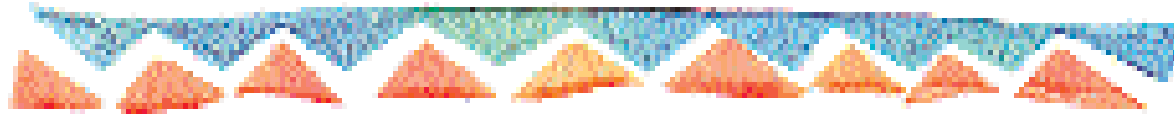


risc

reading international solidarity centre

enews

january 2003



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

Global Citizenship, shopping and chocolate....

School students, like the rest of us, are consumers. This creates an ideal, attention grabbing opportunity to address trade issues within Citizenship – for instance linking ourselves as local chocolate eaters to the global cocoa trade. World trade in goods we consume often benefits those of us in the rich countries of the ‘North’ at the expense of those in the poorer countries of the ‘South’. Many farmers, and other workers in the Southern Countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, are poor and getting poorer – often earning far less than they need to live on – because of the unfair rules of world trade.

Fair Trade is an alternative approach to conventional world trade. It’s a partnership between producers and consumers, which means paying farmers and other workers in the South a fair price for the work they do. This means they can have more control over their lives, improve their education, health, living and working conditions, and plan for the future.

As active global citizens, we need to be informed consumers - and be aware that the choices we make really do have an impact on other people’s lives. The issue of Fair Trade can raise students’ awareness of the wider world, and their own role within it. The concept of something ‘being fair’ is easily grasped by students of all ages. Fair Trade appeals to their natural sense of justice, providing an array of opportunities for students to participate as active global citizens.

Fairtrade Fortnight, the annual national campaign to raise awareness of Fair Trade, is from March 3rd - 16th. Why not use this to run a School Fair Trade Campaign across the curriculum or as a vehicle to introduce active Global Citizenship? Why not become a **Fair Trade School**?

For more information on teaching about Fair Trade, and where it fits your curriculum contact louise@risc.org.uk

On Fair Trade....

Martin Luther King said:

“In the morning we drink coffee provided for us by a South American, or tea by a Chinese, or cocoa by a West African. Before we leave for our jobs we’re already indebted to more than half the world”

.....extend this to include the clothes we put on, the trainers we wear, the TV we watch, our microwave, walkman, playstation....

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

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Events: Local... to Global

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

2003

This is the International Year of **Freshwater**. Why? Because

- * One sixth of the world's population lack access to adequate sanitation
- * 40% of the world's people lack access to adequate sanitation services
- * One flush of a western toilet uses as much water as the average person in the South uses for a whole day's washing, drinking, cleaning and cooking
- * If present consumption patterns continue, 2 out of every 3 people on earth will live in water stressed conditions by 2025

Find out how you can make a difference at www.wateryear2003.org

January

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| 1st | World Peace Day | www.oneday.net |
| 15th | Martin Luther King Day | www.mlkday.com |
| 27th | Holocaust Memorial Day | www.holocaustmemorialday.gov.uk |

February

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| 7th | UNICEF day for change for Tanzania and Cambodia | www.unicef.org.uk |
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March

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|------------|--|--|
| 1st | Nuclear Free Pacific Day | |
| 3rd - 16th | Fairtrade Fortnight | www.fairtrade.org.uk |
| 6th | World Book Day | www.worldbookday.com |
| 8th | International Women's Day | www.internationalwomensday.com |
| 21st | International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination | www.un.org/events |

RISC Events

In June 2003 we are planning two Global Citizenship days:

- ❖ a Teachers' Day will enable primary and secondary teachers to develop and deliver Global Citizenship across the curriculum as well as through whole school activities
- ❖ a Students' Day will focus on Human Rights issues, fair trade, PR and sustainability – it is being designed for 16+ Geography, Business Studies, Economics, RE and any other interested students.

Resources for teaching about Fair Trade (All these, and more, can be bought or borrowed from RISC)

For a Few Pesos More KS 2 & 3 £10 Curriculum links: Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, Literacy, Music, RE

A 4 minute animated rap outlining the injustices of the world trade system, and introducing fair Trade as an alternative. Video and Teachers' pack including background information on Fair Trade, curriculum links and activities tailored for different age groups.

Fair Trade in Action KS 3 & 4 £15 Curriculum links: Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, Literacy, RE

An interactive resource introducing Fair Trade. It encourages students to participate as active global citizens, and raises awareness of world trade issues. It includes a Fair Trade video, producer case studies, differentiated worksheets, a set of boardgames, a teachers guide (with action ideas, further resources, useful contacts).

All you need for a Fair Trade Assembly KS 2/3/4 £1 Cross curricular

Three assemblies involving minimal preparation and maximum participation.

Seeing Through the Spin KS4 & 16+ £15 Curriculum links: Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, Business Studies, RE

Pack exploring corporate responsibility, ethical consumerism, Fair Trade and sustainability. 14 different activities with resources and suggestions for follow up.

XChanging the World 16+, FE £12.95 Curriculum links: Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, General Studies, RE

A pack designed to raise consumer awareness, encouraging participants to consider their responsibilities towards producers. 15 interactive activities.

Coffee Culture KS 2/3/4 16+ FE £32 Curriculum links: Citizenship, PHSE, Geography, RE, Design and Technology

A limited edition game, silkscreen printed onto a wipeable table cloth. Building on the familiar snakes and ladders format, it explores some of the trading issues that effect coffee producers in Nicaragua and illustrates the benefits of Fair Trade.

Find out more:

www.maketradefair.com

www.bananalink.org.uk

www.oneworld.org/wdm

www.fairtrade.org.uk

www.labourbehindthelabel.org

www.cleanclothes.org.uk

RISC has a very wide selection of teaching resources for all ages and curriculum areas as well as a selection of artefacts for loan, please email us your name and address for further information.