

KIDS KIP FOR CHARITY

Submitted by: dbda ltd

Monday, 18 June 2012

Youngsters take part in The Giant Sleepover and raise funds for UNICEF

Over 7,000 participants took part in the Giant Sleepover (<http://www.giantsleepover.com>) this weekend, giving thousands of parents the night off and allowing many dads to wake up to a quiet Father's Day! Children from youth groups and schools the length and breadth of the country came together to enjoy fun, friendship and fundraising to help UNICEF's work in combatting the spread of malaria.

While most Giant Sleepover groups spent their night away from home in school halls and tents, some were lucky enough to sleepover in unique and unusual venues including; Alton Towers, LEGOLAND Discovery Centre, Trentham Monkey Forest, London Zoo and Dundee Science Centre.

The largest sleepover took place in Lancashire with 1,000 West Lancashire Cub Scouts camping out for the night.

Sleep was not all they got up to with each registered group enjoying a Treasure Chest containing goodies for all participants and an exclusive UNICEF DVD and activity sheets to help them understand how their sleepover helps children across the world. Other fun activities on offer included cookery, sports, crafts, story-telling, midnight feasts and treasure hunts!

All proceeds from The Giant Sleepover go directly to UNICEF (<http://www.giantsleepover.com>) to support their work with vulnerable children. This year the focus is to help save children's lives by giving families insecticide-treated mosquito nets. Providing one net costs just £4 and by attending a Giant Sleepover event in association with UNICEF kids were able to have fun while also saving lives.

A UNICEF spokesperson said, "UNICEF are delighted to be working in partnership with The Giant Sleepover, as the sun never sets on our life saving work The Giant Sleepover is the perfect platform for us to engage in unifying children around the world to raise vital funds to help the most vulnerable children thrive and survive."

-ENDS -

Visit www.giantsleepover.com (<http://www.giantsleepover.com>) to see the latest photographs.

For enquiries contact: Lucy@giantsleepover.com

Or telephone: 01202 311644

NOTES TO EDITORS:

The Giant Sleepover

- The first Giant Sleepover event took place in 2003 setting a Guinness World record for the Largest Simultaneous sleepover with 8280 participants in 228 locations.

- This year a new way of paying the Every Child Counts fee is being trialled with parents being offered the opportunity to text their £2 direct to UNICEF for their child to participate in The Giant Sleepover event and to ensure they receive their goody bag on the night.
- The hottest sleepover ever recorded was 40C in Delhi, India in 2006. The coldest was in the Falkland Islands at -5C. The most northerly in the UK was the Faroe Isles and the most southerly was at BT Goonhilly in Devon. The scariest sleepover took place in the London Dungeons.
- The Giant Sleepover is supported by the Parent Teacher Association, Girlguiding UK, The Boys and Girls Brigades, Sea cadets, St John Ambulance and sporting associations including The Football Association and The England and Wales Cricket Board.

UNICEF

- UNICEF is the world's leading organisation focusing on children and child rights, with a presence in more than 190 countries and territories. UNICEF is the world's largest provider of vaccines for developing countries, supports child health and nutrition, good water and sanitation, quality basic education for all boys and girls, and the protection of children from violence, exploitation, and AIDS.
- UNICEF is funded entirely by voluntary contributions. For more information about UNICEF and its work visit: www.unicef.org
- In many parts of Africa the night time is a dangerous time for children. When children go to sleep they're at risk of contracting malaria, a killer disease. Malaria is carried by mosquitoes, which are most active during the night. And it kills one child every 45 seconds. The solution is not complicated or expensive. Lives can be saved by giving families insecticide-treated mosquito nets which cost just £4 each.
- Attend a Giant Sleepover and raise funds for UNICEF who can use the money raised to buy mosquito nets to stop children in Africa dying from malaria.