

**Discover News-sheet  
for colleagues in Africa  
October 2018**



**Use locally available resources:  
Plastic**

Dear Friends

Plastic was a wonderful invention, but it has become a nightmare. How to get rid of plastic waste is an enormous challenge.

In this paper (attached) I present some ideas for possible uses for waste plastic, especially bottles. Do you have more ideas? Please tell me!

Visit to Uganda.

I am about to visit many of our active partners in Uganda who are doing great work. As I travel, I shall try to post pictures and messages on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/discover.src/>

Are you doing the best thing you can do? A story

A school in Africa was not doing very well. A kind European wanted to help. So he paid for new text books for all the children. But the situation did not improve. Then he found money to pay an extra teacher, to reduce the size of the classes. But that also made no difference. Then he arranged for new blackboards, because the old ones were very old, and bought desks so that every child could sit at a desk. Still the performance did not improve. Then a teacher told him that many children were often absent from school because of tummy problems. So he paid for natural medicine for intestinal worms. This cost a fraction of what all the other initiatives had cost. Do you know what? School attendance improved, and the performance of the entire school improved.

The moral of the story? Listen to what people tell you, and think very carefully before doing anything at all – to make sure you are doing the best thing.

Many greetings,

Keith



The sap from the unripe pawpaw paralyses intestinal worms. They can then be flushed out with a laxative, such as a lot of ripe pawpaw!