



**Some key concepts to help students understand trade:**

- the rules of international trade favour the rich countries of the 'North' over the poorer countries of the 'South'
- the supply chain, from producer to consumer is often a complex one, with products changing hands many times before they reach our shops
- working conditions for producers in the South are often poor, with low wages, a lack of safety standards, and no job security
- environmental damage is often a consequence of production
- Fair Trade offers an alternative to traditional trade – it works to overcome the injustices of 'free' trade, and promotes more sustainable development.
- as consumers, our choices have an impact on people in other parts of the world.

**What makes it fair?**

Fair Trade is a partnership between producers and consumers which ensures producers receive good working conditions and fair prices. Fair Trade principles include:

- paying fair prices to the producers which reflect the true cost of production – world market prices often do not cover even the cost of the raw materials
- supporting producer organisations in their social development projects – many provide health and education facilities
- promoting the empowerment of women
- advising on product development to increase access to markets
- encouraging environmental responsibility
- committing to long term relationships to provide stability and security
- campaigning to highlight the unequal system of world trade.

This leaflet is produced by **Reading International Solidarity Centre (RISC)** as part of the *People Behind the Products* project. This aims to produce materials which raise awareness of trade issues, including Fairtrade. For more information contact:

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# TEACHING about FAIR TRADE

“ **Now I am getting fair wages... 40% more than before. Also we are getting a bonus in the Eid festival. I saved some money and built a new house. My one son and one daughter are studying in the government school.** ”

**Sheraj Gagi**  
 weaver for a group selling through Aarong in Bangladesh

**Fair Trade activities, in and out of the classroom**

Ideas for developing students' understanding about **Fair Trade** could include:

- using producer profiles for comparisons with students' own lives – groups plan and rehearse 'interviews' with the producers involved, and present their work live or as a recording
- devising a questionnaire and carrying out **Fair Trade** product, or consumer, surveys at home or school
- visiting the local supermarket to investigate **Fair Trade** products available
- setting up students own **Fair Trade** shop or café, with a menu including **Fair Trade** ingredients
- arranging for the school cafeteria or tuck shop to stock **Fair Trade** items
- tasting sessions, comparing brands – in class, at parents' evenings or open days
- running a publicity campaign to raise awareness of **Fair Trade** – producing posters, packaging, webpages, and designing postcards to send to supermarkets to encourage them to sell more **Fair Trade** products
- holding a whole school **Fair Trade** day – or week – combining all this and more
- become a **Fair Trade** school!

## Shops and Markets

**Curriculum links:** Literacy, Geography

Primary topic pack, with photos/posters, teacher's notes and activities. Covers trade, Fair Trade, different types of shops and markets. Activities with posters include describing, questioning, cropping and extending the pictures, adding speech bubbles and captions, telling stories, drama work, linking photos to a world map, looking at links and journeys.

### Go Bananas

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, Geography, Literacy/Numeracy

Photo pack with information and activity booklet. 18 colour photos illustrate journey of bananas, from plant to plate. Skills developed involve questioning, sequencing, interpreting, research, presenting information and negotiating. Concepts developed include the links between our own lives and those of others, world trade and globalisation. UK Fair Trade bananas can be introduced to extend the activities.

### \* Making a Meal of it

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, Geography, Science, Literacy/Numeracy

Photo pack with information/activity booklet. 18 colour photos of food in different contexts – linked with farming, shopping, celebrations and daily life. Information on food issues, including Fair Trade.

### The Clothes Line

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, Geography, Science, Art, DT, Literacy/Numeracy, ICT, Drama, History

Photo pack with information/activity booklet. 16 colour photos showing images from cotton being harvested in India, to children buying clothes in UK shops. Contains background information, and provides in depth support for topic work on clothes or trade, introducing a global dimension. Through the concept of Fair Trade, it links children's own lives with those of people in the South, developing a range of skills. It also provides useful material for a locality study in India.

### Bananas & (Cocoa) Beans

**Curriculum links:** PHSE/PSE/PSD, Citizenship, Literacy, Geography

The pack investigates our links with people across the globe through trade in food and drink products. It is divided into four parts, each of which can stand alone, be used in sequence, or be used to build a new dimension into existing schemes of work. It raises awareness of our global links, and looks at the negative impact these links can have. Fair trade is introduced as a positive alternative, and ways in which we can all take action for positive change follow on from this. Designed for minimum teacher preparation and maximum pupil participation.

### \* Pa Pa Paa

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, RE, ICT, Literacy/Numeracy

The pack provides a case study of the Fair Trade cocoa growers in Ghana. Pa Pa Paa, 'the best of the best', is their trademark. Activities, to suit all abilities, enable students to understand links in the cocoa chain, from cocoa farmer to chocolate eater. A game develops the idea of Fair Trade, showing how students' own choices affect the farmers in Ghana and other parts of the South.

### Fair Trade in a Box

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, D&T, Literacy

A box of 18 small Fair Trade artefacts with description cards, a Peters Projection World Map, background information about fair trade and suggested activities.

