

worldwide surprise

Come & Join In !



Dr. Margot Käßmann, bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hanover and patron of the campaign worldwide surprise.

worldwide surprise is an Advent campaign intended not only for children. The campaign combines fun with intercultural learning and a commitment towards economic aid. In addition, it is possible for children to form worldwide partnerships. "Wichteln" means sharing joy, exchanging gifts in pleasant anticipation of Christmas. worldwide surprise is a Christmas campaign which gives the custom of exchanging gifts a deeper meaning. Children in Germany give each other presents, which they buy at a Fair Trade Shop, and surprise children in other parts of the world with their hand-decorated "Wichtel" puppets. While the "Wichtel" puppets help children to make new friends across continents, fair trade ensures fair wages for the labour of people in poor countries. Global learning from one another is more fun this way.

I hope that a lot of children, church parishes and groups take part in this campaign to share the joy of Christmas. I sincerely wish it God's blessing.

Dr Margot Käßmann

worldwide surprise - Step by Step

1. Starting in autumn, Fair Trade Shops provide fabric hand puppets, the so-called "Wichtel" puppets for 2.50 euros each. These "Wichtel" puppets can be decorated individually with colour, wool or buttons. "Wichtel" puppets can also be ordered from the gepa Fair trading house via a Fair Trade shop. If you take your childrens group or class along to a Fair Trade shop, they'll get to know the dynamics of fair trade. Besides, they can exchange fair trade products in addition to "Wichtel" puppets.
2. Please arrange for a "Wichtel" session for a group during religious education, Sunday school or with friends. You can learn more about this in the worldwide surprise Workbook, which you can order at worldwide surprise or on the Internet at www.worldwide-surprise.org. The workbook contains stories about how Christmas is celebrated in other countries.
3. The "Wichtel" session: during this session children can decorate the hand puppets, draw pictures or you can say something about other cultures or about fair trade. The children can give each other the hand-made puppets they have decorated or eventually other fair trade products as presents. The children can decorate more "Wichtel" puppets for a group abroad.
4. During the "Wichtel" session, you can take photos of the "Wichtel" puppets and send them to worldwide surprise. The puppets will then take part in the competition for the most beautiful "Wichtel".
5. Then you can pack a parcel containing all the "Wichtel" puppets for your partner group abroad. Please don't send any food, electrical items, clothes or toys. Only send photos, letters, hand-made pieces and "Wichtel" puppets. worldwide surprise is intended to promote intercultural learning and international exchange of joy. Therefore we do not intend to send consumer goods to our partners.
6. Very important! Please enclose a letter explaining the campaign to your partner group and describing something about your group. You can obtain a sample letter and information in English from worldwide surprise or you can download it from the website www.worldwide-surprise.org. In case your church organisation or local parish, your school or association does not have a partnership, worldwide surprise will be glad to arrange one for you. Just give us a call !
7. Let's wait and see whether and how your partner group responds. You can repeat this campaign every year with new elements to build up children partnerships.

WWW.WORLDWIDE-SURPRISE.ORG

WORLDWIDE SURPRISE

Vogelsangstrasse 62 | 70197 Stuttgart

Tel.: 0049 711 6 36 78 44 | Fax: 0049 711 6 36 78 45

email: schumm@ems-online.org

worldwide surprise supports families and physically handicap women in India

worldwide surprise purchases the "Wichtel" puppets from a fair trade cooperative in India. Our partners can thereby help parents to pay for their children's education. The campaign uses only original hand puppets with the trademark 'WORLDWIDE SURPRISE'. Anything else impairs worldwide fairness.

"Wichtel" hand puppets, "Wichtel" bags and other materials (information brochure, campaign workbook, placard), as well as fair trade goodies can be found in Fair Trade shops closest to you or at www.weltlaeden.de , www.gepa3.de or at worldwide surprise. See address below.

Competition for little artists



Send in your photos of the decorated "Wichtel" hand puppets, either exchanged within your group or sent to a group abroad. The Advisory board of worldwide surprise will then award the most beautiful "Wichtel" puppet in spring. The prize is a "Wichtelset" with ten Wichtel puppets and a packet full of fair trade delicacies. Besides, the next press conference opening the campaign can take place in your children's group. Please send in your photos to the address stated above. Have fun being creative!

worldwide surprise network

Photos, paintings and texts of "Wichtel" sessions can be sent to info@weltweit-wichteln.org. These will then be displayed on our internet site. In addition e-cards can be sent and newsletters received. In this fashion our website can grow to become a children's partnership network and thereby truly a worldwide surprise.

Building Children Partnerships across cultures and continents

Help us build children partnerships.

Donations account: Ev. Kreditgenossenschaft eG
Stuttgart
Bank sort code 600 606 06, **Account no.** 124
Key: worldwide surprise
Thank you!



worldwide surprise is a campaign of:

Protestant Church in Baden (Ekiba)
Protestant Church in Hesse and Nassau (EKHN)
Evangelical Church of Kurhessen-Waldeck (EKKW)
Palatinate Protestant Church
Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Wuerttemberg
Basel Mission (BMDZ)
Association of Protestant Churches and Missions in
Germany (EMW)
Association of Churches and Missions in South-Western
Germany (EMS)
Association for the Schneller Schools (EVS)
gepa Fair Handelshaus (gepa 3)