

Guess the cargo – Teachers notes



Slide 1

Unusual cargo item: Chimpanzees

Story:

The MAF team in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) love to monkey around! And they had the perfect job when they were asked to collect a family of five chimpanzees from the middle of a forest in a remote area in the north.

We think about 50,000 chimpanzees live in the jungles of the DRC.

The chimpanzees had been rescued from harm and now needed to be transported to a chimpanzee sanctuary where they could receive special care. The MAF team loves to take part in wildlife conservation flying because they get to meet many interesting animals and people.

When MAF fly animals, they need to put them in cages to keep them safe, but these five chimpanzees were only housed using simple materials that the rescuers had found in the forest.

But this made it very difficult for MAF Pilot Jon Cadd, because the chimps kept escaping! Every time one was put back in its cage, another one ran off!

The biggest chimp was very strong, and it was hard to get her back in her cage. However, when she was finally inside, Jon quickly secured the cargo net over the whole lot and started the engine. The cheeky chimps were now ready to fly to their new home at Lwiro Chimpanzee Sanctuary.

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Country: The Democratic Republic of Congo

Additional cargo story:

Last year, MAF was called for an emergency flight known as a medical evacuation.

A pair of twins had been born in a really remote village, but they were conjoined – which means they were connected by their tummies and shared some organs. It was a dangerous situation and they wouldn't survive long without being separated by a doctor.

Their mum had to travel for 15 hours on the back of a motorbike to get to the plane, but then MAF flew them all to hospital and the babies were successfully separated. They can now live happy lives as two little girls! It was a miracle they both survived.

Their names are Anik and Destin, and this was the first time conjoined twins had ever been separated in the DRC.

Slide 3

Unusual cargo item: Chicks

Story:

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? In Timor-Leste, it might be both!

In March 2018, the MAF plane in Timor-Leste flew 15,000 baby chicks!



Most families in Timor-Leste struggle to find food and have to live with no electricity and very little water. They don't have taps to turn water on in their houses – can you imagine that?

Something simple like owning a chicken can make a great difference to a poor family. Eating an egg a day can prevent a child from starving because eggs are full of protein, which makes you strong.

Unlike most farmyard animals, chickens tend to stay close to home, which means mums with small children can take care of the chicks at the same time as looking after their own children – letting the dads go into the field and manage the bigger animals.

Does anyone here have chickens in your garden?

MAF flies thousands of chickens in lots of different countries because the chicks are quite fragile and couldn't survive a two or three-day trip on bumpy roads. Can you imagine the sound of thousands of 'cheeps' echoing in MAF's aircraft hangar? And lots of feathers and bird poo left behind – stinky!

MAF partners with Christian chicken farming businesses that support and encourage local people and help create long-lasting food sources.

Next time you see a chicken, why not think about a child in a developing country who doesn't have food and a house like you? When you eat an egg, you could always pray that hungry children are also able to eat eggs too.

Slide 4

Country: Timor-Leste

Additional cargo story:

Timor-Leste is a small island in south-eastern Asia.

MAF recently flew to a small school in a little village which desperately needed repairs to its roof and walls. The area is really poor, with only 4 schools for the 74,000 people living in the nearby villages.

The pupils were so excited to see the plane and the visitors from MAF that they dressed up to greet them!

- How many children are in your school?
Answer _____
- How many schools are there in Kent? (Or your school county?)
Answer for Kent (3,900)

Just imagine if there were only four schools in Kent – that would be a real squeeze!

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Unusual cargo item: Ostriches

Story:

Madagascar is a country full of wonderful wildlife, even if there *aren't* any penguins – unlike the movie!

How many of you have watched the film *Madagascar*?

Does anyone remember King Julien from the film? He was the king of the lemurs.



The ring-tailed lemur is Madagascar's national animal. One advantage of flying from the MAF base in the capital city Antananarivo, to the far south of the island, is that MAF pilots often need to stay overnight. Fortunately, the most convenient place for them to stay is a lemur reserve in Berenty.

Lemurs are not the only animals MAF's team meets. We once had two very special passengers – a pair of ostriches who had a marvellous view from the aircraft window.

