



Global issue: child labour

Themes: causes of child labour, poverty, education, child slavery, WE Villages, global action

Video link: <https://player.vimeo.com/video/277691986>

These discussion questions are designed to deepen your students' learning experience. Once you have watched the video, use these questions to test your students' knowledge, cement their understanding and introduce more complex themes and ideas. Students should be encouraged to share and discuss their opinions with their peers, developing their communication, argument formation, information literacy and critical thinking skills. Whilst we have differentiated the questions for primary and secondary age groups, feel free to mix and match the questions as appropriate for your group.

Primary

- 1) What is child labour? How does this make you feel?
- 2) Why does child labour exist?
- 3) Where do child labourers tend to work? Are these safe places for children to work in?
- 4) How would you feel if at a very young age, you had to go to work every day?
- 5) What does WE Villages do to take a stand against child labour?
- 6) How can you take positive steps to raise awareness of child labour?

P.T.O. for secondary age group discussion questions...



Secondary

Suggested responses, definitions and additional resources have been included for some of the secondary questions, enabling you to facilitate a meaningful discussion and enhance your students' knowledge.

- 1) How did watching this video make you feel?
- 2) What are the key things you learned from this video? What facts did you learn?
- 3) How can improving access to education help to end child labour?

Suggested responses include:

- With access to an education, children have the option of attending school, instead of working. When a school's environment is conducive to learning, schools have water access and provide a daily meal, children are also more likely to be permitted to attend.
- When parents are educated about the value and long-term economic benefits of schooling, they are more likely to send their children to school.

Please visit [WE.org/gb/we-at-school/we-schools/issues-backgrounders/global-child-labour/](https://www.we.org/gb/we-at-school/we-schools/issues-backgrounders/global-child-labour/) to learn more.

- 4) Why might parents prefer their children to work, rather than go to school?

Suggested responses include:

- Families who are living in poverty may need the extra income to ensure their survival.
- In many countries, secondary education is not free and families are unable to afford it.
- Families who live many miles from a source of water often need their children's help to fetch water.
- Illness might prevent parents from going to work themselves.
- Many parents will never have attended school and may not see how it can improve their children's futures.
- Children are a cheaper source of labour than adults, often making it easier for children to find employment.

- 5) What is the difference between child labour and child slavery?

Definitions:

- **Child labour:** Work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. Child labour tends to be undertaken when the child is in the care of their parents.
- **Child slavery:** Child slavery is the enforced exploitation of a child for their labour for someone else's gain.

Please visit www.antislavery.org/slavery-today/child-slavery/ to learn more.

- 6) What actions could you take to help end child labour?

Make a positive impact to your global community and learn more about child labour issues with our WE Are Silent fundraising initiatives at [WE.org/gb/wearesilent](https://www.we.org/gb/wearesilent).