



Poverty: Causes and Consequences

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Dice
- Scrap paper
- CAFOD Areas of work cards

WARM UP

Ask each person to throw a dice. If they get anything other than a 6 ask them to put their dominant hand behind their back. If you're getting to the end of the group and no one has rolled a 6, change the rules and say for the remaining people, they only have to put their dominant hand behind their back if they get under 3 (aim to end up with most people disadvantaged and a couple with the use of both hands).

Give each person a piece of scrap paper and ask them to make a paper aeroplane. If someone with one hand is particularly good, get them to make two and give the best one to someone who has two hands (and 'accidentally' damage the one they still have).

Then say that there is competition to get a good job and the person whose plane flies the furthest is going to get the job. Invite them to stand in a line and 'interview' (get the chance to throw their plane).

Start the one-handed applicants further back. As you go to greet them with a handshake to welcome them to the interview, put your hand out, look at them and withdraw it quickly. As they make their attempt, say things like: 'I'm not sure why this one bothered to apply, have you seen the area she's from?' The whole point of this task is to show them disadvantage and injustice. When someone two-handed steps forward, walk towards them saying 'Great to meet you! Your father was in my polo club', and let them start further forward.

Notes: This game is all about experiencing 'It's not fair'. Ask how it felt to have everything rigged against them. Knowing from the start that they were less likely to achieve, did they feel it wasn't worth trying?

ACTIVITY

Divide into pairs or small groups. Share out the CAFOD Areas of work cards. Each features a community which CAFOD experts are supporting in some way. Ask each pair/group to create a radio interview to tell their story so that everyone hears about all the different areas of work.

After each performance, challenge the listeners to identify some of the causes and consequences of poverty in the story.

In each case, what is being done to help overcome poverty?

PLENARY

Ask young people to discuss in pairs or small groups and then feed back:

- For us, today's session was about
- One thing we'll remember is