

Our World Irish Aid Awards 2017

For People and Planet



5th-6th class lesson activities



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Introduction for Teachers

Welcome to the 2017 Our World Irish Aid Awards (OWIAA) lesson activities. This introduction will give you some information about Irish Aid, and the benefits to you and your pupils of using this resource and participating in the Awards.

This year the OWIAA theme '*For People and Planet*' is geared towards helping primary-aged children to gain some understanding of the need to bring about good and lasting changes (sustainable development) in our world, so that the lives of people everywhere can be improved for the better, now and in the future.

What is Irish Aid?

Irish Aid is Ireland's official programme of overseas development assistance, managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Irish Aid works with governments and development organisations in over 80 countries.

In humanitarian emergencies, Irish Aid saves lives by quickly providing vital funds and assistance to organisations on the ground. Most of Irish Aid's work, however, is supporting long-term sustainable development, especially in eight key partner countries, where it works with governments and other agencies to tackle hunger, poverty and inequality and support human rights.

Ireland's Irish Aid programme is considered one of the best in the world.

What are the United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development?

193 countries of the United Nations, including Ireland, are working together to create a better world and a better future for us all by 2030, through the Global Goals for Sustainable Development, which were agreed in September 2015. These Goals build on the achievements of the

2



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previous UN Millennium Development Goals and seek to bring about a better future for people everywhere and for future generations. All the work of Irish Aid seeks to progress the Global Goals.

How will pupils benefit by taking part in the Our World Irish Aid Awards?

Pupils participating in the Our World Irish Aid Awards (OWIAA) explore and learn about the lives of people in developing countries, and the importance of the Global Goals to ensure protection of the environment and improvement in the lives of vulnerable people and those living in poverty. The Awards help to make children in Ireland aware of the links between their lives and the lives of people in Africa and Asia, and ask them to care for other people and our planet as a way of contributing to a better life, now and in the future, for all people in the world.

What is the purpose of the OWIAA lesson activities?

The lesson activities are designed to help pupils in 5th and 6th class to explore the development issues related to this year's Awards theme, '*For People and Planet*'. Teachers can use the active teaching methodologies outlined in these lessons to deliver several curriculum areas, as well as literacy and numeracy, as described below. The activities are designed to raise pupils' awareness of the problems of poverty facing people in developing countries, and how world leaders and governments have pledged to respond to these problems through the Global Goals.

You may decide to do some or all the lesson activities, which will provide pupils with learning opportunities directly related to the primary curriculum. An outline of the way the OWIAA Unit supports the different primary curriculum areas is available below on pages 4-6.



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| Unit No. | Unit Title | Brief description | Curriculum Links |
|----------|---|--|---|
| | Reflection/Literacy Activities | The purpose of these activities, which are integrated at the end of each Unit, is to encourage pupils to develop their oral literacy, reading and comprehension and writing skills. These activities also allow pupils to reflect on the new information they learn as they progress through the Units, to articulate what they have found interesting, to pose outstanding questions and to begin to think and plan possible OWIAA projects. | <u>English</u> Oral language Reading Writing |
| 1 | Interdependence and Sustainable Development | <p>This Unit begins with four activities to encourage pupils to think about the interdependence – the way that people everywhere, now and in the future, are connected to our planet. In Activity One pupils think about their connections to people and places, far and near. They consider the many ways that people rely on planet earth (Activity Two), and discuss the likelihood and possible impact of climate change related future scenarios (Activity Three). Pupils identify the biggest problems facing our world today and think about decisions/actions they and others can make/take to mind the world for people now and in the future (Activity Four).</p> <p>Activities Five and Six are designed to help pupils understand some of the words, phrases and concepts they will encounter as they proceed through Units 2-4, e.g. ‘sustainable development’ ‘developing countries’. They discuss the role of the United Nation’s Global Goals for Sustainable Development in addressing the global challenges, and begin to think about the need for a joined-up approach to achieving these Goals (Activity Seven).</p> | <u>English</u> Oral language Reading Writing <u>Geography</u> Human environments Environmental awareness and care <u>History</u> Continuity and change over time <u>Science</u> Environmental awareness and care <u>SPHE</u> Myself and the wider world |



