

Water Game

Learn how a restored source of fresh water has impacted on Shaniella's school in the Solomon Islands.

You need:
A dice
Counters for each child

Start

1

2

Oh no! Broken water pipes! Go back to the start.

3

4

You help in the kitchen. Roll again.

5

6

No water in the tank. Miss a turn.

7

You plan to save water. Roll again.

14

13

12

Your water bucket has a hole in it. Go back 2.

11

10

9

You help in the garden. Move forward 2 spaces.

8

15

You miss class because of a landslide. Go back 3 spaces.

16

17

Tanks are full from rain! Move forward 3 spaces.

18

19

You stop to wash your hands. Miss a turn.

20

21

School gets a new water tank! Go forward 2 spaces.

22

23

You have fresh drinking water! Roll again.

29

28

27

26

You cannot wash. Go back 2 spaces.

25

24

Finish

30

School

ring
ring



SHANIELLA, SOLOMON ISLANDS

Does your school have clean water? What about water tanks? Do you have a vegetable garden and chickens too? Shaniella's school is in the Solomon Islands - a country that sometimes experiences tsunamis, cyclones, drought, floods and landslides. In 2020, a landslide damaged Shaniella's school, including its gravity-fed water system, buildings and food garden. It was terrible! With Caritas Australia's support, the school installed 8 new water tanks. This gave students access to fresh drinking water and toilets again! The community also learned more about Disaster Risk Reduction and how to prepare for and respond to emergencies. Things are looking bright for Shaniella, for her school community and for all future generations.

Shaniella is 23 years old. She grew up in a village in the Solomon Islands with her father, mother and three brothers.

Shaniella went to a local school until grade 11 but was unable to complete her final year because she did not pass the exam. Girls' and women's participation in secondary education, training and employment in the Solomon Islands is much lower than male students'. With the poverty rate in Makira province at around 32 percent, Shaniella knew that without relevant job skills, she would struggle to earn a living.

In 2020, Shaniella decided to move away from home to study at a rural training centre outside the capital, Honiara. The school is supported by Caritas Australia Solomon Islands (CASI) through the Happy, Healthy, Holistic Community Development program. It caters mainly for young women from poorer communities

but is now starting to enrol male students too. Learning focuses on job-related skills.

Shaniella chose to study hospitality and tourism, as well as compulsory subjects like life skills, cooking, sewing and agricultural production.

Not long after Shaniella started, her new school was hit by a landslide, flooding and a cyclone, all in quick succession! It was terrible.

"I was in school that time when the landslide occurred," Shaniella says. **"I was devastated because I had no knowledge of what to do and where to get information."**

Shaniella

After the landslide, and with Caritas Australia's support, Shaniella's school and community were able to recover. The new water tanks they installed also supply water to nearby schools, health centres and the wider community. As well as running some Disaster Risk Reduction workshops, Caritas helped boost the local food security by providing the school with planting materials, 200 chickens and training in agriculture and poultry management.

Now, Shaniella can complete her job skills training, with enough water and food to eat, as well as better hygiene and sanitation. She is improving her ability to earn an income, learning skills which will expand her job opportunities. The school community is also thriving!

Shaniella is confident she will be ready to work in the hospitality and tourism industry when the Solomon Islands opens up to international visitors again.