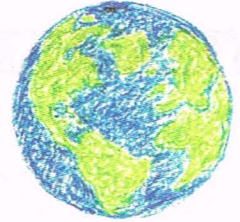


NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION

WE BRING
THE WORLD
TO YOUR
CLASSROOM



SAVE OUR PLANET



New Vision, in partnership with Save the Children, is running a campaign to sensitise the public on the causes of climate change and the measures for mitigation and adaptation.

All children in primary school are invited to participate in a writing and drawing/painting competition. To participate, write an article/poem or draw a picture that conveys a message about climate change and caring for the environment.

Do not miss this chance to participate and win school bags, textbooks and a set of three readers. Send your work to nie@newvision.co.ug or by WhatsApp to 0782769574 or 0705407920.



This year's International Women's Day celebration emphasises that when girls are empowered, equality is fostered

Build the girl, build the nation

BY RITAH MUKASA

Uganda joins the world to celebrate International Women's Day this Sunday.

This year's theme, *Give to Gain*, is meant to emphasise that once women are supported, everyone benefits. Remember, when women and girls are empowered, equality is fostered. Also, violence reduces and instead, respect and harmony are promoted in our communities. This ensures better care and opportunities for future generations.

ASIIMWE: FINDING HOPE

Angella Asiimwe, a human rights lawyer, says she strongly believes that when girls are empowered, everyone wins. Asiimwe had a tough childhood. She dropped out of school after she became pregnant at the age of 15. Her

relatives abandoned her yet she was an orphan.

She worked as a house maid and cleaned public toilets to survive. When her bosses realised that she was pregnant, they fired her and she ended up on the streets of Mbarara town until she gave birth. But just as luck had it, Asiimwe reunited with her brother and he took her back to school.

Being a young mother and student was difficult, but Asiimwe was determined to complete her education. God was on her side. She excelled.

Today, Asiimwe has empowered many girls who have become change makers in their communities under the UG Love Movement. Asiimwe says when one girl finds her power to make choices that change her life, it inspires others to do so. But also, the girl's family, her community and entire country benefits.

ATHIENO: RISING FROM SHAME

In addition, Lucy Mary Athieno, a girl-child advocate, almost dropped out of school after she was bullied by her classmates when she stained her uniform. Athieno's first menstruation came when she was unprepared.

She did not have pads. Her classmates saw it and, instead of helping, they made fun of her. Athieno felt embarrassed and hated school. But after one week at home, she realised she was destroying her future. She gained confidence and returned to class. From that time, Athieno learnt to be bold.

"Girls should have the freedom to be confident, resilient and curious," she says.

Do not be intimidated by anyone. Stand up and speak up against anything that stands in your way to success. In the same way, no one should take advantage

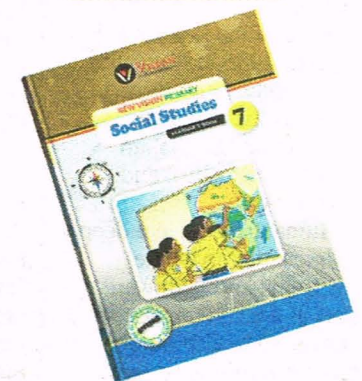
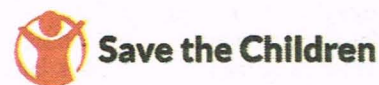
of you. Say no to sex and early marriage. You can achieve whatever good you envision and you can be whoever you want to be if you stay in school.

"Be in control of your body, your health and education."

COLLECTIVE EFFORT

Athieno also urges boys to respect women and girls, and promote gender equality within the household. You should also advocate for your sisters' education.

Do not just look on as your mother struggles with chores or when your sister is pulled out of school to get married. But also, boys and girls should encourage their peers to stay in school and resist early marriage or dropping out.



For newspaper bookings,
call 0782 800840 or 0704344761

Next week's question: What will you be reading
on Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) Day?



Send us your views & photo
on nie@newvision.co.ug