

Saving Children's Lives resource pack

1 What's it all about and what's in this resource pack?

This resource pack has been produced by Save the Children and Teach First. It will help your pupils learn about, and campaign for, the world's poorest and most vulnerable children.

The pack has four components:

- 1 What's it all about and what's in this resource pack?
- 2 Ideas for assembly time
- 3 English activities (lessons 1–4)
- 4 Citizenship activities (lessons 1–6)

MILLIONS OF CHILDREN are desperate for change

WE'RE working flat out to turn things around

YOU'RE part of the solution

We Save the Children  Will you?

What's it all about?

Ten million children die every year before their fifth birthday. Most of these children are dying needlessly from illnesses that we can prevent or treat – for example, diarrhoea, malaria and malnutrition.

In 2000, world governments committed themselves to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). MDG 4 calls for the under-five mortality rate to be cut by two-thirds by 2015. But current progress is slow, which means this goal won't be met until 2045.

We must change this – and we need your help to do it. This teaching resource pack gives you the information you need to tell your pupils about the issues and add their voices to our campaign to save children's lives. The pack will also support your teaching.

What's in this resource pack?

The resources include...

The pack includes two schemes of work for Key Stage 3 – one for English and the other for Citizenship. The English scheme is made up of four lesson plans; the Citizenship scheme has six. The lesson plans are straightforward and teacher friendly (ie, not too much photocopying, cutting out or laminating, etc). The lessons are also pupil friendly, with lots of visuals (photos and videos) and fun activities to get pupils enthusiastic about the topic. The English activities can be incorporated into speaking, listening and literacy lessons.

We have also included some ideas for an assembly about saving children's lives. You could do this during Save the Children Week or at any other point during the year.

Overall aims of these materials

- For pupils to understand campaigning
- For pupils to explore some of the reasons why ten million children under the age of five die each year
- For pupils to explore the role of international aid organisations and learn how they help local people and communities to make positive changes in their lives
- For pupils to understand that an individual's voice can make a difference
- For pupils to take part in a simple action or create a campaign

Pupils will have a chance to develop skills in...

- creative writing
- interpreting data
- speaking and listening
- developing and expressing personal viewpoints
- reading case studies and factual writing
- critical thinking.

What else is there?

Save the Children has a network for young people who want to get involved in our campaign to save children's lives. Your pupils can sign up to **Yell for Youth** at: www.savethechildren.org.uk/yellforyouth

Or, they can take action by sending a fifth birthday card to the Prime Minister. They can find the card at: www.savethechildren.org.uk/en/50_74.htm#card

You might also want to include these games in one of your lessons:

Saving Children's Lives bingo

www.savethechildren.org.uk/en/54_5692.htm

Death Detective game

www.savethechildren.org.uk/en/54_5692.htm

And finally, have a look at the Save the Children website for lots more useful information and resources:

www.savethechildren.org.uk

Sensitive issues

Some of the issues raised in the schemes could create an environment in which pupils wish to disclose sensitive information that relates the campaign to themselves or someone they know. Before starting this programme, you might want to remind yourself of your school's policies and procedures around child protection.

We also suggest that if a global emergency occurs, you consider changing the focus of any relevant lessons so that pupils can keep up to date with developments.