 cups flour
 2 kilos ripe bananas

Instructions

- Preheat oven to 180C
- Beat eggs and sugar together using an electric whisk on a low speed setting until the mixture forms a paste

- Pour the cream into this mixture and beat for another minute or so
- Peel the bananas and chop them into very fine pieces. Do not mash them. Add them to the bowl and mix well
- Grease two 20cm pans
- Bake in the preheated oven for one hour or until the tops of the cakes are golden brown
- Serve warm or cold