



You can make a real difference to the life of a poor and disadvantaged child in Asia and the Pacific through our sponsorship programme!

These children come from poor families who cannot afford to send them to school. In some cases, they have been abandoned by their parents, and increasingly we are caring for children who have been orphaned by the AIDS virus.

Your sponsorship will not only ensure these children have the opportunity for an education and a better life out of the poverty cycle, but also for basic development projects benefiting the entire village – such as clean water, health care, economic development and literacy projects.

Australian donors' contributions are fully tax deductible.



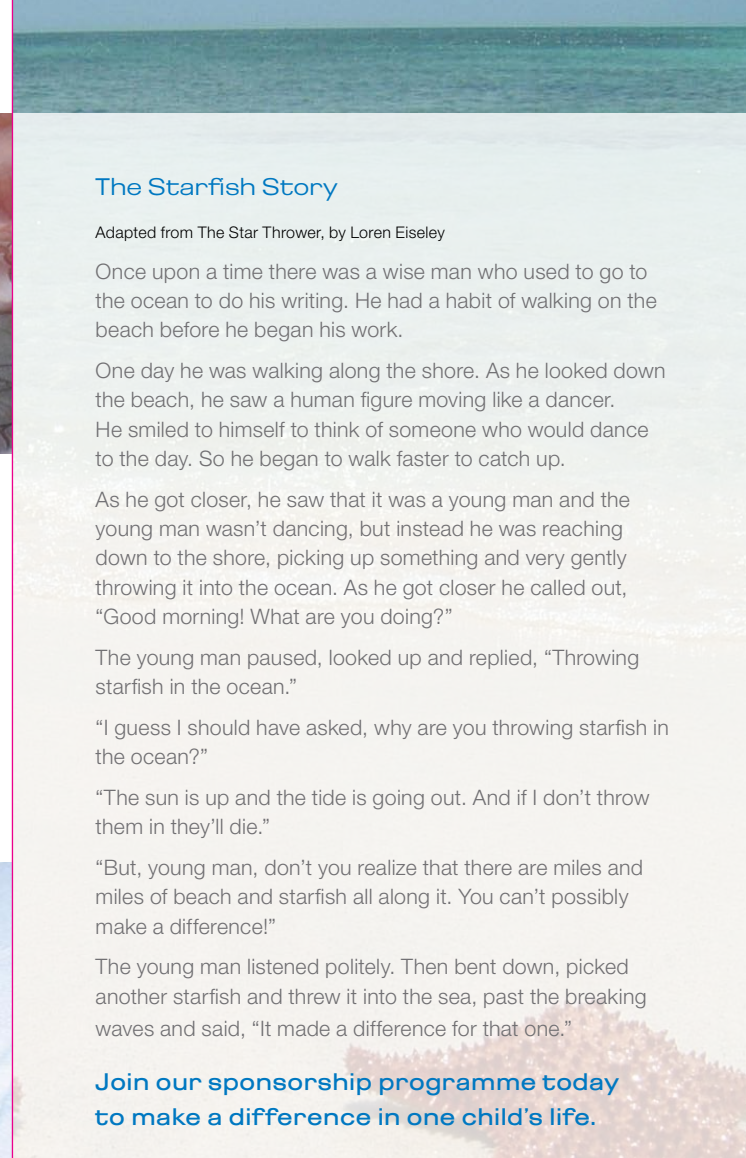
Delasalle

Delasalle's father died from AIDS and at the time he was born his mother was terminally ill. Unable to cope with caring for him, she kept him in a cardboard box for the first few months of his life, before he was rescued by a social worker and brought to our orphanage. After 3 years in our sponsorship program, Delasalle has grown into a healthy and intelligent boy, top of his class at pre-school.



Infanta

Infanta was born into a very poor family. Her mother died from Tetanus after the delivery of her second child and her father ran away abandoning both children. Infanta's extended family were too poor to care for her, and brought her to our orphanage. A beautiful and happy child, Infanta is one of the most talented traditional dancers in the group.



The Starfish Story

Adapted from *The Star Thrower*, by Loren Eiseley

Once upon a time there was a wise man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach before he began his work.

One day he was walking along the shore. As he looked down the beach, he saw a human figure moving like a dancer. He smiled to himself to think of someone who would dance to the day. So he began to walk faster to catch up.

As he got closer, he saw that it was a young man and the young man wasn't dancing, but instead he was reaching down to the shore, picking up something and very gently throwing it into the ocean. As he got closer he called out, "Good morning! What are you doing?"

The young man paused, looked up and replied, "Throwing starfish in the ocean."

"I guess I should have asked, why are you throwing starfish in the ocean?"

"The sun is up and the tide is going out. And if I don't throw them in they'll die."

"But, young man, don't you realize that there are miles and miles of beach and starfish all along it. You can't possibly make a difference!"

The young man listened politely. Then bent down, picked another starfish and threw it into the sea, past the breaking waves and said, "It made a difference for that one."

Join our sponsorship programme today to make a difference in one child's life.