

## KIX PROJECT 2020: SMARTKIX

### Scripture:

**Acts 20:35b** – “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

**Philippians 2:3-4** – “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”

### Resources:

- A piece of cloth to cover the objects
- Different objects such as bottle caps, egg boxes, empty milk jugs etc.
- Optional: a mirror to use when telling the story
- Optional: a piece of glass to use when telling the story
- Copies of circles
- A shoe box and a bigger box
- A big box of Smarties

### Welcome:

Play **“I spy with my little eyes”**: Start by choosing an object outside the room and let the children look out the window to find it. Then “spy” something inside the room where you meet. Children get the chance to search and guess the object you are referring to.

**“All in one”**: Hide different objects like bottle caps, toilet rolls, egg boxes etc. underneath a piece of cloth. When the children are ready, take off the cloth and give teams of children time to make a list of all the different uses of these objects (we want to emphasise that these objects can be reused for another purpose).

It’s **smart** to see more uses for objects around us and to think about how we can reuse stuff that people throw away. All of us like to be called **smart** people. Who of you would like to be called **smart**? (Let the children raise their hands.) Who of you liked thinking of new uses for the objects under the cloth?

This reminds me of a story about a rich man who stopped looking out of his windows.

This man had everything money could buy. He had the best of everything! The best clothes, many cars, the biggest house and all the money he wanted. His big house had many windows on one side. On the wall inside the house, there were many mirrors. The man spent all his time buying stuff to put in his house. He was so busy that he stopped looking out the windows and only looked at his belongings inside. One day, as he sat and looked at all his possessions, he realised that he was very sad. He called one of his workers and asked him to find the wisest man in the country. He said: “I will pay anything just to feel happy again!” The wise man took one look at the rich man, and turned him around to look out of his windows. “What do you see when you look through the window?” asked the wise man. “I see a poor lady begging on the street. I see hungry children not going to school. I see a boy helping an old man to walk across the street.” The rich man’s voice changed as he talked. It sounded more alive. The wise man turned him around to look at the mirrors on the wall. “What do you see now?” he asked. “I only see myself,” the rich man answered.

“Let me tell you something,” the wise man said. “The windows are made of glass. The mirror is also made of glass, but silver is added to it. When you look through the window, you can see other people and their needs. But when the silver is added to the glass, it becomes a mirror and you can only see yourself.” These words changed the rich man’s life. He stopped being so busy with his own life and started helping others. He stopped being so self-centred and selfish and started caring for his community. He shared what he had to give. From that day on, the rich man was a very happy man.

This story reminds me of what we read in Acts 20:35b: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

In **Philippians 2:3-4** we read: “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”

Do you remember that we said we all want to be **smart**? I cannot say the word **smart** without thinking about Smarties chocolates. *Take out the box of Smarties and share it with the children, or with those that have a birthday.* Did you notice that on the side of the Smarties box there is a slogan? It says Wotalotigot. We do indeed have a lot. To be **smart**, we need people around us to teach us, to help us and love us. We have God, our parents, teachers, family and other adults to be our role models. Did you know that there are children who do not have the privilege of having a mom and dad to teach them how to be **smart**? Some do not have a home to feel safe. Some cannot go to school because their parents do not have a proper job. Maybe you know of some friends that cannot go to school.

We need four things to be **smart** in life:

1. **A safe space to live:** When we look out our windows, we see some friends or children of our age that do not have a safe space to live. Many children do not know where they will sleep tonight. Some children are afraid to go home. **I wonder where you feel safe.**
2. **Healthy food:** We all need healthy food to be healthy and to grow. Many children don't know where they will get food every day. **I wonder what type of food you eat.**
3. **Everyone needs love:** We all need people who love us. When you love someone, you care for that person and you always feel safe and secure when they are around. Sadly, many children don't feel loved and don't have anyone who loves them. They feel very lonely and often wonder how it would feel to have a family or caring adults to love them. **I wonder whom you love.**
4. **Stimulation:** Stimulation is when you play games or do activities that help your brain and your body develop. That is why we go to playgroups and to school - to help us develop and grow. Many children do not have opportunities for good stimulation, so their brains can't develop to full potential. **I wonder what you do to develop your brain and body.**

These 4 things can help us to be **smart**.

We cannot give everyone a safe home, but we can all do something to help. We can show we care for other children by helping them get the right stimulation for their brains to develop so they can also be smart. We can give them a kick start with SmartStart and we can all be SmartKix!

Let's look at the videos to show us what SmartStart is all about.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B17viubWCLE>

<https://youtu.be/5cQDkwLfEY4>

SmartStart wants to help children from the ages of 3 and 4 get access to the necessary stimulation, even if their family doesn't have enough money to pay for it. SmartStart helps unemployed women to look after children in their home and start a SmartStart group where they live. They learn how to use and make resources from scraps that people would normally throw away, to help children develop and learn new skills. SmartStart's aim is to reach 1 000 000 children by the year 2025, 5 years from now. They want to develop affordable playgroups, so that all our children can be **smart** children!

Our **SmartKIX** project wants to help SmartStart in 2 ways:

1. Smartmoney to buy resources
2. Smartstuff – many things that we throw away can be used again in SmartStart groups, like empty milk bottles, bottle caps, yogurt containers and egg cartons

**Smartmoney:** Use copies of the circles and cover a shoebox with it. Put the box on its small side on the ground so that it stands tall. Cut an opening at the top for children to insert money. Each time they make a contribution it goes into the *wotalotwegot* box, and children can add a coloured sticker on the box, or colour one of the circles with a crayon. Try to have a colourful box by the end of the year.

