Onesmus is 15 years old and lives in Kitui, Kenya. He loves studying and hopes to become a teacher one day.

Every day, after school, Onesmus walks for half an hour to collect water from a nearby dam for his family. The dam was built by Christian Aid. The shorter journey to fetch water helps him to do well at school.

‘Before the earth dam, we had to walk to a river far away,’ he says. ‘It took us three hours to walk there. I didn’t have enough time to do my homework. Now we have the earth dam, I am happier.’

Onesmus uses the water from the dam to grow tasty fruit at home, like avocados and pineapples.

Sadly, as a result of climate change, a lot of plants in Kenya don’t get enough rain water and can’t grow.

‘It hasn’t rained properly for a long time,’ he explains. ‘When it rains, I will feel happy.’
Onesmus is teaching his nephew, Michael Junior, how to plant a tree sapling, and water it every day, so it can grow tall, strong and green. Onesmus takes great care to water his plants because he knows how important this is.

**Nature quiz**

1. Trees use their roots to drink water underground. True or False?
2. Name a variety of tree that you know.
3. Name an animal or insect that lives in a tree.
4. Trees can live for thousands of years. True or False?

**Tree shadows**

Draw a line from each tree to its matching shadow.

Thanks to Christian Aid, children and their parents in Onesmus’ village are being helped to plant trees. Imagine how the trees will grow and help turn their village into a green and happy place to live.