

Ideas for teachers using the Wish List for Schools pack

Thank you for your interest in Save the Children's Wish List for Schools pack. The Wish List Schools pack offers a fantastic opportunity for teachers to inspire and motivate children in developing an understanding of Global Citizenship. Children are able to learn about the communities Save the Children work with and experience how they can make a tangible difference through fundraising.

Below are some suggestions, based around core areas of learning. The list is by no means exhaustive and the more creative teachers and children are able to be the better!

Numeracy:

Problem solving and investigations

- I have £X what different combinations of gifts can I buy?
- How much would a family food basket for a month in the UK cost?
- How much money would each child need to bring in to buy...?
- We are going to equip a school/buy eight desks draw a plan for how we could fit the furniture in.
- If after 1 year 30 of the chickens each has 4 chicks, how many would there be? How many more are there?

(A fun opportunity to show that this gift just keeps giving!)

Fundraising supports lots of opportunities for data handling and activities based around counting and money.

Relevant objectives from the Primary framework:

Handling data

Calculating

Using and applying mathematics

Counting and understanding number

Literacy:

- Children to write their own 'community wish list' – a wish for the school, a wish for their local area, a wish for the environment and a wish for the world.
- Use one of the Wish List images as a starting point for Creative Literacy, for example the gift of seeds or chickens, both have strong thought provoking images of children working and could provide an interesting starting point for discussion (KS2) and writing – for example an interview, poem...
- Drama – explore the emotions children would experience before and after they receive a SC gift, from your school.

The theme of giving and sharing is frequently explored in children's books, including: The Quiltmaker's Gift - Jeff Brumbeau

The Rainbow Fish - Marcus Pfister

Relevant objectives from the Primary framework:

Speaking

Listening and responding

Group discussion and interaction

Drama

Creating and shaping texts

Science:

- Children can consider the different contents of family food baskets and make links with healthy eating and nutrition. Designing a food basket using only a limited budget, what would your priorities be? Is it healthy? What are the similarities and differences between your own food baskets or trolleys and a Save the Children basket?
- Grow seeds in different conditions – what do seeds need to survive? They could also grow plants from fruit and vegetable seeds (another opportunity to show that it is the gift that just keeps giving!)
- Explore the different habitats chickens, goats and yaks and how they adapt to their environment. Yaks could be of particular interest to children!

Relevant units from the Standards Site

Unit 1B. Growing plants

Unit 2A. Health and growth

Unit 3A. Teeth and eating

Unit 3B. Helping plants grow well

Unit 4B. Habitats

Unit 5A. Keeping healthy

ICT:

- Data handling – to show the amount of money raised and how much needs to still be raised in order to reach their target. Children can use graphing programmes to create bar charts/pie charts and see their progress.
- Children can make own presentations to show to rest of school about Wish List and how they are supporting Save the Children.
- The School Link site – www.school-link.org.uk is a great opportunity for children to use the Internet and learn about Save the Children's work.

Relevant units from the Standards Site

Unit 2C. Finding information

Unit 4A. Writing for different audiences

Unit 4D. Collecting and presenting information: questionnaires and pie charts

Unit 6A. Multimedia presentation

Geography:

- The Wish List provides an excellent opportunity to increase children's awareness of the world and to provide them with a tangible connection to the lives of other children. It could be used as basis for a study or a particular country. Using School Link teachers could use either Pakistan or China as a case study.
- Look out for Save the Children and the areas of work they are involved (geographically and thematically) in the news.

Relevant units from the Standards Site

Unit 16. What's in the news?

Unit 17. Global eye

Unit 18. Connecting ourselves to the world

Unit 24. Passport to the world

Art and Design:

- Design thank you cards for Wish List, which could be given to parents/children who support your fundraising.
- Create an image using a range of media to represent what each child wishes for. Thinking about the environment, design a school uniform.
- An interesting idea for upper KS2 would be to explore photography and the images used in Wish List – Why are particular images chosen? What are they showing the viewer?

Relevant units from the Standards Site

Unit 2A Picture this! Picture this!

Unit 4C. Journeys

Unit 5C. Talking textiles

Music:

- Compose a piece of music/write lyrics based on the idea of 'Wishes' Get children to empathise with the joy a child would feel if they had a place in school and the opportunity to get an education. Or if they had just received a pair of goats...

Relevant units from the Standards Site

Unit 19. Songwriter - Exploring lyrics and melody

Unit 20. Stars, hide your fires - Performing together

PSHE and Citizenship:

- This subject lends itself *really* well to the Wish List and the idea of a global community, rights and responsibilities. This can be anything from a circle time when children share their own wishes, to asking children to empathise with the children in the Wish List photos – put themselves in that position and ask them to consider how they would react.

Relevant units from the Standards Site

Unit 05. Living in a diverse world

Unit 07. Children's rights - human rights

Unit 11. In the media - what's the news?

Philosophy for children and thinking skills are becoming increasingly important in the primary classroom. Wish List provides a great starting point for both areas – the images support children in empathising and provide an excellent starting point for discussion – What if...

Alternatively show the children an image and get them to lead the discussion.

School/class displays or working walls:

Many of the above lessons lend themselves especially well to displays/working walls; which combined with the fantastic resources provided would be both visually striking and informative.

For example children could write their global wishes on stars and build a 'Wish galaxy' The Save the Children Wish List - either part or all - can then be incorporated into this.

A fundraising target can also be included so that children can see how much they have already achieved and what they can still achieve.

Class or School Assemblies

The Wish List could be used as stimuli for assemblies based around the idea of giving and helping others. This assembly theme is particularly relevant at particular times of year, for example Eid, Harvest Festival, Diwali, Christmas, Chinese New Year and Lent.

- During Harvest Festival children can fundraise to buy a family food basket or plant seeds for a new harvest.
- At Eid, Diwali, Christmas and Chinese New Year children/classes can give a Wish List gift instead of a celebratory card. You could also make an important link here to environmental awareness – lots of trees are cut down to make Christmas cards!
- For Lent children can go without something and use the money to help make wishes come true.

Christmas!

Christmas – the season of good will and giving – is a great time to introduce and fundraise for Wish List.

Lots of the activities above can be tailored more toward Christmas.

- The idea of a gift that keeps on giving versus the usual throwaway presents that many UK children receive for Christmas can be explored.

- Similarly you could introduce the idea of how something that many children would never see as a gift – in particular going to school - is in fact an amazing gift which can change children's lives.
- The difference between consumer Christmas, which is more based on receiving than giving, and the idea of giving a gift that can change lives can be discussed.
- A class display Christmas tree – children can have a Wish List target in the shape of a Christmas Tree – with the chosen 'wish' replacing the fairy on the top!
- Children make Christmas gifts – E.g. DT: Unit 2B. Puppets and Unit 3D. Photograph frames – or Christmas cards – D.T Unit 4E. Lighting it up; which they then sell to family and friends and the money raised could go towards their Wish List fund.
- Or simply a stall display the Wish List cards and a donation bucket
- Other Christmas fundraisers: carol concerts/singing, plays, party's etc, can raise money towards Wish List.