



# Global Footprints

Promoting global learning in schools

## Global Footprints: The Real Histories Directory May website of the Month!

The Real Histories Directory was set up by the Runnymede Trust as an online resource tool for teachers, parents, pupils and the wider community, to encourage teaching and learning about cultural diversity across the UK. The explanation for the selection outlined the origin of the website in the Global Footprints project in which participating schools had access to a range of exciting and stimulating activities that addressed issues of global citizenship and sustainable development and provided an opportunity to explore the social, global and ecological impacts of lifestyle choices and issues of global interdependence. The Real Histories Directory then highlighted areas from the website:



“ For children, there are pages that give factual information about sustainability and games that reinforce the points made; the quiz raises questions about, for example, equality, diversity, the environment, bullying and the legitimacy of war in an age-appropriate way. HEC have also created a number of 'webquests' that help children to research issues like homelessness, refugees, water and health, Fair Trade and local democracy and to create powerpoints, web pages, animation and videos on their work.

For teachers, there are classroom activities and National Curriculum Numeracy and Literacy initiatives under the topics of war, energy, fair trade, transport, waste & recycling along with a school Global Footprint audit that explores ways in which schools can examine, measure and reduce their impact on the environment, resulting in a footprint that takes into account wider school community issues. According to HEC 'A school might consider, for example, the effects of an anti-bullying strategy on the social development of the school, or the implications of purchasing fair trade products on sustainable development and justice for producer communities in the south.'



Global Footprints has international partners who seek to empower some of their country's most excluded and vulnerable children. They include a street children programme in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Young Photographers of Guatemala and young Saharawi living in refugee camps in the Algerian desert.

HEC admit that 'the concept of the "Global Footprint" presented difficulties in terms of measurement,' but it allowed them 'to use a symbolic rather than quantifiable tool for measuring and comparing the effects of attitudes and behaviour as a starting point for change.'



Resources are available in English, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish.

The website might be used as a teaching resource for Geography, PHSE or Citizenship teaching at Key Stages 1&2 and certainly as a starting point for examining issues such as globalisation, sustainability, equality and the environment.



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## HEC Fair Trade Gift Shop



We have Fair trade cards, arts and craft, toys and many more items. For everyone in your family, friends and your pupils

The items come from Soma Books Ltd. This is a fair-trade organisation specialising in traditional folk and tribal craft of India. All items reflect their commitment to fair pricing and by providing continuous work to the same groups, Soma has helped bring economic stability to their lives.

Choose from a range of items – everything from:

- mirrors and pictures frames to masks and musical instruments
- bangles and bells to candles and cushion covers
- purses and toys to paper products and magnets
- range of cards, which are ideal for every occasion

## Fair Trade Bag for Sale Support Bow Boy School Community Project

Bow Boys School has designed and commissioned a Fairtrade bag as part of their ASDAN work. You can buy these beautiful bags at HEC, special price for teachers £3.



## The expansion of the Tower Hamlets Schools Linking Project

The Schools Linking Project links schools that have contrasting demographics or locations with one another to promote active citizenship and community cohesion. Linking activities include school to school visits, joint trips to neutral venues, e communication through email and video conferencing via LGfL and letter writing.

The Schools Linking Project began in Bradford in 2001 and has been piloted with five pairs of Tower Hamlets primary for the past two years. Current participating schools are:

- Bangabandhu and St. Agnes
- John Scurr and Old Palace
- St. Peter's and Virginia
- Canon Barnet and St. Saviour's
- Stewart Headlam and St. Elizabeth's



From September 2008 the Schools Linking Project will be extended to 30 other boroughs around the country with funding from the DCSF 2008-9. As part of the expansion of the project are looking for **10 more Tower Hamlets primary and secondary schools** to join the project from **September 2008** so if your school is interested being involved or would like more information please contact Sophie Mackay on 0207 364 6405 or by email on [sophie.mackay@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:sophie.mackay@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

The **Humanities Education Centre** promotes the values, aims and principles of development education and global citizenship through all areas of education.

### Our Aims are:-

- To provide opportunities for schools to raise standards through curriculum enrichment and giving young people a voice.
- To promote a global perspective and understanding of sustainable development in the context of an interdependent system of lands and people.
- To engender an appreciation and celebration of the richness of cultural diversity in our, and other communities.
- To maintain and develop the resources to support curriculum development and provide in-service training and advice to teachers.
- To raise awareness among young people of the causes of injustice and inequality in a local, national and international context and to instil an understanding and empathy for oppressed peoples.

## The Bengal Box

The Humanities Education Centre's exciting new resource for secondary schools, **The Bengal Box**, was launched at the Museum in Docklands on 4 June.



Tower Hamlets Mayor  
Mohammed Abdus Salique

Mayor Mohammed Abdus Salique attended and in a short speech he warmly welcomed **The Bengal Box** and hoped to see such an interesting and useful resource used in every school and in the wider community.

The Box is part of a Tower Hamlets funded project for all schools which explores the links between Bengal, the British Empire and Tower Hamlets. The project was inspired by the British Museum's successful **Voices of Bengal** season in autumn 2006.

The box contains a collection of pictures and documents, some examples of the spices and fabrics that were traded, a facsimile of images from the British Museum's Gazi scroll, maps and information booklets, a briefing leaflet on *Fair Trade and the East India Company*, a timeline covering the period 1400 to the present day and other notes, teachers' notes and other information.



HEC's aim in creating **The Bengal Box** is to support the study of history and citizenship from the perspective of ideas about social justice and human rights, diversity and interdependence and the other key concepts of development education.



