

# Hanging out

with Adunga in Ethiopia



Hi, my name is Adunga and I am eight years old. I live with my mum and two big sisters more than 500 kilometres west of Addis Ababa, the capital city. In our part of Ethiopia many people grow coffee beans.

My days are busy. At dawn, I get up and fetch water. When I get back home I wash my hands and face, eat breakfast and go to school.

I really like school. I am in Grade One and my favourite subject is environmental science. I also like playing soccer and practising athletics.

School ends at 1.45 pm and it takes ten minutes to walk home. At home I eat, and then go to the river and fetch water for my mum. After that I feed the chickens then look after our neighbour's cattle. I have to take the cattle to the river to drink and lead them to good pasture. At 6.30 pm I lead them home to their owner. He pays me 10 birr a month (about \$1) and I give this money to my mother to buy some bread for us.

After my chores I go home, play with my friends and do my homework. Our house doesn't have electricity so we use a kerosene lamp so to see. Studying with the kerosene lamp is uncomfortable because you breathe in the smoke and it burns your eyes.

My life changed when World Vision began working in our community. My sisters and I used to get sick and miss school because our mum couldn't pay for medicine. Now, through child sponsorship, we have pencils and books for school and medicine for when we get sick. Our mum was also given a fuel-saving stove so we don't need to spend so much money on wood for cooking, and it's better for our health and the environment too!



Adunga



(140) VERIFIED  
PER G. J. A.