### Growing Bananas

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, RE, Literacy, Numeracy

Grow bananas from scrap paper and discover how difficult life can be for banana growers in the Caribbean – and how Fairtrade can give them a better deal. A whole class trading game with background information.

### The Chocolate Trade Game

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, RE, Literacy, Numeracy

Focusing on the cocoa trade and the Kuapa Kokoo Co-operative in Ghana, the pack includes information about cocoa production, the cocoa trading chain and all you need for a trading game for up to 35 pupils.

### For a few pesos more

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, Literacy, RS, Music

**For a few pesos more** is 4 minute animation set to a rap outlining the injustices of the world trade system and introducing Fair Trade as an alternative. It brings the issues to life in a way which will appeal to young people. The video comes with notes for teachers and facilitators which include background information on Fair Trade, curriculum links and activities tailored for different age groups and outcomes.

### All you need for a Fair Trade Assembly

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, RE

These three assemblies involve minimal preparation and maximum participation! They are all adaptable, and could be used with any audience, although each one was designed for the age group indicated. They take about 15 minutes to run. They use different types of trade (chocolate, bananas and fashion) to explain problems faced by producers in the poorer countries of the 'South' and enable students to recognise the choices they have, as consumers, and take action to support Fair Trade.

### Locococo

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish & English versions)

Locococo brought together young people from Guatemala, Spain, Western Sahara and the UK via the Internet. Using the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child as a framework, Locococo includes a lively whole class game and supporting activities. It enables students to explore and develop an understanding of Human Rights and other Development Issues. It raises awareness of inequalities, and ways in which they can be addressed – for example through the purchase of Fair Trade goods.

### The Computer Game

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, RE, ITC

A whole class simulation game, the pack explores the unfair conditions often experienced by workers in a Mexican computer factory.

### Fair Trade in Action

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography

An interactive resource which introduces Fair Trade as an alternative to conventional trade. It encourages students to participate as active global citizens, and raises awareness of world trade issues. The pack can be used across the curriculum, and includes:

- a video, forum on Fair Trade, with differentiated worksheets
- producer case studies and activity sheets ready for photocopying
- five copies of a board game including role cards, student instruction and record sheets
- a teachers' guide including background information, curriculum links, how to use the pack, action ideas, further resources and useful contacts.

### Looking Behind the Logo

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, Business Studies, English, D&T/Textiles

Activity pack which contrasts the Olympian ethos of fair play with the unfair conditions in the sportswear industry – includes a role-play, background information & lead in activities, suggestions for action for change.

**KS 1, can be used at KS 2**

**Oxfam 1998 £15**

**KS 1/2**

**Oxfam 1995 £14**

**KS 2**

**Oxfam 1998 £13**

**KS 2**

**Oxfam 1998 £13.95**

**KS2**

**RISC 2004 £3.50**

**KS 2**

**Comic Relief**

**KS2/3**

**RISC 2004 £55**

**KS2**

**RISC 2005 £3.50**

**KS2/3**

**Christian Aid £3.50**

**KS 2/3**

**BAFTS 2002 £10**

**KS 2/4 (different formats for each)**

**BAFTS/RISC 2002 £1**

**KS 3/4**

**Humanities Education Centre 2000 £15**

**KS3/4**

**CAFOD 2004 free**

**KS3/4**

**RISC/Fairtrade Foundation 2002 £15**

**KS3/4**

**OXFAM 2004 £4.99**

## The Chocolate Game

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, RE

A game for between 18 and 50 players based on the global cocoa trade. It takes 60-90 minutes to play, with participants divided into 9 different groups. Each group represents a family involved in the international chocolate industry from Ghana, Belize, Brazil or the UK. Players discover how their lives are interlinked through the chocolate trade and feel for themselves the influence purchasing power has on the lives of cocoa producers world-wide. The booklet includes information on the chocolate trade, Fair Trade, instructions and resources for the game.

### Bananas Unpeeled

**Curriculum links:** Geography, Business Studies, Art, Media Studies

Bananas Unpeeled evolved from an arts project in the Windward islands. The 26 minute video in the pack shows Mark Thomas visiting banana plantations in Costa Rica. He discusses workers rights, living conditions, the social and environmental impact of large-scale banana production, and the health implications of using agrochemical sprays on the banana crop. The video moves on to the Windward Islands, exploring the effect of the 'banana trade war' on small family farms, the positive impact of Fair Trade, and the role of consumers. The booklet, printed on banana paper, provides background information on banana production, and then includes separate sections for teachers of Art and Media, Geography and Business Studies.

### \* Best of the Bunch

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, RE, English, Travel and Tourism

16 minute video and booklet provide a case study of banana production in St Lucia, and the banana trade. Mark Little discovers the impact this has on the lives of small scale farmers, and discusses the link between international trade and poverty. The video explores ways in which banana growers can diversify, focusing on tourism. It shows how 'all inclusive tourism' doesn't touch the poverty of banana farmers. Made before Fair Trade bananas were available in the UK, the video points out their potential to improve the situation of small scale growers.

