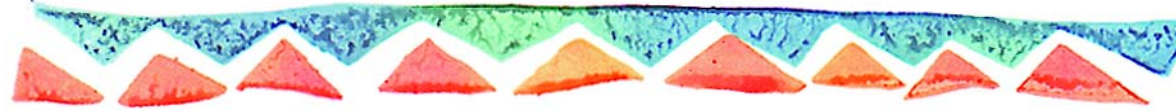


# risc reading international solidarity centre e news

September 2002



a half-termly bulletin for primary schools, focusing on topical global issues

## About RISC

RISC is a Development Education Centre located in Reading town centre. We work with schools & community groups to raise the profile of global issues & promote action for sustainable development, human rights & social justice.

The Centre includes conference facilities, exhibition & meeting space, a Fair Trade World Shop & the Global Cafe. Our activities include:

- ❖ providing training for teachers & youth workers on development education resources
- ❖ producing resources such as teaching packs, & exhibitions for use by schools, youth & community groups
- ❖ providing a loan service of artefacts & education packs for schools & youth workers
- ❖ selling books & development education resources, fiction & non-fiction for children & adults on global issues
- ❖ developing an urban roof garden for local & global education
- ❖ organising a programme of events & exhibitions on global issues & speakers from Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Latin America
- ❖ promoting campaigns on local & international issues
- ❖ selling fairtrade, organic & environmentally friendly products, and world music CDs
- ❖ giving work experience opportunities for volunteers

## Dear Teacher

This letter is reputed to have been given by the Principal to new members of staff of an American High School.

Dear Teacher,

I am a survivor of a concentration camp. My eyes saw what no man should witness: Gas chambers built by learned engineers; children poisoned by educated physicians; infants killed by trained nurses; women and babies shot by high school and college graduates.

So I am suspicious of education.

My request is:

Help your students to become more human. Your efforts must never produce learned monsters, skilled psychopaths, educated Eichmanns.

Reading, writing and arithmetic are important only if they serve to make our children more human.

## What is Global Citizenship?

You may well have come across the idea of Global Citizenship, but what does it mean? It goes beyond simply knowing that we are citizens of the globe to an acknowledgement of our responsibilities to each other and to the Earth itself. Global Citizenship is about understanding the need to tackle injustice and inequality, and having the desire and ability to work actively to do so. It is about valuing the Earth as precious and unique, and about safeguarding the future for those coming after us. Global Citizenship is a way of thinking and behaving. It is an outlook on life, a belief that we can make a difference.

We see a Global Citizen as someone who:

- is aware of the wider world and has a sense of their own role as a world citizen
- respects and values diversity
- has an understanding of how the world works economically, politically, socially, culturally, technologically and environmentally
- is outraged by social injustice
- participates in and contributes to the community at a range of levels from local to global
- is willing to act in order to make the world a more equitable and sustainable place

takes responsibility for their actions

(Oxfam 1997)

*continued overleaf*

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The principles of Global Citizenship apply throughout school life, across all subject areas and within all age groups. They are the foundation on which education should be built, as a basic entitlement for all children. Global Citizenship can also be promoted in class through teaching the existing curriculum in a way that highlights aspects such as social justice, the appreciation of diversity and the importance of sustainable development.

## **Events: Local... to Global**

**Events to provide a focus for teachers working with students in Citizenship and other curriculum areas.**

**21st Sept: *Peace One Day*** – backed by the UN & more than 100 leading aid agencies [www.worldpeace.org](http://www.worldpeace.org)

**30th Sept-4th Oct: *Autumn Walk to School Week*** [www.walktoschool.org](http://www.walktoschool.org)

**5th Oct: *World Teacher Day*** – supported by NASUWT, NUT and aid agencies, highlights need for free universal education [www.unesco.org.uk](http://www.unesco.org.uk)

**14-20th Oct: *Organic Week*** [www.soilassociation.org.uk](http://www.soilassociation.org.uk)

**14-21st Oct: *Amnesty International Week*** [www.amnesty.org.uk](http://www.amnesty.org.uk)

**16th Oct: *World Food Day*** [www.un.org/events](http://www.un.org/events)

**20th Oct: *Children's Rights Day*** [www.unicef.org.uk](http://www.unicef.org.uk)

**20-27th Oct: *One World Week*** – “One World... Into Action” on Racism, Trade, Fuel and HIV/AIDS [www.oneworldweek.org](http://www.oneworldweek.org)

**24th Oct: *United Nations Day*** [www.un.org/events](http://www.un.org/events)

**24-30th Oct: *Disarmament Week*** [www.un.org/events](http://www.un.org/events)

**4-10th Nov: *Landmine Action Week*** [www.landmineaction.org](http://www.landmineaction.org)

**16th Nov: *International Day for Tolerance*** – ten ideas for observing the day [www.unesco.org/tolerance/teneng.htm](http://www.unesco.org/tolerance/teneng.htm)

**20th Nov: *Universal Children's Day*** – anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of the Child [www.un.org/events](http://www.un.org/events)

**21st Nov: *World Television Day*** – global exchange of programmes, focusing on peace and security, development and culture [www.un.org/events](http://www.un.org/events)

**24th Nov: *Buy Nothing Day*** – exposes the environmental consequences of consumerism [www.buynothingday.co.uk](http://www.buynothingday.co.uk)

## **Resources**

**Global Citizenship – the Handbook for Primary Teaching** Oxfam GB 2002 £25.00

Global Citizenship is not an additional subject, but a way of teaching the existing curriculum, which promotes social justice and equity.

This handbook explains Global Citizenship and develops its principles into clear, practical pointers for use in school. By discussing the issues, ideas and approaches in this handbook users will be able to explore and develop their own understanding of Global Citizenship. Teachers will be able to bring its concepts into their educational practice, through every subject area, into assemblies and across the whole school. This handbook will be a valuable tool for classroom teachers, headteachers, teacher educators, student teachers and home school educators.

It contains:

- an exploration of issues to consider and strategies for implementing whole school change
- assembly themes and ideas
- a wide range of activities to deliver subject areas including Citizenship/PSHE
- lesson plans and resource material to support Literacy/English in the classroom
- ideas and guidance on incorporating Global Citizenship into the QCA Geography schemes of work
- over 30 photocopiable texts and worksheets for classroom use
- a comprehensive list of resources and useful addresses.

To create a world of Global Citizens, education is a priority. Global Citizenship is not an additional subject – it is an ethos. It can best be implemented through a whole-school approach, involving everyone with a stake in educating children, from the children themselves to those with teaching and non-teaching roles in the school, parents, governors and the wider community.

**If you would like a complete catalogue of resources for use across the curriculum, email us: [barbara@risc.org.uk](mailto:barbara@risc.org.uk)**