



Born just before a terrible time of fighting in the country of Rwanda, Marie Rose was only 4 years old when her parents died. She now lives with her older sisters Eugenie, Florence and Kubwimane, who have looked after her for the last ten years.

Marie-Rose is a happy and friendly 14-year-old, she helps her sisters with jobs that need doing and is often very busy. In 2003 they were given three goats from Send a Cow, one billy and two females. They bred these and have given three kids away to another group of orphans. After breeding the goats, Marie-Rose hopes to keep 10 goats in total, making lots of manure! The sisters have $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre of land and so the manure makes the soil great for growing vegetables. They are growing beans, bananas, peas, maize and carrots and are eating well now.

They will sell the kids, when they are bigger, at the local market for £10 each. Marie-Rose will also sell vegetables there, as they are growing plenty now. All of this comes in very useful for buying essential items like clothes, shoes and soap. They are saving up for a roof and chimney for the kitchen at the moment.

Marie-Rose enjoys school and has a best friend called Grace who she loves joking around and playing games with. There's not much free time though as she is so busy:

6.00am	Goes to the well to get water, which is 1 mile away.
7.00am	Cleans the house and eats breakfast - porridge (if there is any).
7.30am	Walks to school up a big hill.
8.00am	Lessons of Maths, handwriting, Rwandan and French
12.30pm	Lunch-time, eats bananas and maize-meal. Plays games with Grace.
1.15pm	More lessons of English and gardening.
4.00pm	End of school day.
4.30pm	Fetches firewood and chops grass for goats.
5.30pm	Cooks beans and sweet potatoes on a small wood stove.
7.30pm	Eats her evening meal. Washes up and does homework, if there is time.
8.30pm	Often no paraffin for lamp so there is no light. Goes to bed.

Marie-Rose from Rwanda



Marie-Rose lives with her sisters, who look after her. She is trying to get a good education.