



LEARNING ACTIVITIES IDEAS

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs) and MAKE POVERTY HISTORY CAMPAIGN.

The Marist Schools' Campaign Kit focuses on three of the eight principal MDGs and these will relate to projects in the 13 countries of the Asia-Pacific region where Marists work.

MDG GOAL # 1: TO ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

MDG GOAL # 2: TO ENSURE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

MDG GOAL # 7: TO ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON WATER

Note: MDG Goal # 3 on eliminating gender disparity is heavily linked to the education goal of #2 and resources, especially on websites for #3, are often applicable to #2..

OPENING THE THEME:

Marist Solidarity: A place for all – get into it!

Commence the activity by outlining in brief form as above the three goals....then brain storm around ideas of “a place” in terms of the MDGs. In this context a brief background to the historical origins of the MDGs would be appropriate.

Possibilities might include:

....a place at the table (eliminating hunger and poverty #1))

....a place in the classroom (ensuring universal education #2)

... a place with a tap (ensuring safe and sustainable clean water #7).

Students might choose one “place” image and create a visual representation of it including some of the more detailed aspects of the MDG chosen. (ref. the websites resource in this teachers' folder)

ROOM FOR ALL: A PLACE AT THE TABLE, CLASSROOM AND TAP

Are there also other images which might be used to explore these three MDGs:# 1, # 2 and # 7? The website resource sheet in the teachers' folder can assist here especially www.oxfam.org.uk

What is the origins of your Marist School? Is its foundation a response some decades ago to a need – to a place in the classroom for children in your area?

Where are the new Marist Schools in the Pacific region? Are there some schools established in Australia in the past 5 years – look at their focus and origins in terms of the campaign's theme?



MARIST PROJECTS AND MDG'S LINK

Propose a website search activity by inviting students individually, or in small groups, to link these MDGs to some of the goals of the Marists' projects in the Asia-Pacific region ref.

www.maristoz.edu.au/maps; www.champagnat.org

Projects such as Pakistan Technical School for dropouts, LaValla School, Cambodia, Vanga Point in the Solomons, ICFP East Timor etc. all present possibilities to linking the MDGs to these goals especially the educational projects. An important 2006 project to examine is the Water for Life Project in Burui, PNG (ref.MDG #7).

DRAMA - STANDING IN SOLIDARITY: ROOM FOR ALL

Open up the concept "solidarity" through stories of young people standing with others. The website and printed materials of AVI (Australian Volunteers International) are valuable resources as are visits from recent current students or ex-students who have been volunteers or had an immersion experience.

Simple drama exercises can draw out the contrast between standing FOR others against standing WITH others.

Also you might explore through drama the notion of 'STANDING ALONGSIDE ANOTHER' (Solidarity) related to 'CHARITY or GIVING'. Does Solidarity have more long term costs and commitment?

MAKE POVERTY HISTORY CAMPAIGN

This is an explicit attempt to take the MDGs into action through projects and popular activities and the websites such as http://www.cafod.org.uk/resources/schools_teachers

The wrist bands are available from Caritas Australia offices or other participating agencies.

BANNED VIDEO CLIP DISCUSSION

The UK site of the Make Poverty History Campaign has a video which launched the campaign and was banned from several TV stations.

Check <http://www.makepovertyhistory.org/video/index.shtml>

The learning activities could centre around:

Why ban this advertisement? Whose interests does it threaten? How could you stand in solidarity with a similar justice campaign if another advertisement was banned?

THE GIRL IN THE CAFÉ

(Telemovie – ABC)

This film is available on video and DVD and it tells a story of commitment to the elimination of global poverty interwoven with a romance story. It illustrates the power of people who hold political power and their ability to effect change for others. It also presents a picture that a greater number of ordinary people are capable of effecting change than we think. There are many reviews of it on the internet under its title



BONO, STING, JOHN PAUL II AND OTHER PERSONALITIES IN THE CAMPAIGN FOR CHANGE.

Students might, through web searches, compile a list of the international personalities who have signed on for the various campaigns to implement the MDGs. The site www.oxfam.org.uk has one of the best collections of quotes. A number of quotes from personalities are also included on the “Solidarity Bulletin Briefs” in this Marist 2006 Campaign teachers’ kit.

Choose from among the various statements by these personalities ONE which is a standout for you. Take this to a small group or one on one for sharing.

What songs of a particular singer link to their commitment to justice for those on the margins of life?

A check on the Australian Paul Kelly’s recent CDs would elicit other reflections on justice and change.

CHANGE THE WORLD IN 8 STEPS!

Check www.oxfam.org.au for the series of lesson activities and excellent case studies on the MDGs

WHO WILL ELIMINATE POVERTY?

“We are the first generation that can eliminate poverty.”

Who made this claim? Check the website search list to give to students.

A discussion might be focused around why, how and if there is a link to the Marist Schools’ Campaign of “A Place for All”.



Life Auction

A fast-paced auction in which all of life's basic needs are up for grabs!

The full game can be printed from the Campaign CD-Rom

Needed to play

Participants: 10 – 100

Organizers: 1 + 1 assistant per 20 players

Set-up difficulty: Low

Time required: 45 minutes

Age level: Junior high to adult

Text in boxes is to be read directly to participants. All other text is for the game organizer.

Job of organizer: to brief the participants and run the game.

Job of assistants: to distribute items to groups that successfully bid for them and to ensure that groups are keeping their auction tally sheet correctly.

Preparation

Auction items come in 5 categories, with 3 levels of quality (luxury, basic and survival) in each category:

	Luxury	Basic	Survival
Health	Full care	Basic care	First aid
Education	University	Primary education	Basic literacy
Career	High flyer	Low flyer	Menial
Housing	Mansion	Small	Shack
Food	Gourmet	Basic	Survival

You will need to prepare the item cards for auctioning off. The number of each item you will need to photocopy depends on how many individuals or groups will be participating in the auction. The approximate ratio should be as follows (example given is for 10 individuals or groups, please adjust for different numbers of participants.)

- 1 x luxury item in each category
- 3 x basic items in each category
- 5 x survival items in each category

With 10 groups or individuals participating, this will mean that one group will miss out completely, which is exactly what you want.

Copies of the auction tally sheets will also need to be made in the ratio

- 1 x Life Auction Dollars 5 000 sheet
- 3 x Life Auction Dollars 1 000 sheet
- 6 x Life Auction Dollars 350 sheet