## 

# **FAIRTRADE**

### THEMED PROGRAMME



#### AIM

Learn a little more about Fairtrade and why it is important to people across the world. Discuss what is 'fair', try out some Fairtrade products and explore ways in which we all can do more to support Fairtrade in our lives. Link with Fairtrade Fortnight, 24th February – 8th March 2020.

#### **ACTIVITIES**



Campaign for Fairtrade



Fairtrade Wrapper Hunt

The Fairness Eggs-periment

Chocolate Dipped Bananas



#### **FAIRTRADE**

### **>** INTRODUCTION

Fairtrade is all about giving farmers and workers, who grow and pick the food and drink we love, a fair price for their products.

Without Fairtrade, some farmers can end up being paid very little for what they produce, leaving them struggling to look after their families.

Fairtrade also helps to improve working conditions and supports better infrastructure for communities, such as clean drinking water and education.

#### P DID YOU KNOW?

- Fairtrade works with farmers in 75 countries and sells their products in over 120 countries.
- There are over 6,000 Fairtrade products including chocolate, coffee, flowers, wine, tea, gold, fruit, clothes and much more.
- In the UK, 25% of all coffee sales are Fairtrade.
- Fairtrade chocolate accounts for 12% of total sales in the UK.
- 1 in 3 bananas sold in the UK is Fairtrade.



## GET ACTIVE: IT'S NOT FAIR!

Play one of the groups' favourite team games. Start the game normally, but after a short while start changing some of the rules to disadvantage one of the teams. For example:

- Change the teams, so one group has more players.
- Give one team a head start or an advantage in the game.
- Allow one team to score twice as many points than the other team each round.
- Give one group better equipment than the other group.
- Let one group create a new rule which helps their team out

After a while stop the game and ask both teams how they thought it went. Do they think it was fair? Did the right team win? Were the rules ok? What did they think to the changes in the game?

Now introduce the topic of Fairtrade. Explain that some farmers in developing countries experience unfairness every day. They are often not paid a fair amount, they have to use unsafe equipment, have poor working conditions, have no say over the price they can charge and the rules of trade can change without any warning.

These farmers can be left feeling angry, upset and shouting 'It's not fair!', just like some may have felt during the game. The Fairtrade system helps to change that.



## GET INVOLVED: CAMPAIGN FOR FAIRTRADE

Try to educate others or make a change in your local community, by sharing information about Fairtrade and encouraging others to buy Fairtrade products to help farmers around the world.

**Write a letter** – Write a letter to try to persuade someone to change the products they buy to Fairtrade. This may be a letter to encourage your Church, local business or council to change their tea/coffee and sugar supplies to Fairtrade.

**Record a Video** – As a group, record a video to place on social media educating others about Fairtrade, why it is important and ways in which people can do more to help.

**Go Viral** – One of the best ways to spread a message quickly and effectively is by going viral on social media. Challenge your group to create an eye-catching image or video which can then be shared online alongside a powerful message encouraging others to share.



## GET LEARNING: THE BANANA SPLIT

Explain that a banana costs about 15p each. However not all of this money goes to the farmer, as there are lots of people involved along the way. Talk through the following roles:

- Worker Person who picks the bananas from the trees. Works
   12 hours a day in hot and gruelling conditions.
- Banana Plantation Owner Person who owns the land, invests in the equipment, pays for fertiliser and employs the workers.
- Shipper Person who ships the banana across sea and skies.
   Has to use ships or planes which are expensive to run and time consuming. Employs pilots and other workers.

#### The Banana Split

- Worker 0.5p or 3%
- Plant Owner 2.5p or 17%
- Shipper 2p or 13%
- Importer 3.5p or 23%
- Supermarket 6.5p or 43%
- Importer Buys the banana into the UK and sells them to the supermarkets. Has to pay tariffs and also the cost of transporting the banana by lorry to shops.
- **Supermarkets** The people that sell the banana to the customers. They need to pay for running the shops, employing shop workers & advertising costs.

Split into 5 groups and give each group one of the roles. Get them to think about how much of the 15p they should get from the banana. Then as a big group, discuss how much each group thought they deserved. Does it all add up? Or, has the banana now got much more expensive?

Finally explain in reality, without Fairtrade, how much each group gets. To show this practically, you could get a banana and cut it roughly into the right sized chunks for each group. Ask the group what their thoughts are. Is it fair? Who should get more/less? Should we pay more for our bananas? Would you be willing to pay more?

Fairtrade helps to increase the amount the workers get. The increase varies from country to country and also includes creating funds for better infrastructure and support in those communities.



## GET LEARNING: FAIRTRADE WRAPPER HUNT

Teach your group how to find out if products are Fairtrade or not. Before the session, leaders will need to collect various food wrappers & packaging, some Fairtrade and others not.

- 1. Ask the group if anyone knows what the Fairtrade logo looks like. Can they describe it? Now show the group the logo and explain that all Fairtrade products will carry this logo.
- 2. Split the group into teams and set up a small obstacle course. At the end of the course spread a large collection of clean food wrappers, some Fairtrade and others not.
- On GO one player from each team goes through the obstacle course, collects one Fairtrade wrapper from the pile and returns to the team, for the next player to go.
- 4. After all the Fairtrade wrappers have been collected, stop the game and count how many wrappers each team have. Teams score one point for every Fairtrade wrapper, but -1 point for every non Fairtrade item.

Fairtrade logos can be found on over 6,000 products, including chocolate, fruit, flowers, coffee and even gold. Challenge the group to look out for the logo next time they are at the shops.



## GET INTO THE BIBLE: THE FAIRNESS EGGS-PERIMENT

- Place an egg in a tall drinking glass mostly filled with water. The egg will sink to the bottom. Tell the group this represents someone who has not been treated fairly. Ask the group how that person may feel.
- Take the egg out and place to one side.
- 3 Ask the group ways in which they can show fairness to others. Examples may include following rules, sharing, taking turns, not cheating etc. After each example ask someone to add a teaspoon of salt to the water and stir it.
- After 5 or 6 spoons of salt, add the egg back into the water. This time it should float. Explain that this is because the egg is now being supported by kindness and the fairness of others. If it doesn't float, take the egg back out and think of some more examples of fairness and add more salt. Return the egg to the water.

#### What you'll need:

- · Tall Drinking Glass
- 1 Egg
- Water
- Salt
- Teaspoon

Fairness, kindness and supporting others are all Christian values which we are encouraged to show to each other. In Romans 13 in the Bible it says "Love your neighbour as yourself." Think about what that means as a group and how we can all be fairer to those around us in our lives. Finish with a prayer asking for God's help to be fair, kind and supportive people – to love our neighbours!



## GET CREATIVE: CHOCOLATE DIPPED BANANAS

Get in the kitchen and start using some Fairtrade products. For this activity you will need Fairtrade bananas and chocolate.

- Peel a banana, chop it in half and inset a lollipop stick into the freshly cut end.
- 2 Melt some chocolate into a bowl.
- Dip the banana into the chocolate, ensuring it is mostly covered.
- Spread some sprinkles over the top of the chocolate banana to add some colour and decoration, then leave it to set.

