Ophthalmic Program

What’s your plan for World Sight Day?

This resource is intended as a guide for St John facilitators to design activities specific to St John’s ophthalmic program, and in recognition of World Sight Day.

World Sight Day is held on the second Thursday of October each year.

St John Ambulance Australia uses this annual event to promote fundraising for our Ophthalmic Program, and the importance of eye care and health.

St John State and Territory offices and divisions are encouraged to organise activities either for World Sight Day, or use the month of October to run fundraising events and organise activities for members.

SOME IDEAS ...

| A most important sense | • Why is good eye care and health important?
| | • Discuss how obtaining an education can lead to meaningful employment and a fulfilling life as members of the community. |
| Eye care and health (first aid) | • Investigate the kinds of injuries that could happen to the eye.
| | • Practise first aid for eye injuries.
| | • Look at different eye diseases. Discuss causes and outcomes of living with that disease. |
| Knowing: • Palestine, Israel • Oecussi, East Timor • Australia | • Explore different regions where St John provides eye care and health.
| | • Use a global map to identify locations.
| | • Discuss the geography, history, politics, population, language, religions and infrastructures of Palestine or Oecussi, and compared to Australia. |
| St John Ambulance | Give a short history of St John in medieval times, and St John Australia’s ophthalmic program |
| The St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem | Discuss the SJEH, and what they do |
| Fund-raising | Organise a fund-raising event. |
| Case histories | Find case histories that describe an individual's story of eye impairment or disease. Plan activities around a personal story. |
| Speakers | Organise a speaker from an eye health care organisation to present. |
RESOURCES

www.stjohn.org.au/About us

- Juniors - eye health activity workbook (PDF; used for the Juniors Interest badge)
- Youth - eye health workbook (PDF; used for the Youth Proficiency badge)
- First aid for eye injuries (PDF; commercial first aid booklet)
- St John History (two papers on the history of the St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem)

There are also resources for use specific to the St John Eye Hospital Group:

- SJEHG PP 2018 - general (a PowerPoint file with 51 screens, showing images from the St John Eye Hospital)
- SJEHG - About (flyer)
- SJEHG - Mobile Outreach (flyer)

https://www.stjohnyehospital.org/

The SJEHG website has excellent and varied information that can be used for learning activities: news, case studies, statistics, etc.

Activity worksheets 2011

Use the 2011 National Ophthalmic Week activity worksheets for 8–12 years, 13–15 years, and 16–17 years.

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St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem: A Brief History

The St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem has a rich history, dating back over 900 years. In 1882, an eye hospital was established just outside of Jerusalem, aiming to provide crucial eye care in the occupied Palestinian territory. Today, the hospital continues to operate, supporting the people of Palestine with widespread eye disease issues.

The hospital faces significant challenges, including limited access to specialist care and a high rate of blindness (10 times higher in Palestine than in any developed country, such as Australia). The rate of blindness is a pandemic level (pandemic refers to an issue affecting a large number of people) in Palestine today.

The hospital's work is made possible by the financial support of St John Ambulance Australia, which helps to fund the important work of the St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem. The funds go to support the St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem and help people in need.

Talking point

Can you imagine what Ahmed was feeling when he hit his right eye and started having problems seeing clearly? After this, Ahmed developed a cataract in his eye, a condition that makes it hard for him to see. The St John Eye Hospital was able to take Ahmed to see the doctors and perform an operation to remove the cataract. The operation was a great success! Ahmed can now play with his friends and see properly again.

Discussion point

Ahmed's family are very grateful for the help that St John gave them. The operation was a great success! Ahmed can now play with his friends and see properly again. This was very upsetting for Ahmed and his family.

Talking point

Did you know that in 1882, an eye hospital was established just outside of Jerusalem? It aimed to provide eye care to people in need. This hospital is the only charitable provider of crucial eye care in the occupied Palestinian territory, treating tens of thousands of patients each year. The funds go to support the St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem and help people in need. This hospital is the only charitable provider of crucial eye care in the occupied Palestinian territory, treating tens of thousands of patients each year. The funds go to support the St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem and help people in need.

St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem: An Overview

The St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem is an important provider of eye care in the occupied Palestinian territory, treating tens of thousands of patients each year. It aims to provide crucial eye care to people in need. The hospital is the only charitable provider of this service in the occupied Palestinian territory.

The hospital faces significant challenges, including limited access to specialist care and a high rate of blindness (10 times higher in Palestine than in any developed country, such as Australia). The rate of blindness is a pandemic level (pandemic refers to an issue affecting a large number of people) in Palestine today.

The hospital's work is made possible by the financial support of St John Ambulance Australia, which helps to fund the important work of the St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem. The funds go to support the St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem and help people in need.

Fact …

The rate of blindness is 10 times higher in Palestine than in any other developed country, such as Australia.