

Pencils for Kids

It is our hope to raise enough money and awareness to help children in the world with their educational needs and show them that we care. Our preference is to send money, rather than goods, to help stimulate the local economy and avoid shipping expenses.

Here is a list of ideas suggested by students across Canada.

We welcome your input, ideas and action.

- Bake sale - cakes and cookies in the shape of a pencil or other school supplies
- Car wash with receipt in the shape of a pencil and a request that every driver donate an additional dollar for P4K
- Have every student in the school purchase a pencil and write a message of hope on it in six words - these would be auctioned to benefit the children
- Wear the pencil necklaces made by an artisan in Niger, so that everyone in the world will *wear a pencil until every child in the world has a pencil*. Pencil necklaces are available by emailing info@pencilsforkids.com and are given away for small donations.
- Jewelry for sale - Create bracelets with pencils, pencil-shaped broaches, elegant pencil hairclips
- Pencil key chains
- Treasure hunt for pencils; with notes on the pencil to the next clue
- *Who can sharpen the most pencils in 20 minutes* competition
- Build the biggest/tallest/most creative structure using only pencils - most creative entry wins
- Have a pencil Mascot Competition
- Competition: the class that raises the most money for Pencils for Kids gets a pizza party
- Posters are drawn with pencil pictures and slogans and auctioned off - also can have local artists donate their art to sell with proceeds to P4K
- Have a pencil fashion show
- Have a "Pencil Fair" and give prizes that are pencil-shaped. Ideas: Relay race with an eraser balanced on top of pencil like egg on spoon and other like-minded races with pencils; pencil toss; pop balloons with pencils; battle of the bands - using pencils instead of drumsticks; put books on top of many pencils and roll them to the finish line!
- Selling pens/pencils with proceeds to P4K
- Skits with the drama club based on Pencil themes
- Use a pencil in class all day - no computers, pens, markers, etc...allowed.
- Have each class as a whole use only ONE pencil for the entire day - will help students reflect on the situation in Niger, where 30 children were sharing one pencil in Liboré
- Have a clothing theme day based on the colour, look and shape of pencils!
- Make T- shirts with pencils, pencil poetry and/or pencil quotes on them for sale

- Pencil cases - decorate empty box like a pencil box; compete for best box
- Talent show - all acts have to incorporate a pencil
- Pencil Dance - create a new "hip" pencil dance, dress up like a pencil and have a "dance off" where choreography must include a pencil
- Design pencil dolls or pencil people
- Message Board for the community of Liboré - have people pay to write a message online to the community
- Create advertisements - "sharp as can be"!
- Approach companies who will "match" the donations of schools
- "Design-a-pencil" contest and ask a pencil manufacturer to produce the winning one
- Pencil Auction: items to do with pencils, for e.g., have some fabulous expensive pencils or pens donated, and get some celebrities to autograph some as well
- Create workshop where people make their own pencils
- Jeopardy Trivia Contest - pay to play -- all answers must relate to pencils, writing utensils, history of pencils etc...
- Pay to guess the number of pencils in a jar (could be little golf pencils)
- Region-wide competition between schools -- Raise enough money in your school to have your school's name engraved on a desk in one of the schools in the community of Liboré
- Bring speakers to engage the audience about the project and then contact community newspapers for media exposure
- Donate loose change - have a "pennies for pencils" day
- Sports day - have a 3 point shootout where people pay to shoot baskets
- Create Pencil Raffles at events
- Literary competition - have writing contests in English and French with an entry fee, all money goes to Pencils for Kids. Winning essay from all the entries potentially gets published. Send a copy to the schools in Niger
- Sketching competition in charcoal pencil