

Extract for text level work

Akasuwa's story

Akasuwa is a cocoa grower in Ghana. This is her story.

'My name is Akasuwa Asantewaah. I am 43 years old and I am a farmer. I am married with eight children. Two of them go to school. The others have finished school but they have not found jobs.

I did not go to school. I was helping my mother on the farm from the age of ten. My mother taught me everything about farming, from sowing to harvesting. Now I grow cocoa to sell but also vegetables to feed the family: bananas to cook, maize, cassava, spices and lots of other things.

I have a mixed crop farm and the different crops I plant help each other to grow well- for example the larger ones help to shade the smaller ones from the hot sun. Of course as well as farming I also have lots of work to do in the house. I clean the yard, wash the clothes, and cook every day.

Growing cocoa to sell is very important to my family. We can earn a little money for the clothes, for the children's school fees, things for the house, and other basic things.

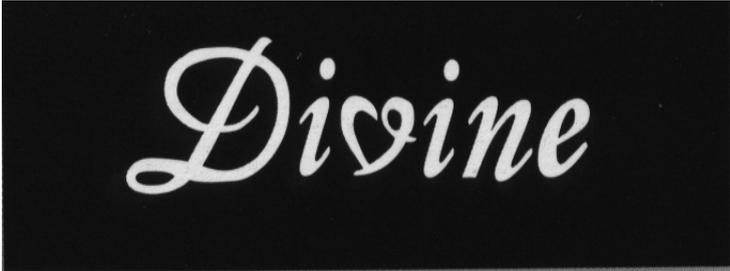
Harvesting cocoa is hard work. When the cocoa pods are ready they turn yellow. We cut them from the trees with knives on sticks. Then we cut the pods open and take the beans out. We cover the beans with banana leaves and leave them for five days. The beans then get another colour and taste – this is called fermentation.

After fermentation we carry the beans to the drying mat in front of our houses and leave them to dry in the sun. We turn them from time to time so that they get dried out on all sides. After that we put the beans in bags and they are taken by lorry to the coast to be sold abroad'.

Simply *Divine!*

Akasuwa has a better life than many cocoa farmers. She sells her cocoa to a *Fairtrade* organisation. The cocoa beans she sells go to make *Divine* chocolate, a delicious new chocolate bar, now available in UK shops.

Find out how buying *Fairtrade* chocolate helps people like Akasuwa have a better life

The logo for 'Divine' chocolate, featuring the word 'Divine' in a white, elegant, cursive script font centered on a solid black rectangular background.

Essential meaning in text using non-fiction information source

A literacy activity addressing key elements of the National Literacy Strategy (NLS) while exploring the life of a cocoa farmer in the South

Relevant elements of the Y3 NLS Teaching Programme

NLS reference: Term 3: Non-fiction writing composition

26. to summarise in writing the content of a passage or text and the main point it is making

(25. to revise and extend work on note-taking...)

Global citizenship aims of the non-fiction writing exercise

- ✓ To enable children to identify the connections between their own lives and those of people and communities in other parts of the world
- ✓ To help children understand the relationship between people and environment
- ✓ To know how *Fair trade* can contribute to a better deal for third world producers
- ✓ To equip children with the knowledge and understanding to empower them to take positive actions which ensure greater social justice
- ✓ To instill in children a belief that individuals can make a difference

Many of the aims above are based on the Oxfam Curriculum for Global Citizenship, available from Oxfam Education, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX2 7DZ

Activity notes for teachers

This activity enables children to identify the important points in a short non-fiction passage that presents them with a few details on the life of a cocoa farmer in Ghana. The activity could provide an opportunity to revise and extend note-taking while the passage is read to them.

Children should have the opportunity to discuss the main points raised by the passage before writing a summary. This discussion can also provide an opportunity to identify the links between their own lives and those of other people in different parts of the world.

The activity also provides an opportunity for introducing the children to *Fair trade* products, and particularly *Divine* chocolate. This is produced by the Day Chocolate Company which uses cocoa beans from the 'Kuapa Kokoo' co-operative, an association of 30,000 small-scale cocoa growers in Ghana. The farmers are paid a guaranteed premium above the world market rate for their cocoa beans, which means that money is ploughed back into village communities.

Other suggested activities focusing on *Divine* chocolate:

- A blind tasting competition between *Divine* and a well known established brand
- Discuss the slogan used for *Divine* chocolate: **Heavenly milk chocolate with a heart** and consider why it has been chosen. Ask children to think of alternative appropriate slogans for *Divine* chocolate
- See also activity and action ideas for further chocolate activities

This literacy activity is based on the OXFAM pack: **Making a meal of it!** A photaset and activity pack for 7 to 11 year old, looking at food issues around the world. (Oxfam GB 1998)

Further resources

The following is a list of titles which will offer opportunities for further activities on issues of *Fairtrade* for KS2. They should be available through your local Development Education Centre (DEC).

