

## Geography

### Community cohesion and the prevention of violent extremism A resource for teachers to use in the classroom

#### Resource title

**GTIP Think Piece - Children's Worlds**

Source: <http://www.geography.org.uk/gtip/thinkpieces/childrensworlds>

#### Outline

**Children's Worlds** is an area of geography that incorporates citizenship, diversity and inclusion. Sue Bermingham and Diane Selby describe how trainee teachers can be helped to understand their pupils' experiences of the world in order to develop pupils' understanding of how other children live. The resource deals with five key questions:

- What is a child?
- How are children's geographical worlds similar / different?
- What is the difference between children's wants (desires) and needs (for survival)? How are they met?
- How do children perceive their world?
- Can children participate to improve their world?

The resource also introduces the **UN Convention on Children's Rights** and the eight **Millennium Development Goals** which incorporate many aspects that affect children's lives.

There are detailed learning activities for teachers delivered in the context of trainee teachers but relevant and useful to anyone wanting to do further thinking on this topic. In terms of practical activities, those suggested can be easily adapted for classroom use, for example:

- **Other children's worlds** - Collect together a range of images from children around the world to represent children at school, at work and at play. Use these images to get pupils to classify them in different ways and to discuss the similarities and differences between these images and their own lives.
- **Children's needs** - Download the UNICEF 'Needs and Wants' cards from this link – [http://www.unicef.org.uk/tz/resources/assets/pdf/wants\\_and\\_needs.pdf](http://www.unicef.org.uk/tz/resources/assets/pdf/wants_and_needs.pdf). There is a range of suggested activities that go with these cards to get the children to understand the difference between 'needs' and 'wants'. Then relate the list of wants to the images – to what extent are those needs being met in the photos?
- **Children's Rights** - Download the UNICEF 'Children's Rights' cards from this link - [http://www.unicef.org.uk/tz/resources/assets/pdf/tfr\\_activity\\_what\\_rights.pdf](http://www.unicef.org.uk/tz/resources/assets/pdf/tfr_activity_what_rights.pdf). The pdf outlines activities to support the teacher in dealing with this important concept of 'Children's Rights'.
- **Children's Worlds** is an area of geography that incorporates citizenship, diversity and inclusion. This resource describes how trainee teachers can be helped, to understand their pupils' experiences of the world in order to develop pupils' understanding of how other children live.

These activities will also help teachers develop a deeper understanding and confidence to their approach on the teaching and learning of community cohesion and the prevention of violent extremism.

#### Links across other subjects within resource

Links with **PSHE education** , **Citizenship** and **RE**

#### Additional support

**Save The Children** - especially the Young Lives project (follows the lives of children in four countries and looks at progress towards the Millennium Development Goals)

<http://www.savethechildren.org.uk>

**Children of the Andes** – provides support for street children in Columbia

<http://www.childrenoftheandes.org>