**Smartstuff:** Take a big box and draw big circles on it, or cut out copies of the circles and glue it to the box. Also, put the words *wotalotwegot* (a variation of the wording on the Smartie box) on the box. Challenge children to bring different resources from home that they would normally recycle or throw away. These Smartstuff resources will be distributed to SmartStart groups. For every resource the children bring, a circle on the box is coloured.

Term 1 – Recycle and reuse plastic products like ice cream tubs, yogurt tubs, margarine tubs and plastic bottle caps of different colours and sizes.

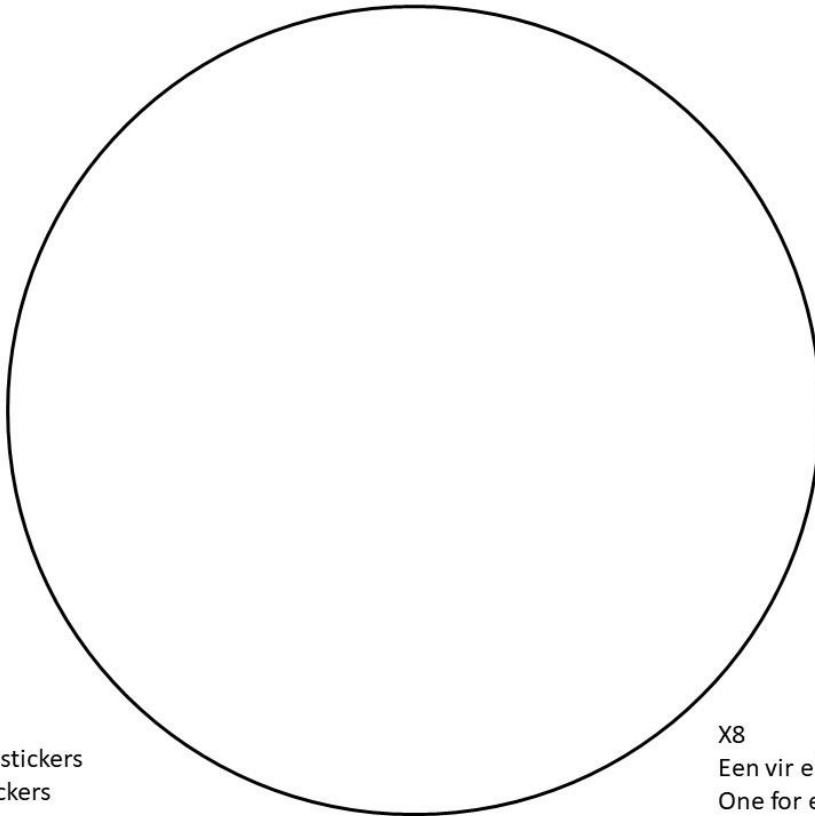
Term 2 – Recycle and reuse egg cartons (for 6 eggs), as well as plastic bottle caps of different colours and sizes.

Term 3 – Recycle and reuse empty toilet paper rolls and bottle caps.

Term 4 – Recycle and reuse 2 litre milk jugs.

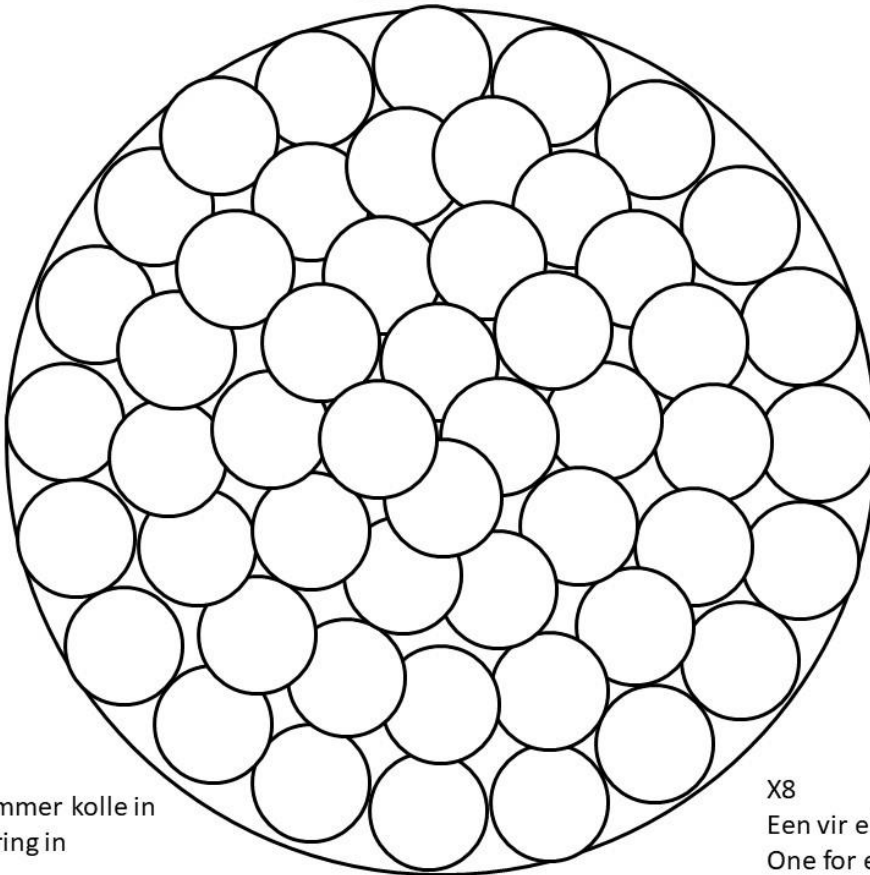
**Let us all be SMARTKIX this year and give every SmartStart in our region a KIXstart!**





Gebruik eie stickers  
Use own stickers

X8  
Een vir elke kleur  
One for each colour



Kleur sommer kolle in  
For coloring in

X8  
Een vir elke kleur  
One for each colour

**what a lot we got**