



PRIMARY LESSON PLAN: BASIC NEEDS

This lesson focuses on the difference between wants and needs, and helps students to identify what all humans need to live a decent life. It uses a case study from a cocoa farm in Côte d'Ivoire as a context for learning. The lesson is designed for primary students who are familiar with the concept of Fairtrade.

OBJECTIVES:

- Learners can identify the basic needs of all people.
- Learners can discuss the difference between a want and a need.
- Learners understand that farmers need to earn enough money to ensure their basic needs are met.

YOU WILL NEED

- 12 Wants and needs cards (set per group of 2-4 students)
- Therese's Story

STARTER ACTIVITY

Ask the following questions to encourage children to start thinking about basic needs:

- What do you need to be happy and healthy? (Record responses visually)
- Of those things, what are the **most important**?
- Of those things, what are the **least important**?

MAIN ACTIVITY: PART 1

This sorting activity is designed to get students to think about the difference between wants and needs.

- Explain to the students that there is a difference between things that a human **needs** and things that a human **wants**. A **need** is something a person needs to survive and a **want** is something that is nice to have.
- Divide students into groups of 2-4 and give each group a set of wants and needs cards.
- Ask students to divide the cards into two categories: **needs** and **wants**
- After completing, ask the students to feedback to the class
- As a class, make a list of the basic needs **all humans** need to live a healthy and happy life



- Refer back to the student's initial responses from the starter activity – are these all basic needs or are there some that we can live without?

MAIN ACTIVITY: PART 2

The second part of this lesson will get students to think about the importance of earning enough money to meet basic needs.

- Ask the students to select the **needs** cards that you might need to pay for e.g. healthy food, medicine etc.
- Explain to the students that not all people in the world have enough money to meet their basic needs. Without enough money, it can be difficult to lead a healthy and happy life. Many of the farmers who grow the cocoa for our chocolate are not paid enough money to meet their basic needs, even though they work very hard.
- Read Therese's story (*Supporting PowerPoint*) to show how Fairtrade can help farmers and workers to meet their basic needs
- **Discuss:** What can be done to ensure the basic needs of all farmers and workers are met?

THERESE'S STORY

This is the story of a woman called Therese, who lives in a country in West Africa called Côte d'Ivoire.

Côte d'Ivoire is the world's largest producer of cocoa beans, which is the special ingredient in chocolate. There are millions of farmers in Côte d'Ivoire who work hard to grow, harvest and prepare the cocoa beans before they are shipped to factories to be made into chocolate bars across the world.

Even though cocoa farmers work very hard, the average cocoa farmer in Côte d'Ivoire earns just **74p a day**. This means that farmers are not able to meet their family's basic needs.

When Therese was a little girl, her family didn't have enough money to send her to school. Sometimes her parents didn't have enough money to pay for food, so she went hungry.

Now that Therese is grown up, Therese has eight children of her own. She wants her children to be happy and healthy, and wants to earn enough money to meet her children's basic needs.

Therese joined a **Fairtrade** cocoa farming co-operative which means she is paid a better price for her cocoa beans. Because of **Fairtrade**, Therese and her husband can pay for their children's school fees, books and lunch at school.

Therese and her children deserve to have a happy and healthy life, and to earn enough money to meet their basic needs.