

**CROWDFUNDING FOR A BETTER WORLD****I.- Provide answers to these questions in flipgrid**

A charity is an organization that raises money to help people, animals, or the environment. Look at the logos for three charities and discuss the questions.

1. Do you know these charities? What do they do?
2. How do charities raise money?

**Flipgrid**

Read the first paragraph of the article. Check (✓) two sentences that are true about crowdfunding.

1. ☐ A lot of people give small amounts of money online.
2. ☐ It's only for people who want to start a business.
3. ☐ It can help musicians who want to make an album.
4. ☐ It's not very useful for charities.

Crowdfunding for a Better World

"Crowdfunding" is a way of **raising money** from a large number of people on the internet. These days, there are a lot of different crowdfunding websites, but when crowdfunding began, it was mostly used by new businesses. Nowadays, people use it for a lot of different reasons, not just for business. For example, musicians who want to make an album can ask fans for money, a photographer can get money for a new book, and—increasingly—different types of **charities** raise money this way. Here are three examples of how crowdfunding has made a real difference in the world.

II.- Read the rest of the article. What do these numbers refer to?

\$125,000	
65 feet	
7,700 square miles	
\$200	

"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men"

Colossians 3: 23



Bringing water

Sonam Wangchuk, an engineer, raised \$125,000 on a crowdfunding site to build an "ice **stupa**." In higher parts of the Himalayas, the **glaciers** are disappearing, so local people have less water in the spring for growing crops. So Sonam invented a way to bring water up the Himalayas in the winter from the lower parts of the mountains that have more water. As water comes out of a pipe, it freezes and becomes the 65-foot-tall ice stupa. Then, in the spring, the stupa **melts** and people have water for their fields.

Saving the rainforest

The organization "Size of Wales" wants to save rainforests because they are disappearing. It has already saved 7,700 square miles of rainforest (that's the same size as the country, Wales). Now it plans to save another 7,700. Crowdfunding is important for the organization because people give money, but it's also a good way to make people think about the problem of climate change.



Making people better

For people in poor countries, healthcare is very expensive. But the crowdfunding site Watsi has a solution. On the Watsi site, people describe their medical problems. For example, perhaps there's a farmer who needs \$200 to pay for an operation on his mouth, or maybe there's a college student who can't hear. If she receives \$400, she can pay for an operation on her ears. When people read about these individuals, they want to give them the money they need.

So if you want to give money to a charity, visit a crowdfunding site—or, if you want to raise money for a charity, why not try crowdfunding for yourself?

raise money get money from other people for a special reason (e.g., for a charity or a business)

stupa a religious tower in Buddhism

glacier a river of ice that moves slowly down a mountain

melt when ice becomes water

Complete the chart. Use your notebook to write extra information.

	Problem	Action	Result
Sonam Wangchuk	People needed water.		
Size of Wales		It bought 7,700 square miles of rainforest.	
Watsi			People can pay for medical help.



GOAL CHECK

plan how you will raise \$1,000 for one of these charities:

- a group that gives free food to families in need
- a charity for dogs and cats that needs a new building
- a children's hospital that needs medical equipment



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