## Young Fair Trade Ambassadors for London launch

Following on from our successful Fair Trade Event for young people across London held on the 21st January, we have now launched a new fair trade scheme, Young Fair Trade Ambassadors for London.

On Friday 23rd May 2008 at London City Hall the first Young Fair Trade Ambassadors for London took part in workshops and pledged their commitment for action involving the whole school and community. There were teams of students from; St. James' Catholic High School in Barnet; Swanlea School in Tower Hamlets; St Ursula's Convent School in Greenwich; Kingsford Community School in Newham; and Glebe School in Bromley.

The launch focused on child exploitation in the garment industry and how this can be challenged, working towards an International Children's Rights Week event in November at City Hall.

If your school is interested in joining the first Young Fair Trade Ambassadors for London email: [sharifa.khanom@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:sharifa.khanom@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

## Celebration of World's Most Famous Co-operative and Democratic Schools

Summerhill and St George's-in-the-East, the two most famous examples of co-operative and democratic schools, were explored by over sixty young people and adults from London schools and colleges.

Two parallel workshops were held at the House of Commons, hosted by Gwyn Prosser MP. Ex-students from Summerhill had participants role-playing a democratic meeting looking at law making and justice. The other was run by Professor Michael Fielding, from the Institute of Education, and ex-staff and students from St George's.

The day was launched by Mervyn Wilson, Principal of the Co-op College, who promoted their recent publication about the importance and role of co-ops in schools, with a foreword by Minister Ed Balls MP.

St George's-in-the-East, Cable Street, was run by headteacher, Alexander Bloom, as a world famous school based on co-operation and participation. It had a very strong structure of student democratic representation, with student diaries that the Head allowed as a way of student feedback on their teaching and lives. Prof Fielding is creating materials to encourage teachers and young people to use St George's as a model of good practice.

After a boat trip to City Hall, John Biggs GLA member hosted a presentation on London Government and a Summerhill School democratic meeting. The school had travelled down from Suffolk for the event. Summerhill's principal, staff and students then answered questions about the school.

The day ended with two quotes: "What cannot be doubted is that a piece of fascinating and valuable educational research is going on here which it would do all educationalists good to see."

HMI Report on Summerhill 1949

"A vision of what the new form of secondary school can be."  
HMI Report on St George's 1948



## Peer Training for School Councils



George Green students work with the Mayor of Tower Hamlets 2007-8, Ann Jackson, to train primary school councillors.

George Green school and year councillors have been working with five local primary schools as part of the Borough's Children and Young People's Plan for positive contribution. They have been into the schools, to run whole morning sessions with Key Stage 2 children on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and student voice in their school. This has been followed up by a session with the primary school councils in Tower

Hamlets town hall with the Mayor, looking at creating a school council constitution and policy statements. Support activities and resources can be found on the HEC website [www.citizenship-pieces.org.uk](http://www.citizenship-pieces.org.uk)

## Highlights on the Humanities Education Centre's websites



[www.citizenship-pieces.org.uk](http://www.citizenship-pieces.org.uk)

### Citizenship Pieces

Find out about sustainability and schools through a whole set of useful websites, and there is a new webquest on empowering school councils through constitution and policy making.



[www.eastendeye.org.uk](http://www.eastendeye.org.uk)

### What's New

Anti-knife Crime  
Design an poster competition

Find out about the Global Dimension

[Eastendtalking.org.uk](http://Eastendtalking.org.uk)



[www.eastendtalking.org.uk](http://www.eastendtalking.org.uk)

### Our History

We are updating our History section, adding more Local Legends researched by local historian Rosemary Taylor and illustrated with images for classroom use.



[www.globalfootprints.org](http://www.globalfootprints.org)

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The Real Histories Directory  
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See cover for details

## 'Food Production and Selling' Learning Day

According to the UN, over half the world's population have a livelihood made more secure and fair through co-operatives. Co-operatives around the world employ 20% more people than multi-nationals. The United Nations sees Co-ops as a way that the poor and powerless can start to take control of their lives and get a fair wage. These were the underlying values behind thirty children from three schools visiting Waitrose, having a tour of Mudchute Farm and then interviewing staff from Waitrose about retailing food.

Waitrose is one of the country's most successful retailers and has a very strong ethos of ethical buying and ensuring its suppliers are treated fairly. Its workers call each other 'partners' as they all equally own and democratically run the business. It is a type of co-operative.

The children from Cayley, Kobi Nazrul and Glebe Schools are running or planning to run co-ops that sell food. This is part of a DfID funded project getting businesses into schools with an active global citizenship agenda.



Children interviewing Waitrose staff member, Sophy Fuchs, Marketing, Community and Charities Manager, who helped organise the day.



Tom, the Mudchute Farmer, saying how useless llamas are as farm animals in the UK.

## Exploring Gypsy and Traveller Life



25th June to 9th July 2008

Idea Store, Bow

1 Gladstone Place, Roman Road, E3 5ES

Exhibition of photographs images and stories as part of the national Gypsy Roma Traveller History month celebrations  
If you would like to find out more about the Gypsy, Roma Traveller community history and culture why not visit [www.grthm.co.uk](http://www.grthm.co.uk)

The exhibition has been developed with the support of Tower Hamlets Local Area Partnership, in conjunction with the Eleanor Street Residents Group, London Gypsy and Traveller Unit youth project and some of the local schools in LAP 5 & 6.

The Idea Store, Bow is also organising a storytelling session for local schools and children's centres on the 8th July