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Stone Soup

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

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2 ZERO HUNGER





Global Goal 2: Zero Hunger



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

Age Group: Junior Infants - Fourth Class

Resource List:

- Story discussion and comprehension - Stone Soup
- Global Perspective - Food Around the World Lesson Plan - Stone Soup
- Global Food Fact Sheet - Stone Soup
- Global Meal Activity Sheet - Stone Soup

Global Goals Book Club and Global Goal 2: Zero Hunger

Teaching children about Global Goal 2: Zero Hunger is important for supporting a sense of empathy, community, and responsibility towards eradicating hunger worldwide. "The Lunch Thief" and "Stone Soup" are excellent books to illustrate these concepts. In "The Lunch Thief," children learn about the impact of hunger on individuals and the importance of understanding and addressing the needs of others. "Stone Soup" highlights the power of community and cooperation in overcoming scarcity. These stories encourage children to think critically about food security, the value of sharing, and collective efforts to ensure everyone has enough to eat. By engaging with these books, your students can understand the importance of ending hunger and be inspired to take action, supporting your classroom to express global citizenship and consider sustainable solutions.

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

Stone Soup

Read or listen to the book 'Stone Soup' by Marcia Browne with your class. The questions below offer a guide for discussion with your class, along with some actions and activities to complete.



[Listen to the story here.](#)

Discussion Questions:

1. Who are the main characters in "Stone Soup"? What do they want when they arrive in the village?
2. What is the initial reaction of the villagers when the soldiers ask for food? Why do you think they react this way?
3. How do the soldiers convince the villagers to help them make stone soup?
4. Why do you think the soldiers decided to make stone soup instead of asking for food directly?
5. What does the story suggest about the villagers' attitude towards sharing before and after the soldiers start making the soup?
6. How do the villagers' feelings and actions change throughout the story? What causes these changes?
7. In the beginning, the villagers did not want to share their food. How does this relate to the problem of hunger in the real world?
8. What lesson can we learn from the story about how to deal with hunger and food scarcity?
9. How can communities work together to make sure everyone has enough to eat, like the villagers did in the story?
10. If you were one of the villagers, how would you have reacted to the soldiers asking for food? Why?
11. What are some ways we can encourage sharing and cooperation in our communities to help fight hunger?
12. Can you think of a time when you worked together with others to solve a problem? How did working together make a difference?
13. What can we do at school or in our neighbourhood to help people who might not have enough to eat?
14. How can small contributions from many people make a big difference in solving hunger, just like in the story?

More Discussion Questions

1. What are some ways that communities can come together to ensure everyone has enough to eat, just like the villagers did in the story?
2. How can growing your own food in gardens help reduce hunger in a community?
3. What role do you think schools can play in helping to solve hunger issues in their communities?
4. In the story, everyone contributes a small amount to make a big meal. How does this teach us about using our resources wisely?
5. What are some examples of food waste in our daily lives, and how can we reduce it?
6. How can we make sure that food gets to people who need it instead of being wasted?
7. Why is it important for everyone to have access to nutritious food, not just any kind of food?
8. Can you think of a time when working together made something easier or better? How is this similar to what happened in "Stone Soup"?
9. What are some actions you and your family can take to help reduce hunger in your community or around the world?
10. Why is it important to share what we have with others, especially those in need?
11. How do you feel when you help someone else? How do you think the villagers felt after making and sharing the stone soup?
12. What are some ways we can show kindness and generosity in our daily lives?



Stone Soup by Marcia Browne

Activity 1: Story Discussion and Comprehension



Age Group: Junior Infants - Second Class

Objectives:

- To enhance listening and comprehension skills.
- To understand the moral of the story and its connection to SDG 2: Zero Hunger.
- To encourage critical thinking and empathy through discussion.

Materials Needed:

- A copy of "Stone Soup" (there are many versions as it is a folk tale, so any copy will do) or [listen to the story here](#).
- A comfortable reading area.
- A whiteboard or large paper for recording answers and ideas.
- Markers or crayons.

Steps:

1. Introduction to the Story:

- **Context:** Start by giving a brief introduction to the book "Stone Soup." Explain that it is a folk tale that has been told in many cultures around the world and it carries an important message about sharing and community.
- **SDG Connection:** Briefly introduce SDG 2: Zero Hunger, explaining that it aims to end hunger, achieve food security, and promote sustainable agriculture. Discuss how sharing food can help reduce hunger.

2. Reading the Story:

Read "Stone Soup" aloud to the children. Engage them by showing the illustrations, asking predictive questions ("What do you think will happen next?"), and encouraging them to pay attention to how the characters feel and act.

3. Discussion Questions:

After reading the story, gather the children in a circle for a discussion. Use open-ended questions to guide the conversation. Here are some example questions and tips on how to facilitate the discussion:

Understanding the Story:

1. What happened at the beginning of the story?
 - Tip: Encourage children to recall details about the strangers arriving in the village.
2. Why did the villagers hide their food?
 - Tip: Discuss themes of fear, distrust, and scarcity.
3. How did the strangers convince the villagers to share their food?
 - Tip: Highlight the cleverness and positivity of the strangers.

