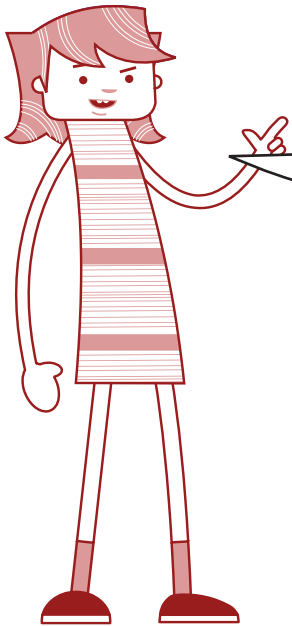


Name: _____

Water and sanitation



On average, people go to the toilet around 2,500 times a year! But what happens to our waste after we flush the loo?

Where does the waste go?

- Have you ever thought about where the waste water you flush down the toilet goes?

Underneath our streets, here in the UK and Ireland, there are lots of pipes. These pipes are called sewers. In the UK most houses are connected to the sewer and they take away the waste we flush down the toilet and pour down the drain.

- Draw a picture of your street. In your picture include the sewer that runs under the road.
- Now think about where the waste water in the sewer goes. You may need to do some research.

What would life be like without a toilet?

Name: Jeremiah Muli

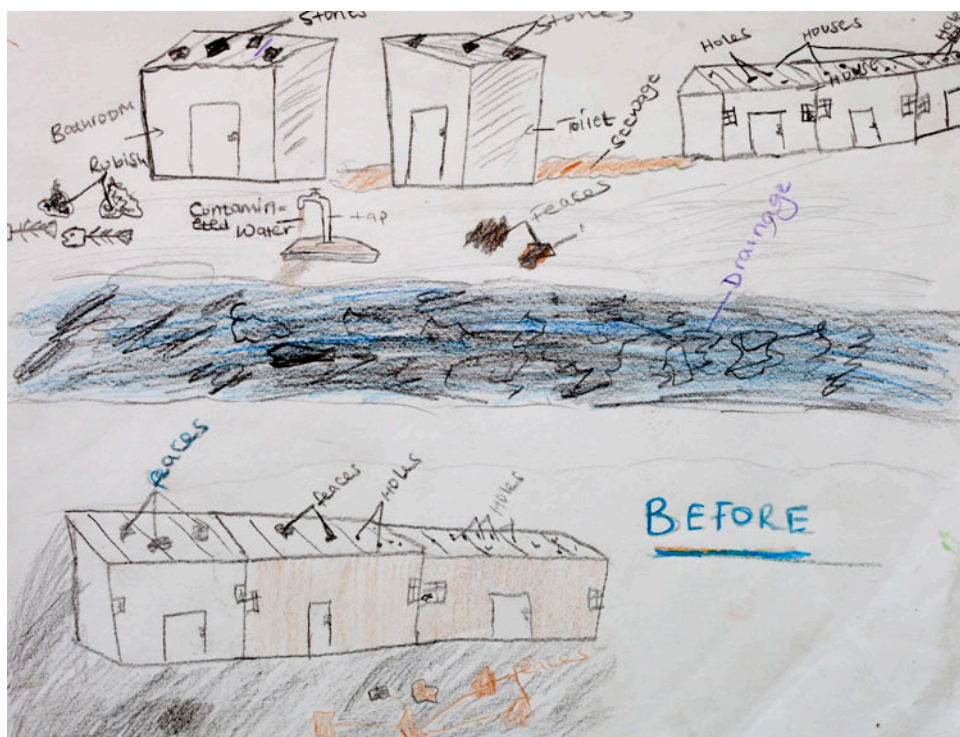
From: A settlement called Matopeni, in Kenya

Settlement life: Jeremiah is from a place where there were once no toilets, and his family also struggled to get clean drinking water.

