

WRITING TO YOUR PARTNER FAMILY

Your partner family is looking forward to learning about your family! We encourage you to write letters and send photos to your partner family so that, just as you will gain insights into life in rural Uganda, they too will learn what life is like in the United States. Letters help to bridge the vast physical distance and communicate to them that you care about them and believe in them. Sharing your stories with each other will create a connection that has the power to change the lives of both your families.

This is a rare opportunity to really get to know a family that leads a very different life from that of most American families. Have fun writing your letters and sharing your life stories with your new friends in Uganda.

We have included some questions to help you start telling your family's story. Please use these questions to guide you as you write your letter to your partner family and add other information you think they will find interesting.

- ➤ How many people are in your family? Adults and children?
- > What are the names of the members of your family? What are the ages of the children?
- ➤ Do you all live together?
- What jobs do the adults in your family do?
- ➤ What grades are the children in?
- What is each child's favorite subject in school?
- What do the children want to be when they grow up?
- What sports or other activities does each child and adult enjoy doing?
- > Do you have pets? What kinds of pets? What are their names?
- ➤ What is your favorite season of the year? Why?
- ➤ What is your favorite thing to do with your family?
- ➤ What is your favorite holiday tradition?
- > You can also tell them about the weather and the physical landscape of the place where you live.
- You can tell them why you decided to partner with their family.
- Ask them questions about their lives and their hopes and dreams.
- > Offer them words of encouragement and support.
- Your partner family wants to know what you look like so please include photos of your family.

Please remember that it is best not to write about your material possessions, money and other topics that might highlight the economic differences between you and your partner family. Please also keep this in mind when sending photos.

Your letters don't need to be long, even a short note will be treasured by your partner family.

Thank you again for opening your hearts to a family in Uganda. We hope that this is the beginning of a meaningful and rewarding journey for both families.

Please email your letters and photos (noting the Family Name and #) to: FamilyToFamily@giveuswings.org

