



Exploring the Millennium Development Goals

The Millennium Development Goals were created in the year 2000 at the biggest ever meeting of world leaders and are to be achieved by 2015.

The eight goals focus on some of the biggest issues facing our world today.



The goals are a great way to get your group thinking about global issues.

Read on for our favourite resources and activities to get you started.

Bridges promotes knowledge and learning in Shropshire for a fairer world. Our vision is a world where all people are respected, learn together and are able to take action.

Activity Ideas

- **Match the Object to the Goal**

This activity introduces the goals through an activity of matching different objects to the most relevant Millennium Development Goal. Use resource sheet 1 below to run this activity with your group.

- **Goal Ranking**

Get some discussion going by asking your group to rank the goals in order of importance. This is a great way to explore the goals and the links between them. Use resource sheet 2 below to run this activity with your group.

Useful Resources

- **Change the World in Eight Steps**

Free to download from Oxfam with posters and activities about all the goals. It has a schools focus and the activities are easily adapted to other groups and age ranges.

www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/change_the_world_in_eight_steps/?37

- **Promises, Promises**

Free to download from Christian Aid this resource uses the theme of making and keeping promises to explore the goals in a youth work setting.

http://learn.christianaid.org.uk/YouthLeaderResources/Promises_English.aspx

Find out more

- United Nations (UN) - www.un.org/millenniumgoals
- UNICEF – www.unicef.org/mdg
- Department for International Development UK – www.dfid.gov.uk/mdg
- The Guardian – Global Development

www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/millennium-development-goals

Campaign to support the Millennium Development Goals

- End Poverty 2015 – www.endpoverty2015.org
- Millennium Promise – www.millenniumpromise.org
- Stand Up, Take Action – www.standagainstopoverty.org
- Global Poverty Project – www.globalpovertyproject.com

Resource Sheet One

Match the object to the goal

For this activity you will need a collection of objects with some link to the Millennium Developments Goals, at least one for each person in the group you will be working with. You will also need to print out the goals cards below large enough for everyone in the group to see them.

Spread out the goal cards on the floor or a large table and introduce the goals to the group, reading each card as you go. Next pass around the collection of objects and ask each person to take one or two. Then ask the group to each place their object on the goal they think it is linked to, giving some time to think and discuss this as it is done.

Next, go through the items and ask the person who placed the items on a particular goal to explain why. It is important to make clear there are no right or wrong answers. As the discussion continues it will become clear how the goals are linked, e.g. a plastic plate might go on goal one to represent food, on goal four to represent food keeping people healthy or on goal seven to represent waste and recycling within sustainability.

Some ideas for objects you might want to use are:

Food, Fairtrade marked items, money, birthday cards or candles, empty medicine boxes, a bottle of water, clothing, school books, a pencil, sports equipment and other household items.

The main aim is to explore the goals and particularly how they are linked to each other.

<p>GOAL 1 ENOUGH FOOD AND MONEY FOR EVERYONE</p> 	<p>GOAL 2 EDUCATION FOR ALL</p> 
<p>GOAL 3 EQUALITY FOR WOMEN</p> 	<p>GOAL 4 KEEP BABIES HEALTHY</p> 
<p>GOAL 5 KEEP MUMS HEALTHY</p> 	<p>GOAL 6 PREVENT & TREAT DISEASES</p> 
<p>GOAL 7 LOOK AFTER OUR WORLD</p> 	<p>GOAL 8 WORK TOGETHER FOR CHANGE</p> 

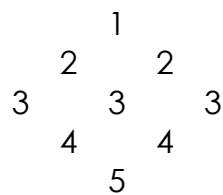
Resource Sheet Two

Diamond Nine Ranking

Diamond nine ranking enables discussion of an issue in a structured way and leads to exploring the links between different issues.

You will need to prepare the statements below (each links to a Millennium Development Goal) on slips of card or paper, with enough for one set for each group of three or four people taking part.

Give a set of statements to each group and ask them to rank the statements from most important (number 1 at the top) to least important (number five at the bottom) using a diamond shape as shown below.



Again, be clear that there is no right answer, when each group has finished ask them to share their diamonds with each other and ask whether it was difficult to come up with the completed diamond.

Statements:

There should not be any poor or hungry people in the world.
All children should be able to go to school.
Too many young children around the world die young.
Girls should have the same chances as boys to do things.
Too many women die when they are having a baby.
Too many people die of diseases when they could have been helped.
Everyone should have clean water.
Everyone should have a good home and area to live in.
Countries in the world should share fairly what they have with each other.