

# The more we get together/

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This resource was created to accompany the Green-Schools Ireland Global Goals Book Club.

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**17 PARTNERSHIPS** FOR THE GOALS



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This resource is designed to inspire your classroom with engaging activities that support critical thinking and meaningful discussions centred around the Global Goal of 'Partnerships for the Goals'.

Age Group: Junior Infants - 5th class

#### Included in this resource:

- The More we Get Together Discussion Questions
- The More we Get Together Role Playing Scenarios

#### Global Goals Book Club and Global Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Teaching children about Global Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals is important as it supports in them the understanding that solving global challenges requires collaboration and cooperation among individuals, communities, organisations, and countries worldwide. This goal emphasises the importance of forming partnerships that use resources, knowledge, and expertise to achieve sustainable development.

By introducing children to this concept through stories like 'The More We Get Together' by Celeste Cortright, we highlight the value of teamwork, empathy, and collective action in creating positive change. These stories showcase diverse characters coming together to solve problems, demonstrating to children that by working collaboratively and respecting different perspectives, they can contribute to building a better, more sustainable world. Understanding Global Goal 17 at a young age encourages children to appreciate the interconnectedness of global issues and empowers them to become active participants in shaping a brighter future for all.

We would love to see pictures of your bookworms artwork and creations from the activities in our Global Goals Book Club. Please email any photos to globalcitizenship@eeu.an.taisce.org

# The More We Get Together

Read or listen to the story 'The More We Get Together' by Celeste Cortright with your class. The questions below offer a guide for discussion with your class, along with some actions and activities to complete.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. Who are the characters in the story?
- 2. How do they work together or help each other?
- 3. Why is it important for people to work together or be friends?
- 4. What are some ways people can cooperate and help each other in our school/community?
- 5. How does the song "The More We Get Together" reflect the idea of partnerships and cooperation?

The More We Get

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- 6. Can you think of a time when you worked together with someone else to achieve a goal? How did you feel?
- 7. What are some examples of partnerships you see in the illustrations or hear about in the story?
- 8. Why do you think partnerships and teamwork are important for making the world a better place?
- 9. How can we build partnerships with people from different cultures or backgrounds?
- 10. What do you think happens when people don't work together or help each other? How can we encourage more partnerships?
- 11. How can we show kindness and cooperation every day, both at home and at school?







Listen to the story here.





### Introduction

In "The More We Get Together", the theme of cooperation and working together is beautifully illustrated through the interactions of diverse characters who come together to achieve common goals. This aligns well with Sustainable Development Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), which emphasises the importance of global cooperation and collaboration to achieve all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

By engaging in role-playing activities inspired by scenarios from the book, such as cleaning up a playground or planting a garden at school, junior primary students can experience first-hand how partnerships and teamwork lead to positive outcomes. They learn that when individuals join forces, they can accomplish tasks more effectively and create a better environment for everyone.

# Scenario 1: Cleaning up the Playground

- Scenario: A group of friends notice that their playground is messy with litter. They decide to work together to clean it up before lunch time ends.
- Roles: Friends (students can take turns playing different roles), School caretaker (optional), Teacher (optional)
- Discussion Points: How did working together make cleaning up easier? Why is it important to keep our playground clean?

# Scenario 2: Planting a garden at School

- Scenario: Students want to create a beautiful garden at their school. They partner with their teacher and the school gardener / caretaker to plan and plant flowers and vegetables.
- Roles: Students, Teacher, School Gardener
- Discussion Points: How did each person's role help in creating the garden? Why is it important to take care of plants and gardens?

# Scenario 3: Preparing for a Class Presentation

- Scenario: Students are assigned to give a presentation about animals. They work in pairs to research, prepare posters, and practice their speeches together.
- Roles: Students in pairs, Teacher (to give guidance)
- Discussion Points: How did working in pairs help with the presentation? Why is it important to help each other when learning something new?





#### Scenario 4: Building a Fort with Friends

- Scenario: During playtime, a group of friends decides to build a fort using blocks and blankets. They cooperate to design and build the fort together.
- Roles: Friends (each can have a specific role like builder, designer, decorator), Teacher (to supervise)
- Discussion Points: How did everyone's ideas contribute to building the fort? Why is it fun to build things together with friends?

#### Scenario 5: Organising a School Recycling Programme

- Scenario: Students want to help the environment by starting a recycling programme at their school. They partner with teachers and the school caretaker to set up bins and educate their classmates.
- Roles: Green Schools Committee member, Students, Teachers, School Caretaker
- Discussion Points: How did teamwork help in starting the recycling programme? Why is it important to recycle and take care of our planet?

For each scenario, encourage students to discuss and reflect on the importance of teamwork, communication, and cooperation in achieving their goals. These role-playing activities help students understand the concept of partnerships and promote empathy, communication skills, and collaboration.