

Send My Friend to School 2018: Make Schools Safe Issue Tree

Age range: 8 - 18 years

Time: Approximately 30 minutes

Outline

An **issue tree** is a way of structuring an enquiry to encourage young people to explore the causes, effects and solutions of a given issue. In this activity, the issue is that **schools are not safe**.

An absence of **school safety** may have many types of causes, for example war or harassment. The purpose of this activity is for young people to think of as wide a range of causes as possible and trace through their effects on children and their possible solutions. This will help them to make their Make School Safe signs and write messages.

The **Issue Tree** activity is outlined in full in Oxfam's guide [Global Citizenship in the Classroom](#) (page 13) which may be downloaded for free from the [Oxfam Education website](#).

Learning objectives

- Participants identify and think critically about as wide a range of dangers faced by school children as possible
- Participants articulate their opinions clearly and review them in the light of others' opinions.

Outcomes

- Participants can explain how causes of school danger are linked directly to their effects and solutions
- Participants appreciate how making schools safe involves a wide range of new policies by governments.

Key questions

- Can you decide which of the dangers faced by school children are the most serious?
- Which of the solutions you have identified do you think will be the most effective?

Resources

- Oxfam (2015) – Global Citizenship in the Classroom (page 13)
- Send My Friend to School – Teacher's Pack 2017. Register your school on the [Send My Friend to School website](#) to order a Teacher's Pack and Make Schools Safe sign.
- You will need: large sheets of paper, felt pens

Secondary Curriculum links

England: KS3 & KS4 Citizenship (2014) – Purpose of study, aims, subject content.

Wales: ESDGC (Choices and Decisions) and PSE (Active Citizenship) – National Curriculum for Wales.

Scotland: Social Studies – Scottish Curriculum for Excellence.

Session outline

1. Before you begin

Young people should have a basic knowledge of the Make Schools Safe campaign.

- View and discuss the PowerPoint presentation included in this resource.
- Watch the Make Schools Safe campaign video
www.sendmyfriend.org/resource/2018-secondary-school-film/
- If you have time, work through some other activities on the Send My Friend to School website www.sendmyfriend.org

2. The Issue Tree (30 mins)

Register your school on the Send My Friend to School website to order your Teacher's Pack and Make Schools Safe Sign: www.sendmyfriend.org/take-action/order-teaching-pack/

Young people should work in pairs or small groups.

Distribute large sheets of paper and ask each group to draw the simple outline of a tree (see the example on the next page).

Label

1. The roots of the tree – 'The causes'
2. The trunk of the tree – 'The Issue: Schools are not safe'
3. The branches of the tree – 'The effects'
4. The fruits or flowers of the tree – 'The solutions'

Try to follow through each 'cause' through its effects to end with its 'solutions' before beginning to think about the next cause.

When the groups have finished their issue trees they should present their ideas to the rest of the class.



What to do next

Match the causes and solutions the young people have identified in this activity with the danger and safety signs on the Make Schools Safe Sign. Young people's reflections on the activity could also be used to support the message they write to their MP.

Differentiation

Make it easier: Reduce the number of causes you ask the young people to think about.

Terms of use

Copyright © Oxfam/Send My Friend to School

You may use photographs and associated information in this resource for educational purposes at your educational institution. With each use, you must credit the photographer named for that image and Oxfam or the relevant agency. You may not use images and associated information for commercial purposes or outside your educational institution. All information associated with these images relates to the date and time the project work took place.