Teaching notes

The second of three one-hour lessons for Year 7 students. The topic of this lesson is exchange and barter. The first and third lessons can be found by going to www.teachitcitizenship.co.uk and searching for 23292 and 23911.

Learning objective: to understand barter and exchange.

Resources:

- letter to parents/carers (p.3)
- unwanted items for students to exchange (their own and some extra in case they forget to bring any)
- a sugar paper sun and moon
- PowerPoint slide of rules (downloadable from www.teachitcitizenship.co.uk by searching for 23292).

‘Market day’ or ‘Swap shop’ activity

In advance of the lesson

On the day of the activity, each student needs to bring in up to three unwanted items which they think they could exchange for other items with class members.

Prior to the activity, send home a letter to parents, asking permission for their child to take part in the market day in order to avoid any possible upset and to ensure the students are aware that they will not get the object or objects back.

On the day of the activity

Stick a sugar paper sun on the board to signify the start of the day.

Display the list of rules for behaviour (on PowerPoint and below):
Market day rules

1. Trading (exchanging) will start when the sun comes up and stop when the moon comes up.

2. You can make as many exchanges/trades as you like while the market is open.

3. Please only trade with one villager at a time. If someone is engaged in a discussion, please don’t approach them.

4. You don’t have to trade if you don’t want to. Don’t force any fellow villager to make an exchange.

5. While the market is open you can continue to trade, but once the market is closed no more trades may be made.

6. Respect all village folk and deal with each other in a civil and courteous manner.

7. Please use a quiet voice in the market so that village folk can hear each other.

8. The village leader (the teacher) will deal with any disputes in the market and the leader’s decision is final.

9. Please return to your homes (seats) once the market has closed.

The market will continue until the sun goes down (i.e. when you remove the sun and replace it with the moon). At that point the market is closed and no more transactions can take place.

Assessment

Ask students to write a letter to the village leader in support of the new market day system or a letter of complaint if they felt the system was unfair or flawed in any way.
Dear Parent/Carer

On [date] your child is invited to take part in a Market day / Swap shop activity in class.

For this activity, he/she will need to bring in up to three items to exchange with classmates. Please note that these items will not be returned.

If you are happy for your child to take part in this activity, please could you sign the detachable slip below and give it to your child to return to me.

With many thanks and best wishes

[Your name]
Teacher

I give permission for my child to take part in the Market day / Swap shop activity on [date]. I understand that the items he/she takes to class for exchanging will not be returned.

Your child’s name (please write in capitals): .................................................................

Your name (please write in capitals): ...........................................................................

Your signature: .................................................................................................

Date: .................................................................................................