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# ACTIVITY: FAIRTRADE TEA SUPPLY CHAIN GAME

## Objective:

This activity helps pupils understand how Fairtrade tea gets from the farm to the cup and how Fairtrade works with farmers and workers by ensuring fair work conditions, fairer pay and a say in important decisions.

## Materials Needed:

- Whiteboard/ large poster paper
- Pens
- Cards with simple roles written on them:
  - Farmer
  - Worker
  - Cooperative
  - Transport worker
  - Tea factory worker
  - Supermarket worker
  - Consumer
- Understanding Fairtrade: Price, Premium, and Standards cards
- Role play ideas
- Other “Brew it Fair” resources for reference

## Activity:

### 1. Introduction to Fairtrade (5-10 minutes)

Start by explaining what Fairtrade is:

- Fairtrade is about farmers and workers getting treated fairly and paid fairly for the things they grow or make.
- Farmers grow tea plants.
- Workers pick tea leaves.
- The tea is processed and exported to consumer countries.
- The tea is packaged.
- The tea is sent to shops where people like us can buy it.

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Talk briefly about:

- **Fairtrade Minimum Price:** It ensures farmers and workers get a fair amount of money for their tea, even if the price changes.
- **Fairtrade Premium:** Fairtrade is extra money that farmers can spend on their families and build things like schools or clinics.
- **Fairtrade Standards:** Rules to make sure farmers and workers are treated fairly, that the environment is protected and that they can make decisions about their work.

## 2. Making the Fairtrade tea supply chain (10 minutes)

Step 1: Give out roles

- Give each child a card with a role (include several of all apart from the cooperative)
  - Farmer
  - Worker
  - Cooperative
  - Transport worker
  - Tea factory worker
  - Supermarket worker
  - Consumer

Step 2: Draw the tea supply chain

- On a large poster or whiteboard, draw a simple chain from farmer to consumer.
- Draw a tea farmer growing tea.
- Draw a worker picking tea.
- Draw a group of farmers and workers working together.
- Draw the tea being loaded on boats to be sent to the UK.
- Draw a factory where the tea is packaged.
- Draw a lorry taking the tea to the shop.
- Draw a shop where tea is sold.
- Draw a cup for the consumer.
- Ask pupils to place their cards in the right order from farm to cup.

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### 3. Fairtrade role play (15 minutes)

#### A. Fairtrade Minimum Price

- Role play: Have the Farmer (student) explain how important it is to be paid fairly for their tea, even when prices in the world market go down.
- When the price of tea goes down, the Fairtrade Minimum Price helps me know I'll still get enough money to feed my family.

#### B. Fairtrade Premium

- Role play: The Cooperative (a small group of farmers) discusses how to use the Fairtrade Premium money. They might decide to build a school, a clean water supply, or buy better farming tools.
- We have extra money, and we want to use it to make our community better!

#### C. Decisions

- Role play: Have the Farmer and Worker talk about how they get to vote on decisions that affect their lives.
- We help decide how to spend the extra money and what is best for our community.

### 4. Discussion: Fairtrade and the environment (10 minutes)

Ask the group questions:

- How do you think Fairtrade farmers protect the environment?

### 5. Plenary (5-10 minutes)

Ask the group:

- How does Fairtrade support farmers?
- Answer: It ensures they earn a fairer wage, have safe work, and use extra money for their community.
- Why is it important to have fair prices for tea?
- Answer: So farmers and workers can be treated fairly.
- What can we do to help Fairtrade?

Answer: We can buy Fairtrade products like tea, tell others about Fairtrade.

#### Final Action:

Encourage pupils to support Fairtrade:

- Choose Fairtrade tea and other products whenever you can.
- Tell your friends and family about Fairtrade and how it supports farmers.