Stone Soup by Marcia Browne

Activity 1: Story Discussion and Comprehension

Deeper Meaning

1. What do you think the story is trying to teach us?
 - Tip: Guide them towards understanding the themes of sharing, community, and generosity.
2. How do you feel when you share something with others?
 - Tip: Encourage children to connect their personal experiences with the story.
3. Why is it important to share food with people who don't have enough?
 - Tip: Relate this to the concept of hunger and the importance of community support.

Connection to SDG 2

1. How can sharing food help achieve Zero Hunger?
 - Tip: Discuss how sharing can ensure everyone has enough to eat and reduce food waste.
2. What are some ways we can help people who don't have enough food?
 - Tip: Brainstorm ideas like donating to food banks, growing food, and reducing food waste.

Recording Responses

1. Visual Aid: Use a whiteboard or large paper to record the children's responses. Draw a big pot (like the one in the story) and write their ideas inside it to symbolise the "ingredients" of their thoughts and solutions.
2. Creative Expression: Encourage children to draw pictures related to their answers, like villagers sharing food or a garden with vegetables. This helps to reinforce their understanding and make the discussion more engaging.

Reflection:

- Personal Reflection: Ask the children to think quietly for a minute about a time when they shared something with someone. How did it make them feel? How did it make the other person feel?
- Group Sharing: Invite a few children to share their reflections with the group.





Stone Soup by Marcia Browne

Activity 2: Global Perspective: Learning About Hunger Around the World



Age Group: Junior Infants - Second Class

Objectives:

- To raise awareness of global hunger issues.
- To introduce children to different cultures and their food traditions.
- To support understanding of global interdependence and global issues.

Materials Needed:

- A world map or globe.
- Global Food Fact Sheet
- Global Meal Activity Sheet
- Small flags or markers to place on the map.
- Art supplies (paper, crayons, markers).

Steps:

1. Introduction to the Activity:

- Explain to the children that hunger is a problem that affects many people around the world. Introduce SDG 2: Zero Hunger and discuss its goal of ensuring everyone has enough food to eat.
- Tell them that they will be learning about how people in different parts of the world eat and what challenges they face in getting enough food.

2. Exploring the World Map:

- Gather the children around a large world map or globe. Show them where different continents and countries are located.
- Use small flags or markers to identify the countries you will be discussing. We have chosen countries from different continents - Kenya (Africa), India (Asia), Brazil (South America), and Ireland (Europe). Feel free to add more!

3. Cultural Exploration

Hand out the **Global Food Fact** sheet or show to your class on your projector. Allow children to look at pictures of the traditional foods from these countries.

Discussion: Ask the children what similarities and differences they notice between the foods from different countries - what ingredients are being used? Highlight that while foods can be different, everyone needs nutritious meals to stay healthy.



Stone Soup by Marcia Browne

Activity 2: Global Perspective: Learning About Hunger Around the World



Activity 2: Global Perspective: Learning About Hunger Around the World

4. Understanding Hunger:

Begin by discussing what it means to be a global citizen. Explain that everyone can help make the world a better place by caring for others and taking action to solve problems like hunger.

- Discussion: Ask questions to prompt critical thinking:
 - Why do you think some people don't have enough food?
 - How would you feel if you didn't have enough food to eat?
 - What can we do to help people who are hungry?

5. Art and Reflection Activity

- Provide art supplies and the **Global Meal** activity sheet and ask the children to draw a picture of a meal they would like to share with someone from another country. Encourage them to think about the foods they learned about.
- Have the children share their drawings with the group and explain why they chose those foods and how they would help someone who is hungry.

6. Global Responsibility

Talk about ways to help people who are hungry both locally and globally. Examples include donating to food banks, starting your own school garden, reducing food waste, raising awareness, buying locally.

7. Reflection

Sit in a circle and reflect on what they learned. Ask the children to share one new thing they learned about hunger and one way they think they can help.

Kenya:

Ugali (cornmeal), sukuma wiki (collard greens -like cabbage) and beans

Ugali and sukuma wiki are staple foods in Kenya because maize and collard greens thrive in the local climate. These crops are affordable and accessible, providing essential nutrients and helping to combat hunger and food insecurity in a region with limited agricultural resources.



India:

Rice and dal (lentils)

Rice and dal are staple foods in India due to the country's diverse climate, which supports the cultivation of rice and lentils. These foods are protein-rich and affordable, playing a crucial role in addressing food scarcity and nutritional needs in a densely populated country.



Brazil:

Feijoada (black bean stew)

Feijoada is a staple in Brazil, with black beans being a common crop that adapts well to the Brazilian climate. This nutritious stew is affordable and filling, making it a vital part of the diet in a country where food security varies widely across regions.



Ireland:

Colcannon (mashed potatoes and cabbage)

Colcannon is a traditional Irish dish made from potatoes and cabbage, crops that grow well in Ireland's temperate climate. These ingredients are inexpensive and nutrient-rich, historically serving as essential foods during times of scarcity and helping to alleviate hunger.



Global Meal

Activity 2: Global Perspective: Learning About Hunger Around the World

