

WEEK 2: HONDURAS

CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION

All of creation is a gift from God, and our actions can help or hurt this gift. We show respect and love for God by taking care of his creation—the plants, animals and each other.

STORY OF HOPE

Rony is a farmer who lives with his wife Reina and two children about two hours from Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras. His son Emilson, age 14, dreams of becoming a professional soccer player. Determined to support Emilson's dream, Rony enrolled him in a soccer academy in Tegucigalpa, despite the expenses involved, and looked for ways to increase his income.

Rony participated in a Catholic Relief Services project to learn new farming techniques and how to care for the land and natural resources. CRS also helped him repair an old reservoir and install a low-cost irrigation system with pipes and hoses that uses very little water to grow his crops. Now he can harvest his crops even if it doesn't rain.

Today, Rony can feed his family, pay the soccer academy's fees and help people in his community. He's even become an active advocate for caring for the environment. "That's the best way to guarantee the lives of our families and the animals," he says.

FACTS TO CONSIDER:

- Honduras, a country slightly larger than Tennessee, has one of the highest levels of economic inequality in Latin America. CRS has worked in Honduras for more than 60 years and is helping communities become safer and increase their access to income and education.
- Honduras shares a border with Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. It has coasts on the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. Among the country's main exported agricultural products are bananas, coffee beans and sugarcane. CRS has been providing humanitarian assistance in Guatemala since 1963, supporting food security, nutrition, health,



Photo by Oscar Leiva/Silverlight for CRS

agriculture, education, disaster risk reduction and emergency response programs.

- In 2020, Honduras was hit by hurricanes Eta and Iota. Thousands of people lost their homes, and crops were damaged or destroyed. When the country faces a natural disaster, the magnitude of its impact is greater because of climate change, erosion of the land and other factors.



For downloadable photos, visit crsricebowl.org/photos and watch the video from week 2 at crsricebowl.org/stories.

CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION

45 MINUTES

OBJECTIVE

Through the story of Rony in Honduras, students will explore the Catholic social teaching principle of Care for God's Creation and how they can help take care of our planet and global family.

MATERIALS

- Week 2 story and video—available at crsricebowl.org/stories.
- Week 2 Activity Sheet: Grades 1-3.
- Colored pencils and scissors.

DISCUSSION (15 MINUTES)

1. Locate Honduras on the map. How close is Honduras to your home?
2. Read the story from week 2. Use the video to supplement the story.
3. Reflect:
 - What are some things that make it difficult for farmers like Rony to have good harvests?
 - What did Rony learn to overcome those challenges?
 - Why do you think Rony wants to teach others what he learned?

ACTIVITY (25 MINUTES)

1. Explain the Catholic social teaching principle of Care for God's Creation. God created every plant, every mountaintop and valley, every animal and person—everything and everyone. And God said they are good. Our planet and global family are gifts from God, and so we must take care of them—for ourselves and for all people.
2. Have students complete the Week 2 Activity Sheet: Grades 1-3.
3. If time permits, ask students to share one way they can care for our planet and global family.

CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

Creator God,

You made the earth and all that lives on it. Thank you for the blessing of nature, all the plants and animals, the sky and stars, the people we encounter and even those we'll never meet. Thank you for every gift that fills our world with beauty and goodness. Help us to care for the earth that you made and keep us mindful that we are all part of one human family.

Amen

AT HOME

1. Share your activity sheet with your family.
2. As a family, read and discuss the daily reflection in your **CRS Rice Bowl Lenten Calendar**.

