

## WFWP New Jersey: Update from Cambodia Project - Nurturing Creativity in Takeo

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March 30, 2025



On March 30, 2025, WFWP Cambodia staff visited children supported through the Cambodia Project in Takeo Province, a rural region where educational opportunities are still limited - especially in Kirivong district, near the Cambodian border. This project has been made possible through the ongoing partnership between WFWP New Jersey and generous donors, who have supported students in Cambodia since 2015.

This year, we were happy to welcome 19 new students, bringing the total number of children supported in the Takeo and Kirivong districts to 73.



One highlight of this visit was a creative writing program. Each child randomly selected word cards from a "word bank" and used them to build sentences freely with their imagination. For example, if they picked the words "sad" and "shiny," they were encouraged to form a sentence or even a paragraph incorporating both.

It became clear that many of our students, particularly those in early junior high school, struggle with writing. Although they continue through the grades, they often have little exposure to creative expression. We believe that fostering creativity will help lead them toward more meaningful and enriched lives.

For many, this program was their first experience with imaginative writing, and while it was unexpected, they embraced the challenge. At the

end, each student contributed one sentence to a collective group story. The task required them to use creativity to form a coherent narrative, rather than simply stringing the sentences together. The elementary and junior high school students gave it their best, while the high school students impressed us with their humor and storytelling skills.

In the Takeo district, we also introduced an arts and crafts activity. While the children had previously done paper folding and cutting, this time they created pictures using bookmark-sized paper. This more detailed work was new to many of them - some had rarely used glue before. Nevertheless, each child produced a unique piece of art, expressing themselves through favorite colors and imagined landscapes.

These moments remind me of how vital these small but significant experiences are for the children. Thank you again to everyone who continues to support the Cambodia Project - your kindness is helping to shape young minds and hearts.

Click [here](#) for more information on the project!



# CAMBODIA

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Since 2015, the WFWP Chapter in New Jersey connects with generous donors to support students in Cambodia in partnership with WFWP Cambodia. For many low-income families, the additional expenses of education can be a significant barrier. For just \$160, you can support one student for one year of their education, which can go a long way toward empowering them to build a brighter future. Donations help cover books and school supplies, school fees, uniforms, and more!

Once a year funds collected are sent to WFWP Cambodia which administers the project, communicating with students, schools, and families. Volunteers from WFWP New Jersey and WFWP Cambodia also visit several times a year to meet the students and engage them in extra, fun activities such as art projects, guest speakers, and character education.

Check out the [News Page](#) for periodic updates from the students!

