

WHAT DO WE ALL NEED TO THRIVE?

HOME LEARNING ACTIVITIES FOR AGES 7-14

Now, more than ever, is a time young people need support to help understand their world, reflect on what matters, and think about how they can make a positive contribution. Yet so much learning is taking place online, in their homes, and away from their peers.

We want to help. We've created a selection of themed learning content on the Oxfam Education website for use at home, in the classroom or both! Consider what we all need to thrive, explore what connects us and be inspired to make a difference.

About this resource

What is important in life? What do we all need to thrive? Now, more than ever, is a time to reflect on what we value the most.

The following short activity ideas could be used to prompt thinking and discussion about what things are essential in our lives. Sort 'needs' and 'wants'; create a family values tree; and use video from Oxfam's work around the world to appreciate our shared need to eat, drink, earn and learn.

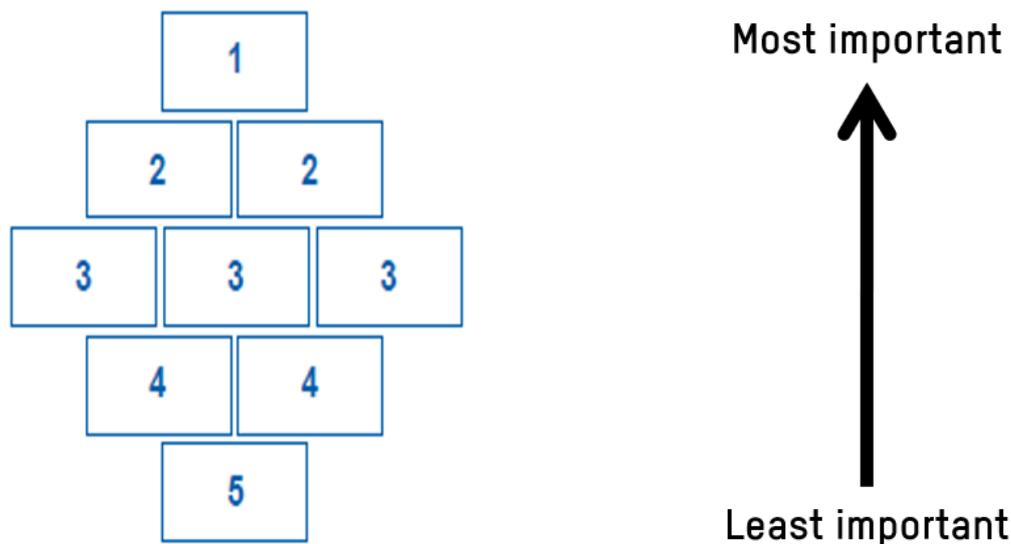
This pack is for use by teachers, parents and carers alongside the [What do we all need to thrive?](#) page on the Oxfam Education website.



Sorting needs and wants (20 min+)

Learning aim: To consider and discuss what things are most important for us to thrive and do well in life.

- Ask your child/children what they think we all need to do well in life – to grow, thrive and be happy. Discuss their thoughts. Encourage them to give reasons for their ideas.
- Print out a copy of the [Sorting needs and wants](#) activity sheet. If you don't have access to a printer you could write your own version on a piece of paper. Support your child/children to cut out and sort the cards into a diamond formation (see diagram below) with the item they think is most important at the top and the least important item at the bottom. Two cards have been left blank in case they would like to insert their own ideas.



- Emphasize that there is no right or wrong answer – it is up to your child/children to rank the cards as they think best. However, they should try to think of reasons to explain their choices.
- Ask your child/children to explain their thinking. Possible discussion questions include:
 - How did you decide which card to put at the top/bottom of your diamond?
 - What is the difference between something you 'need' and something you 'want'?
 - Do you think these are all things we 'need' or are some of them 'wants'?
 - Can you think of anything else that you 'need' to thrive in life?

Everybody eat, drink, earn and learn (20 min+)

Learning aim: To understand that we all need to eat, drink, earn and learn.

- Watch the short video clip: [Everybody eat, drink, earn and learn](#).
- Discuss the following questions:
 - What do you see people doing?
 - Do you do any of these activities?
 - What is the same about these people's lives and your own life? What is different?
 - Which countries do you think these people might be in? Why do you think this?