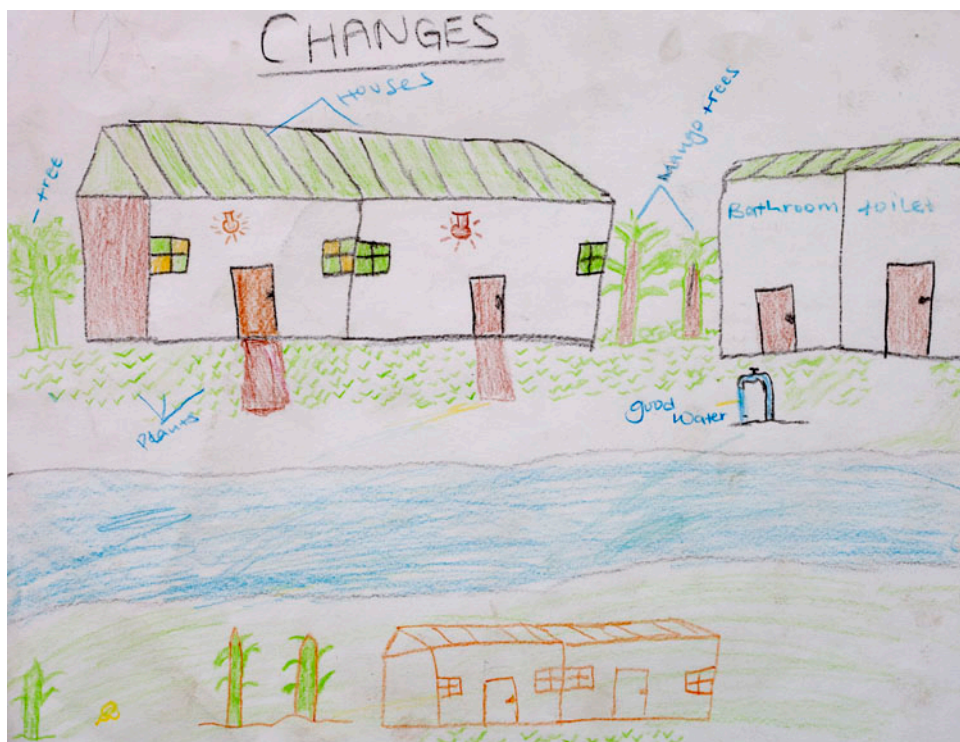
Think about what life must have been like for Jeremiah. What would your life be like if you didn't have a toilet? How would this make you feel?



Jeremiah drew a picture of how Matopeni looked before the toilet block was built:



And one showing how it would look after the toilet was built:



Can you spot five changes that Jeremiah wanted to see in his community?

Look back at the picture you drew of your street. Now make a new drawing, or add to your first picture, to show the changes that you would like to see in your local community. What would make life better there? You could swap drawings with a partner to play 'spot the difference'.

Jeremiah's story



The capital of Kenya is Nairobi. Many people living there are without jobs and are very poor. In fact half of the people in Nairobi live in settlements – sometimes called 'slums'. In these settlements the houses are not well-built and there are no sewers.

Jeremiah Muli's family are from a settlement in Nairobi called Matopeni. In the Swahili language Matopeni means 'In the mud'. Three hundred families live in Matopeni. There are no roads, no proper buildings or schools, and until quite recently there were no drains, showers or toilets.

Life in Matopeni was very hard. Before a toilet block was built, people had to go to the toilet in a plastic bag. These bags were known as 'flying toilets' because people threw them out of the house into the street or onto roofs. Jeremiah and his family often got ill. The pipes that brought them drinking water ran along open drains – and because the pipes were cracked the water became polluted.

Christian Aid worked with a local organisation to make life better for people in the settlements. They built toilets and showers and provided water tanks that store fresh water.

People living there feel much healthier now that they have safe, clean water for drinking and washing.

Jeremiah helped to improve life in Matopeni! The whole community helped to clear up their streets and many people helped to build new drains. Some of them even moved their homes to make way for the drains and walkways beside them. With a new toilet block, everyone there can look forward to a healthier, happier future.