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## ROLE CARDS

<b>tea farmer</b>	<b>tea farmer</b>	<b>tea farmer</b>
<b>tea farmer</b>	<b>tea farmer</b>	<b>tea worker</b>
<b>tea worker</b>	<b>tea worker</b>	<b>tea cooperative (tea farmers and workers)</b>
<b>transport worker</b>	<b>transport worker</b>	<b>tea factory worker</b>
<b>supermarket worker</b>	<b>tea factory worker</b>	<b>supermarket worker</b>
<b>consumer</b>	<b>consumer</b>	<b>consumer</b>

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## UNDERSTANDING FAIRTRADE: PRICE, PREMIUM, AND STANDARDS

### **FAIRTRADE MINIMUM PRICE**

It ensures farmers and workers get a fair amount of money for their tea, even if the price changes.

### **FAIRTRADE PREMIUM**

Fairtrade is extra money that farmers can spend on their families and build things like schools or clinics.

### **FAIRTRADE STANDARDS**

Rules to make sure farmers and workers are treated fairly, that the environment is protected and that they can make decisions about their work.

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## ROLE PLAY IDEAS

### **FARMER EXPLAINING THE BENEFITS OF FAIRTRADE MINIMUM PRICE**

Hi, my name is Asha, and I grow tea with my family in the highlands. Every day, we work hard - planting, picking, and preparing the leaves that end up in your cup. But sometimes, the price of tea in the world market drops so low that it's hard to even cover our costs.

That's why the Fairtrade Minimum Price is so important to me. It means that no matter what happens in the global market, I'll still earn enough to feed my children, send them to school, and keep our farm going. It gives me peace of mind and dignity in my work.

Fairtrade isn't just about money - it's about fairness, respect, and a future. When you choose Fairtrade tea, you're choosing to stand with farmers like me.

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## FAIRTRADE ROLE PLAY IDEAS

### FARMERS DISCUSSING HOW TO USE THE FAIRTRADE PREMIUM IN A COOPERATIVE MEETING

#### **Priya**

Welcome everyone! As members of our tea farming cooperative, we've received some extra money from the Fairtrade Premium. Now we get to decide how to use it to help our community. Any ideas?

#### **Rohan**

I think we should build a school. Lots of children in our village have to walk very far to get to class. If we had a school nearby, more kids could learn and have a better future.

#### **Meena**

That's a great idea! But what about clean water? Some families still have to collect water from far away, and it's not always safe. We could use the money to build a well or a water pump.

#### **Deepa**

I agree those are important. But we also need better tools for farming. If we had stronger equipment, we could grow more tea and earn more money for the cooperative—and then maybe we could afford both a school and clean water!

#### **Priya**

These are all amazing ideas. Let's vote and make a plan. No matter what we choose, we're using our Fairtrade Premium to make life better for everyone. That's the power of working together!

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## FAIRTRADE ROLE PLAY IDEAS

### FARMER AND WORKER DISCUSSING DECISION MAKING IN A FAIRTRADE COOPERATIVE

**Characters:**

- **Farmer Amina** – experienced tea grower, respected in the community.
- **Worker Ravi** – younger worker, passionate about education and health.

**Amina (Farmer):**

Ben, are you coming to the Fairtrade committee meeting tomorrow?

**Ravi (Worker):**

Definitely. I've been thinking about what we should vote for. There's talk about building a health clinic, buying new desks for the school, or starting a clean water project.

**Amina:**

All good ideas. Last year, we voted to build proper toilets for the school. Before that, the children had to use the bushes. Now they have clean, safe bathrooms.

**Ravi:**

And the year before, we used the Fairtrade Premium to buy protective gear for the workers—gloves, boots, and raincoats. That made a big difference, especially during the rainy season.

**Amina:**

I remember when we voted to set up evening classes for adults. My cousin learned to read and write because of that. Now she helps with record-keeping on the farm.

**Ravi:**

It's amazing how much we've done. And it's not just the managers deciding—we all get a vote. That's what makes Fairtrade different.

**Amina:**

Exactly. We earn extra money from selling our tea through Fairtrade, and we decide how to use it to help our community. It's not charity—it's empowerment.

**Ravi:**

I'm leaning toward the health clinic. Some of the older workers have been getting sick, and the nearest doctor is over an hour away.

**Amina:**

That's a strong idea. I'll talk to the others and see what they think. Then we can decide tomorrow.

**Ravi:**

It's good to know our voices matter. We're not just working—we're helping shape our future.