IF YOU ONLY HAVE

10

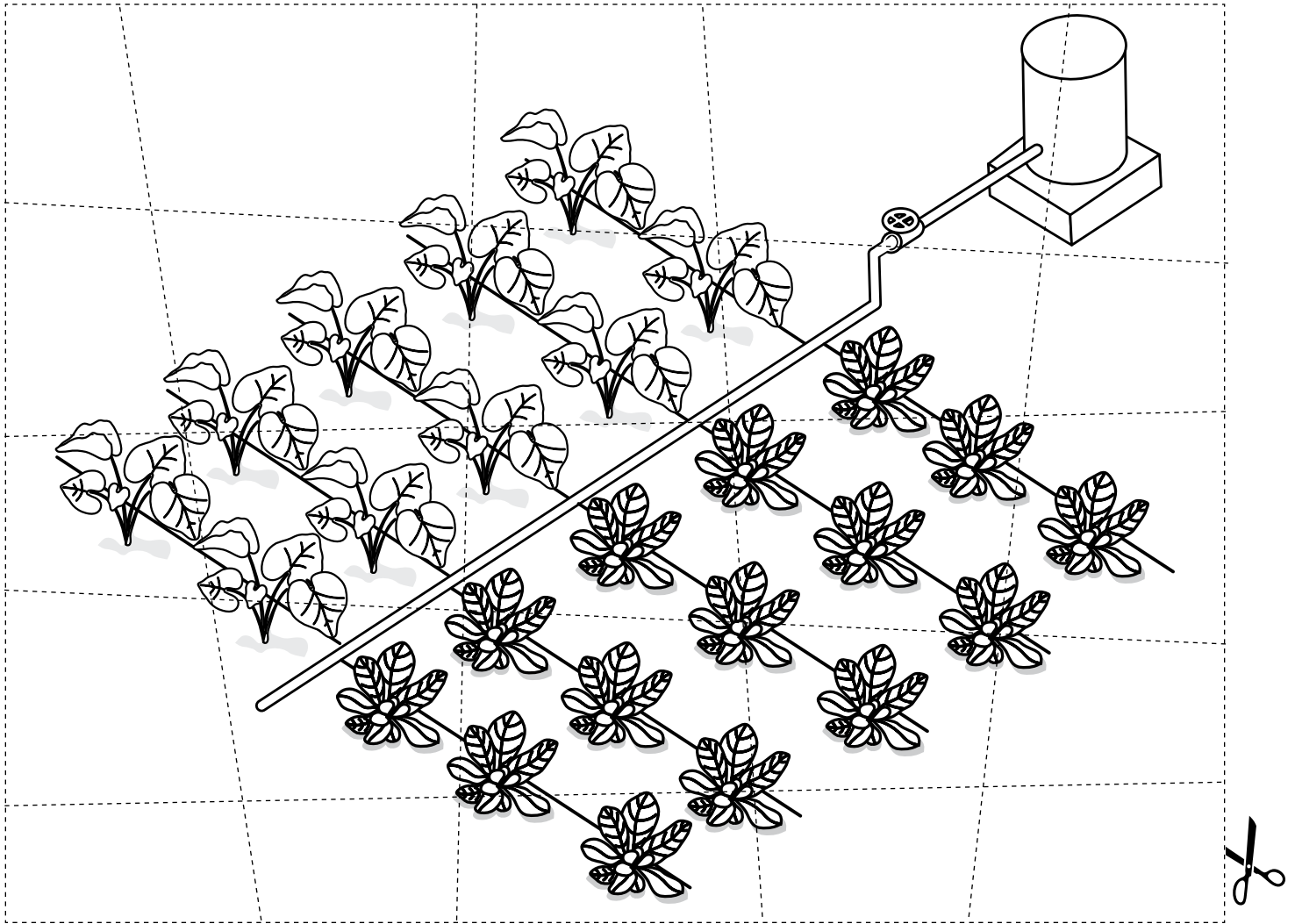
MINUTES

1. Read the story from week 2. Use the video to supplement the story.
2. Lead Discussion step 3.

Name: _____



This is a picture of a drip irrigation system, like what Rony uses to water his crops.
Color the picture then cut along the dotted lines and try to put the picture back together.



What are four things you can do to care for our planet?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____