This skit could be used as an introduction to the Giving Gardens project.

Purpose and intent: To introduce and illustrate the necessity of seed as the source of food and the “seeds of faith” planted through the sharing of the Good News of the Gospel; to introduce the children to Hope and the goal of the Giving Gardens project

Setting: Split set –
Set 1: A kitchen table set with a setting for three or four people (a small family group), ample food
Set 2: A pile of garbage

Characters: Set 1: Characters would be a family of some sort (i.e. A mom and dad with two or three school-age children)
Set 2: An obviously poor child, dressed in dirty, ragged clothes

Dialog: Set 1: Children at the table picking at the vegetables and complaining about the meal in general – they want fast food, junk food, anything but what is being served. The adults during this dialog should be using phrases like “There are poor children in the world who would love to have that food”; “Finish the food on your plate”; or any of the clichés we have heard and remember.

Set 2: A poor child saying nothing but quietly and thoughtfully poking and sifting through the garbage, sorting and setting aside what might be edible, throwing disgusting stuff into a second pile of discarded garbage; the poor child picks out a plate or package, sniffs and pokes at it, and then eats what appears to be our garbage.

The family is eating off readily identifiable plates (red or some other bright color). It may make it easier to notice the plates if no other objects of the same color are on the table. The child going through the garbage finds a plate of discarded food (on the color of plate used in set 1).
This skit can be completed in 5 minutes or less. After the skit, you may want to read Jesus’ words to us in Matthew 25: 34-40 – *Come, you who are blessed by My Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited Me in, I needed clothes and you clothed Me, I was sick and you looked after Me, I was in prison and you came to visit Me. Then the righteous will answer Him, “Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink? When did we see You as a stranger and invite You in, or needing clothes and clothe You? When did we see You sick or in prison and go to visit You?” The King will reply, “I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for Me.”*

After reading these verses, you may wish to introduce the Giving Gardens project, explaining that in this project students will be given an opportunity to care for others. You may want to introduce the concept of stewardship which, in its simplest form, means caring for others.

Show students the picture of Hope on the Giving Gardens postcard and read her story. Tell the students that Hope was like the child in the skit. She didn’t have enough food to eat. She had to search through the garbage to find food.

Tell students that in the Giving Gardens project, they will be learning ways to help children like Hope who live in far away places like Haiti. They will be learning ways their offerings can be used to provide food for these children. More importantly, they will learn ways they can help children like Hope learn about Jesus. You could introduce how this program works here if you choose or have teachers talk about this process with their classrooms.

1. Money used to purchase seeds
2. Seeds sent
3. Children go to garden school to learn how to plant seeds
4. Children are also taught about Jesus at garden school
5. Garden planted
6. Food
7. Seeds Saved
8. More plants planted

*Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for Me.”*