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| 2 | Irish Aid at Work | <p>Unit 2 focuses on the different ways that Irish Aid, Ireland’s official programme of overseas assistance, works to achieve the United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development. Pupils learn about Irish Aid’s eight partner countries by taking part in a Table Quiz and discussing how Irish Aid supported development programmes in these countries help to achieve the Global Goals (Activity One).</p> <p>Through examples of the results of Irish Aid’s work, especially in Africa, pupils become aware of how Ireland is helping to bring about lasting improvements (sustainable development) in developing countries (Activity Two). Pupils learn through engagement with stories of people working, with Irish Aid help, to lift themselves out of poverty (Activity Three). Pupils present the information they have learned about the work of Irish Aid by creating a radio advertisement aimed at primary school pupils (Activity Four).</p> | <p><u>English</u> Oral language Reading Writing <u>Geography</u> Human environments (Trade and Development Issues) <u>History</u> Politics, conflict and society <u>Mathematics</u> Data <u>SPHE</u> Myself and the wider world <u>Visual Arts</u> Drawing</p> |
| 3 | Gorongosa National Park | <p>Unit 3 focuses on an Irish Aid supported programme in Mozambique. The Gorongosa Restoration Project is an initiative of the Mozambican Government, working in partnership with the Carr Foundation, an American non-governmental organization (charity). Since 2008 the Project has sought to restore and conserve (protect) the wildlife and the landscape for the benefit of local communities and for Mozambique. In 2014, Irish Aid began funding the work of the Project with communities living on the northern boundary of the Park.</p> <p>In Activity One, pupils engage with information about biodiversity in Mozambique and Ireland, and consider the implications of situations where the delicate balance of biodiversity is upset. In Activity Two, pupils learn</p> | <p><u>English</u> Oral language Reading Writing <u>Geography</u> Human environments Environmental awareness and care <u>History</u> Politics, conflict and society <u>Science</u> Living things Environmental awareness and care</p> |



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| | | about the history of the Gorongosa National Park and how, with Irish Aid support, the Restoration Project is working to overcome the challenges facing people living on the boundaries of the Park. In Activity Three, pupils use their editorial skills to reflect on Gorongosa’s human development activities, and consider why these are so important to the health of the Park’s wildlife and landscape. In Activity Four, pupils engage in a literacy activity based on a film about the work of Park rangers with the lions. In Activity Five, pupils learn about the diversity of life on Mount Gorongosa, and think about the importance of biodiversity for human wellbeing. In Activity Six, pupils reflect on the different ways that the Gorongosa Restoration Project is working to achieve the United Nation’s Global Goals for Sustainable Development. | <u>SPHE</u> Myself and the wider world |
| 4 | Our World Irish Aid Awards (OWIAA) – Getting Started | Unit 4 begins with an inspiring quote from Ban Ki-moon (previously General Secretary of the United Nations) which focuses pupils’ thinking about who has responsibility for actions to progress the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (Activity One). Pupils think about the ways that they already care about the world (Activity Two), and recognise that they too have an important role in addressing the big problems faced by the world. During Activity Three, pupils learn about the Our World Irish Aid Awards and get ideas for projects from the Kids Zone in the OWIAA website (www.ourworldirishaidawards.ie). Activity Four suggests one possible way for your pupils to generate project ideas and engage in a democratic process to decide on the focus of their own OWIAA project. | <u>English</u> Oral language Reading Writing <u>Geography</u> Human environments Environmental awareness and care <u>Science</u> Environmental awareness and care <u>SPHE</u> Myself and others Myself and the wider world |



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