### The Truth about Bananas

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, General Studies, Geography

Pack for group leaders and teachers, divided into two parts.

Part 1: **A Truly Global Fruit** contains wide ranging information on the banana trade. It compares big plantations with small farms, looking at production from producer to consumer, including social and environmental costs. It discusses the union situation for workers, the 'banana trade war', the ILO, and the big 5 companies that control and profit from the banana trade. It considers a sustainable banana industry, and Fair Trade bananas.

Part 2: **Education and Action for Change** contains activities including a banana quiz, role play game, discussion ideas and suggestions for action and campaigning.

### The Cost of Coffee

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, RE, Literacy, Numeracy, Media Studies, Business Studies

Activities which examine the causes and impact of the crisis faced by 25 million small coffee farmers worldwide due to low world prices. Analysis of the response of the big coffee companies and corporate social responsibility.

### Seeing Through the Spin

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, General Studies, Business Studies, Geography, Key Skills, Media Studies

**Seeing Through the Spin** looks at issues of corporate responsibility, ethical consumerism, Fair Trade and sustainable development. It examines the role of Public Relations in our perception of TNCs and NGOs, and how these organisations affect development. It develops students' abilities to deconstruct PR messages from companies and their critics. The pack contains instructions for 14 different activities that can be selected to suit the participants. Each activity has discussion points, a summary of key ideas and suggestions for follow-up. There is an extensive glossary of terms, with a list of contacts and resources.

### XChanging the World

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, General Studies

**XChanging the World** is designed to raise consumer awareness, encouraging participants to consider their responsibilities towards producers. There are 15 activities, exploring the broader structures that govern world trade, leading to poverty and inequality. Activities can be selected to suit the needs of the group. They include lively ways of introducing the issue of trade, as well as exploring issues such as the impact of TNCs as they move from one location to another, and the pros and cons of tourism for countries in the South. The pack promotes change by enabling participants to appreciate how they can make a difference, eg through supporting Fair Trade.

### \* Coffee Culture

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, RE, Design & Technology

This limited edition game has been silkscreen printed onto a 1m<sup>2</sup> wipeable tablecloth. It has been beautifully hand lettered and illustrated, and builds on the familiar snakes and ladders format in order to create a user-friendly resource for all ages (8 years+). The game explores some of the trading issues that affect coffee producers in Nicaragua and illustrates the benefits of Fair Trade. It has been designed for outlets that support Fair Trade as both an educational and promotional tool. It is entirely self-explanatory and comes with counters and dice, contained in an attractive cloth bag.

### Passion for Fashion

**Curriculum links:** PHSE/PSE/PSD, Citizenship, Literacy, Art

Outlines the programme for an action-packed one day event which enables participants to explore the global fashion industry, and find answers to issues of ethical trade and workers' rights. Each of the activities in the pack can be easily adapted for use in schools.

### Choc-a-lot

**Curriculum links:** PHSE/PSE/PSD, Citizenship, RE, Geography

Detailed outline of activities for a day workshop which introduces young people to the issues behind the global chocolate industry. It enables them to find out the facts, develop a wide range of skills and have confidence to take action for change. Themes include: the role of chocolate in our lives, how chocolate is made, how the big chocolate companies increase their profits at the cost of cocoa farmers, the role of fair trade and how to take further action to demand better conditions for producers.

### The Fairtrade Banana Song

**Curriculum links:** Citizenship, PHSE, Music, Fair Trade Assemblies

Song about the banana trade and how Fair Trade helps farmers. CD and song sheet.

### Fair Trade School Handbook

A guide to help you become a Fair Trade School.

**The resources listed are available on loan or mailorder from RISC (except those marked \* which are out of print, but available on loan from RISC or possibly your local Development Education Centre).**

**We also have other theme focused packs available.**

Contact Barbara Lowe at RISC: t: 01 18 958 6692, e: barbara@risc.org.uk

**KS 3/4 & 16+**

**Leeds DEC 1999 £4.25**

**KS 4 & 16+**

**Banana Link £10**

**KS 4 & 16+**

**Oxfam 1998 £12.95**

**16+**

**Banana Link & Banana Watch £5**

**KS4 & 16+, FE, Youth & Community groups**

**RISC 2005 £7.50**

**KS 4 & 16+, FE, Youth & Community groups**

**Baby Milk Action & RISC 2001 £15**

**16+, FE, Youth & Community groups**

**RISC 1997 £12.95**

**KS2/4+, FE, Youth & Community groups**

**RISC 2002 £32**

**KS 2/4 & 16+, Youth & Community groups**

**RISC 2003 £3.50**

**KS 2/4 & 16+, Youth & Community groups**

**RISC 2003 £3.50**

**all ages**

**Banana Link £5**

**all ages**

**Leeds DEC 2004 £3.99**