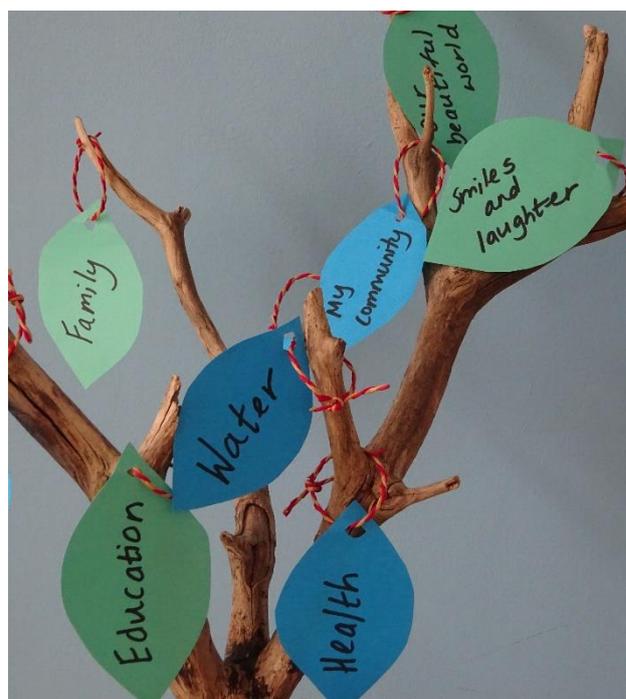
This last question may highlight existing assumptions and preconceptions that your children may have. For example, 'that must be a country in Africa because the people look poor'. If possible, try to challenge any stereotypes and encourage your children to think about where their ideas come from. A list of the countries shown in the film is provided in the [Film country information](#) resource sheet.

- Draw out that there are four groups of activities being shown in the film: eating, drinking, earning and learning. As human beings, we all need these things to do well in life. However geographical location and context can mean that we meet these needs in different ways.

Create a family value tree (ongoing)

Learning aim: To reflect on our values – what we think is important in life.

- 2020 saw dramatic changes in the ways we live our lives. Many of the things that we once took for granted such as meeting up with friends and family or going to school have been restricted.
- Use the lockdown to reflect as a family on what is important. Create a value tree - write or draw the things you feel are most important on the leaves.
- Encourage family members to add to the tree over time. Take time as a family on a regular basis to look at the leaves and share your thoughts and ideas.



Further learning

- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) was agreed by governments worldwide in 1989. These rights describe what every child needs to survive, grow and live to their full potential. All children have these rights, wherever they live in the world. However, many children in the UK and around the world are unable to access everything that they need. See Oxfam's **Children's Rights** resource for ages 8-11 to find out more: www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/childrens-rights
- Oxfam's **Explore the work of Oxfam** resource for ages 7-14 supports further thinking and discussion about what is important in life. Find out how communities around the world are working with Oxfam to beat poverty now and forever. With links to English, geography and citizenship, these thought-provoking activities offer a fun way to develop speaking and listening skills. See: www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/work-of-oxfam

Sorting needs and wants

Activity sheet

Shelter	Family	Mobile phone
Education	Health care	Friends
Play	Food	Water
Internet	Your idea	Your idea

Film country information

Resource sheet

The film, Everybody eat, drink, earn and learn, includes footage from several of the countries in which Oxfam works. Details are provided below:

Everybody Eat

Sifting grain – Liberia
Carrying bags in a food bank – UK
Carrying rice harvest – Philippines
Cooking pot – Liberia
Flat breads – Iraq
Eating rice – Philippines
Eating bread and jam – Armenia

Everybody Earn

Barber – Iraq
Cucumber farmer – Iraq
Nut sorters – Honduras
Sewing – Tanzania
Market – Sierra Leone
Counting money 1 – Kenya
Counting money 2 – Ethiopia

Everybody Drink

Filling water – Iraq
Drinking 1 – South Sudan
Drinking 2 – Bangladesh
Drinking 3 – UK
Drinking 4 – Cambodia
Filling water 2 – Tanzania
Drinking 5 – Ethiopia

Everybody Learn

Girl and book 1 – Pakistan
Children and book / Girl at blackboard
– Haiti
Girl and book 2 – Jordan
Classroom – Kenya
Girl studying – Nepal
Girls in class – Pakistan

End shots

Children clapping – South Sudan
Children shouting “Oxfam!” – Iraq