

OUR ETHICAL FOOTPRINT: HOW WHAT WE BUY IMPACTS GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS

Program Details:

Estimated Time: 1 hour

This program is designed to get students thinking about the international impact of our choices as consumers. We will learn what it means to be an ethical consumer and how it relates to upholding human rights for all. Students will engage in inquiry-based group work, using case studies on three familiar consumer goods, to better understand what goes into the making of products around the world and the potential ethical concerns to be aware of when purchasing products.

Students will examine three case studies:

- Cell Phones
- Coffee
- Chocolate

Preparations:

- Assign working groups
- Each group will need:
 - 1-2 spokespeople to share the group's thoughts with the class
 - (Optional) 1-2 note takers to record highlights of the group's discussion
 - IF USING INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK
 - Web-connected electronic device capable of accessing PDFs
 - Interactive Notebook pdf file
 - This file can be used in any PDF reader but works especially well in GoodNotes or other PDF annotation apps.
 - IF USING PRINTABLE WORKBOOK
 - Print workbooks with the following settings:
 - 2 pages per page
 - Back and front of page, flipped on the short side
 - Writing utensils

Program Outline:

- Mindful Moment
 - Some of the content included in this lesson can be emotionally difficult. A grounding exercise helps students focus and prepare for the lesson as well as helping with emotional regulation.
 - [30 Second Breathing Exercise for Students](#)
- Introduction to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Ethical Consumption
 - IF USING INTERACTIVE PDF

- The first two sections include text, images, and videos to introduce students to both Ethical Consumption and the UDHR
- IF USING PRINTABLE WORKBOOKS
 - Utilize the text and media included in the interactive pdf to introduce students to the content. You may want to show the pdf and click through with students or feel free to take the included information and incorporate it into your own presentation file.
- Group Work
 - Timed reading of case studies
 - One student per group selected to share the basics of their case study
 - Timed discussion questions
 - IF USING INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK
 - Questions are on the left page of each case study section.
 - IF USING PRINTABLE WORKBOOK
 - Questions are on the inside of the workbook and can be displayed on a presentation screen if needed
 - Groups will be invited to share their thoughts on each question, as time allows.
- Wrap Up
 - Discuss some ways to be a more ethical consumer and point students to resources for shopping ethically. See the resource section in the interactive pdf for some helpful links.