But not all animals are quite as welcome. We once had a swarm of locusts flying around our hangar. See what our team had to deal with, and imagine what it would be like if you had to fly a plane though *this!*

Slide 6

Country: Madagascar

Additional cargo story:

Madagascar is an island off the coast of Africa. Who has seen the film *Madagascar*?

MAF planes, which sometimes act as air ambulances, fly patients from remote and isolated areas to a floating hospital in Madagascar. An amazing organisation called Mercy Ships visits developing countries, treating people suffering from deadly diseases and providing life-saving surgery.

In the hard-to-reach village of Bekodoka, Madagascar, MAF Pilot Patrick Keller flew the Mercy Ships team to perform health checks on ill and injured patients and see if they needed more urgent medical assistance.

On one occasion, they met a little girl named Rosella, who had a cleft lip. Has anyone heard of this before? Cleft lips happen when there is a gap or split in the upper lip or roof of the mouth.

Without surgery to fix a cleft lip, it can be very difficult for a baby or child to eat, talk and sometimes hear. Can you imagine having to try and live without having an operation for your cleft lip?

Thanks to an MAF flight, Rosella was able to receive free surgery on board Mercy Ships' floating hospital.

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Unusual cargo item: Motorbikes

Story:

Although MAF planes are fairly small, they managed to fit in four motorbikes and two bicycles in one go!

Does anyone here cycle to school?

This photo was taken in South Sudan, where lots of children aren't able to go to school. For some, it's too dangerous to attend because of conflict in the country. Others live in tiny villages that are without schools. The motorbikes and bicycles will help children get to school in really remote parts of the country.

MAF estimates that there are about 6,000 schools in the whole of South Sudan.

In England, there are more than 24,000 – with 3,000 schools in London alone!

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Country: South Sudan



Additional cargo story:

MAF partners with an organisation called Tearfund in South Sudan. Tearfund is the only healthcare provider in the country, and the organisation needs lots of help flying their medical equipment, emergency supplies, medicines and teams of doctors and nurses to hard-to-reach villages.

The child in the slide is malnourished, which means he's not eaten enough food; leaving him weak and poorly.

MAF regularly flies thousands of Plumpy'Nut bars, which have enough vitamins to prevent malnourished children from starving.

Lots of mothers have to walk several hours, often carrying one baby in a basket on their head, with another on their back, to reach a health clinic. MAF recently flew building materials to help build three new healthcare and nutrition centres for Tearfund, so that mums won't have to walk more than two hours to reach a clinic.

Slide 9

Unusual cargo item: Coffee

Story:

Do you know where coffee beans come from? They grow on a coffee tree, where the rounded cherries, which hold the coffee beans, take up to eight months to grow.

Because coffee is usually grown in mountainous areas like Papua New Guinea (PNG), it's impossible to use machinery to help harvest the beans, so everything is done by hand!

The coffee farmers remove the red, juicy cherry skin and pulp from the bean, then leave them to dry in the sun.

Do you know how many coffee beans you need to make one cup of coffee? You need 55 beans! Can you imagine having to pick that many beans just for one cup of coffee?

In PNG, thousands of families in rural areas earn a living from growing coffee. In the isolated region of Simbai, 3,000 families depend on coffee picking to survive – the local coffee industry rely on MAF to fly the coffee to the cities to be sold.

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Country: Papua New Guinea

Additional cargo story:

Lots of countries don't have many shops selling food, let alone things like books and games!

And even if you wanted to buy a Bible in a developing country, it might not be available in your language, because most copies tend to be in English or a language people don't understand.

MAF flies Bibles to people who can't get hold of them, like these people in Papua New Guinea (PNG).

There are over 800 different languages spoken in PNG – more than any other country in the world!

It's really difficult to get books in a language you can understand, and it's expensive to print them. So MAF has helped invent a WIFIBible – a little box that transmits the Bible, stories, videos and songs about God in different languages so lots of people can understand them.

Because of the WIFIBible, about 800 new people can hear about God every day in PNG!