The Clothes Line	Oxfam
Go Bananas	Oxfam
Making a Meal of It	Oxfam
The Whole World cake Aid	Christian

Free leaflets available from Christian Aid: *People friendly coffee* and *Time for Tea*.

Dubble, the Fairtrade chocolate bar has a teachers/pupils website offering free primary packs about fair trade and chocolate
www.dubble.co.uk

LOCOCOCO

An exciting game involving trading in cocoa beans and Fairtrade chocolate. Learn about global trading issues and the Rights of the Child. Suitable for Year 6 upwards. English or Spanish. Price: £18 including p&p. Available from the Humanities Education Centre.

www.locococo.org

Oxfam 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ
Tel:01865 313600

Produce a range of global citizenship education packs. Education catalogue contains extensive range of resources across the curriculum. To order phone 01202 712933. Also have a website dedicated to teachers and children which contains information and activities:
www.oxfam.org.uk/coolplanet

Feedback on these activity ideas would be much appreciated. Comments can be sent to HEC or your local DEC or made via the Global Footprints website.

Further ideas, contacts and

Chocolate

Chocolate is one of the most popular foods in the Western world. It is dependent on a supply of cocoa from developing countries. Yet, ironically most cocoa farmers have never tasted a manufactured bar of chocolate.

Our appetite for chocolate continues to grow: the best selling chocolate bar in the UK, *Kit Kat*, is consumed at the rate of 50 every second! On average £40 is spent per person per year on chocolate in the UK. Yet just three companies, Nestlé, Mars and Cadbury's, are responsible for over four fifths of all chocolate sales in the UK.

There is therefore enormous scope for the expansion of *Fair trade* chocolate, guaranteeing cocoa farmers a better deal.

The main *Fair trade* brands are *Divine*, a milk chocolate aimed at competing with popular UK milk chocolate brands, and *Green and Black's* who offer a range of high cocoa solids chocolate.



- ☆ Examine the wrapping of a well-known brand and compare it with that of a Green and Black or *Divine* chocolate bar wrapper. Ask children to list the similarities and differences between the wrappers.
- ☆ Ask children to name and design a wrapper for a *Fair trade* chocolate bar. What features should the wrapping contain? (Attractive eye-catching wrapper, ingredients, *Fairtrade Mark*, contact address of manufacturing company and information inside on the benefits of purchasing *Fair trade* products).
- ☆ Design a poster advertising *Fair trade* chocolate.

Staffroom action on *Fair trade*

The most obvious practical way that a school can demonstrate its commitment to *Fair trade* is by ensuring that all tea and coffee in the staffroom is fairly traded. See the list of Fair Traders for details of the extensive list of suppliers of *Fair trade* products.

Your local DEC:

Fair Traders

Cafédirect (and teadirect) 66 Clifton Street, London EC2A 4HB

☎ 020 7422 0730 www.cafedirect.co.uk

Coffee and tea sold in all major supermarkets. Supply large tins of coffee suitable for staffroom bulk purchase.

Divine The Day Chocolate Company, 4 Gainsford Street,

London SE1 2NE ☎ 020 7378 6550 e-mail:

info@divinechocolate.com

Fair Trade dark and milk chocolate. Also produce *Dubble* bar
www.divinechocolate.com

Equal Exchange 10A Queensferry St, Edinburgh, EH2 4PG

www.equalexchange.co.uk

Organic teas, coffees, honey, brazil nuts, peanut butter

Green & Black's PO Box 1937, London W11

www.greenandblacks.com

A range of chocolates as well as ice-cream and hot chocolate

Traidcraft Kingsway, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear NE11 0NE

☎ 0191 491 0591 www.Traidcraft.co.UK

A full range of food products.

Where to find out more

The Fairtrade Foundation, Suite 205, 16 Baldwin's Gardens,

London EC1N 7RJ ☎ 020 7405 5942

e-mail: mail@Fairtrade.org.uk www.Fairtrade.org.uk

British Association of Fair Trade Shops (BAFTS) c/o Gateway

World Shop, Market Place, Durham DH1 3NJ www.bafts.org.uk

Development Education Centres (DECs)

This resource was produced by two DECs: Humanities Education Centre, Tower Hamlets and RISC in Reading. Your local DEC will be able to provide a range of exciting resource ideas for the teaching of Global Citizenship.

To find your nearest DEC contact the

Development Education Association,

29-31 Cowper Street, London, EC2A 4AP

☎ 020 7490 8108 e-mail devedeassoc@gn.apc.org

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