

Global Citizenship in the Whole School: Ages 5-7

Lesson plan 1: Our riches

Age group: 5 - 7

Aims:

For pupils to gain an awareness of rich and poor and a sense of personal indignation.

What to do:

You will need:

- a copy of this quote up in the classroom for everyone to see:

"Only when the last tree has died and the last river been poisoned and the last fish been caught will we realise that we cannot eat money."

Alternatively, if you prefer, use a book such as *The Selfish Giant* by Oscar Wilde or a simplified version of *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens.

Show the pupils the quote above, attributed to the Native American Cree as a comment on the environment and materialism, or read one of the books. Discuss its meaning and implications with the class. Divide the board in half vertically and write 'Rich' one side and 'Poor' the other. Ask the pupils for their ideas on these two terms. Initially they will probably focus on money and material wealth, but broaden the discussion to ensure that all aspects of the terms rich and poor are discussed: richness in terms of friends, happiness, culture or seeing a beautiful view, for instance. 'Poor' should include poverty of experiences or opportunities, such as never going out or doing anything exciting, and having a polluted environment.

Talk about how the pupils, and many people throughout the world, are both rich and poor. For instance, in this country a family may have a car but one of them may also have asthma, whereas in Bhutan, Asia, a family may not have a car but they do have a beautiful, clean environment. Ask pupils to record how they are each rich and poor as pictures and captions for a class book.

Planned outcomes:

That pupils begin to understand ways in which they are 'rich' and 'poor' and that there is value in things apart from money and materialism.

Curriculum links:

England	Scotland	Wales
PSHE/Citizenship: - To share their opinions on things that matter to them and explain their views; to realise that they belong to various groups and communities such as families; to take part in discussions of global concern.	PSD: - Self-esteem - to express positive thoughts about themselves.	PSE: - To value friends and families as a source of love and mutual support; to feel positive about themselves.