



# CLIMATE, FAIRTRADE AND YOU

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## PRIMARY LESSON PLAN

### BASIC NEEDS LESSON 2: BASIC NEEDS AND THE CLIMATE CRISIS

We all have basic human needs, such as food, water, shelter and medicine. How does the climate crisis affect the ability of farmers in the Global South to meet their basic needs? In this lesson, students will learn why decent incomes for cocoa farmers are essential for farmers to cope with the challenges that the climate crisis brings. This lesson is designed for students aged 8+.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Learners can describe some of the effects of the climate crisis
- Learners can consider how the effects of the climate crisis impact the basic needs of farmers overseas
- Learners understand that higher incomes for farmers are essential for them to be able to cope with the effects of the climate crisis

#### YOU WILL NEED

- 12 Wants and needs cards (set per pair)
- 1 or 2 sets of climate crisis cards (enough for 1 card per pair)
- Accompanying PowerPoint
- Time: 45 minutes

#### PRIOR LEARNING

This is the second lesson in the Basic Needs lesson series. Students should complete Basic Needs Lesson 1 before completing this lesson. This revision activity will support students to recap prior learning.

#### Sorting activity: Wants and needs (10 minutes)

- Remind the students that they have been learning about the basic needs of all humans
- Divide the students into pairs and give each group a set of wants and needs cards
- Challenge the students to divide the cards into two categories: **wants and needs**. The students should be able to complete this quickly as they completed this in the previous lesson.
- Ask the students to feedback to the class. Discuss any that are contentious.
- Ask each group to keep their 'needs' cards but to disregard their 'wants cards'. They will not need these for today's lesson



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## STARTER ACTIVITY

This starter activity will introduce the topic of the climate crisis and get students thinking about its impact on human's basic needs. (5 minutes)

- Explain to the children that there is a global challenge that is putting the basic needs of cocoa farmers like Thérèse at risk. It is called the **climate crisis**.
- On the board, display Slide 1 of the Presentation which asks 'what do you know about the climate crisis?' Allow 5 minutes for the children to discuss in pairs or small groups.
- Feedback to the class and write some of their responses on the board.

## MAIN ACTIVITY PART 1: THE IMPACTS OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Share and discuss the PowerPoint presentation with the children to learn about the climate crisis and its effects on cocoa farmers. When discussing each effect, ask the children to consider how it might impact the basic needs of farmers e.g. healthy food, clean water, shelter, clothes, education, medicine (10 minutes)

Slide	Script
Slide 1	<p><u>The Climate Crisis</u></p> <p>Did you know that the Earth is about 1-degree C warmer than it was 100 years ago? This doesn't sound like much, but the planet's delicate systems are greatly affected by this, and it can bring extreme and unpredictable weather. The temperature of the world is continuing to rise. Some countries are affected by the climate crisis more than others. Farmers and workers in countries in the Global South are badly affected by the climate crisis right now. Let's look at some of the challenges that cocoa farmers are having to deal with as a result of the climate crisis...</p>
Slide 2	<p><u>Drought</u></p> <p>The climate crisis causes droughts. Droughts happen when hot weather lasts for weeks at a time and there is no rain. This is a big problem for farmers who depend on the crops they produce. Crops need water to grow. Without water, the crops will die. Drought means that cocoa farmers aren't able to grow as much cocoa. <i>How might this affect farmer's basic needs?</i></p>
Slide 3	<p><u>Floods</u></p> <p>The climate crisis causes flooding. Floods are caused by heavy rainfall. Areas near the sea are also at risk of rising sea levels. The sea levels are rising because the ice caps on land are melting as the world gets hotter. Flooding can be very dangerous, and can ruin people's homes and land. For cocoa</p>



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	farmers, flooding can destroy their cocoa crops. <i>How might this affect farmer's basic needs?</i>
Slide 4	<p><u>Plant disease</u></p> <p>The climate crisis means that plant diseases are becoming more common. A healthy cocoa pod is yellow or red, but black pod disease turns the cocoa pod black or brown. It is a very infectious plant disease and direct contact of a black pod with healthy pods will cause the disease to spread. Black Pod disease is killing 1 in 10 cocoa trees around the world. <i>How might this affect farmer's basic needs?</i></p>
Slide 5	<p><u>Extreme weather</u></p> <p>The climate crisis causes a change in weather patterns. For cocoa farmers, this means that there is very heavy rainfall at unpredictable times. This has a big impact on cocoa growing and can damage their crops. <i>How might this affect farmer's basic needs?</i></p>
Slide 6	<p><u>Rising temperatures</u></p> <p>The climate crisis means that the world's temperature will continue to rise. Rising temperatures will cause hot, dry weather and water shortages. Rising temperatures can lead to droughts and/or flooding. <i>Can you remember what impact droughts and floods have on cocoa farms? How might this affect farmer's basic needs?</i></p>
Slide 7	<p><u>Loss of biodiversity</u></p> <p>The climate crisis causes the loss of biodiversity. Biodiversity is a word that describes the variety of living things on earth, such as plants and animals. Rising global temperatures are causing the habitats of wildlife to change and put animals and plants at risk of extinction. Less biodiversity means that diseases become more common and it is more difficult to eat a nutritious diet. <i>How might this affect farmer's basic needs?</i></p> <p>Fairtrade cocoa farmers, such as the <a href="#">Ngoleagorbu Cocoa Farmers</a>, are adapting the way that they farm to protect the animals and plants around them</p>



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## MAIN ACTIVITY PART 2: CRISIS ON MY COCOA FARM

This activity will consolidate student learning and encourage students to consider how the effects of the climate crisis might impact on the basic needs of farmers. (15 minutes)

- Explain that each pair are in charge of their own cocoa farm. Their farm is about to be struck by a one of the climate crisis challenges they have learnt about. Give each group a climate crisis card.
- When the challenge strikes, give the children time (suggested 15 minutes) to answer the following questions as displayed on Slide 8. Computers or iPads can be used to conduct further research if preferred. Groups can present their answers at the end of the class as a talk or poster.

*What is your challenge?*

*How will this challenge affect your farm?*

*Will this challenge affect your basic needs?*

## PLENARY

Finish the lesson with student presentations, a discussion and a story. (10 minutes)

- Give groups the opportunity to present to the class. What did all the groups have in common? What are some ways that cocoa farmers could cope with these challenges? Would they need money to do this?
- Explain to the students that millions of farmers are feeling the effects of the climate crisis right now. Remind the students that the average income of a cocoa farmer is 74p per day and for women it is even less at 23p per day. Farmers barely have enough money to meet their basic needs, let alone withstand the shocks of the climate crisis. Farmers need higher incomes if they are going to survive the climate crisis. Choosing Fairtrade is a way that we can ensure that farmers receive higher incomes.
- **Optional:** Finish the lesson with a farmer story from the 'Climate, Fairtrade and You' Education Pack to show how Fairtrade supports farmers to cope with the challenges that the climate crisis brings.