A divided world?

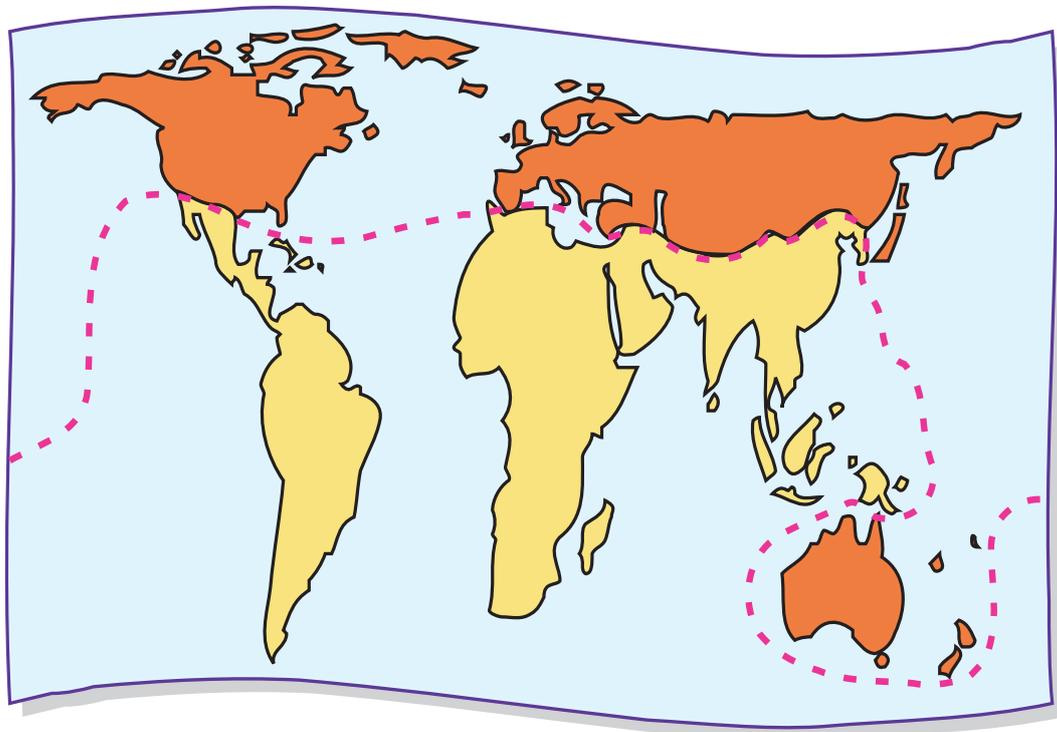## Distribution of world resources – CAFOD introductory exercise

Aim

To illustrate the unfair distribution of the world's resources.

Although the world has ample resources, the distribution is grossly uneven. This means that people living in some parts of the world have very little while others have too much.

You will need

- 20 food tokens
- 20 money tokens
- 20 education tokens
- 20 healthcare tokens
- placards with names of continents written on them.

Information for game

This game can be played by first giving out tokens for one resource (eg Food) and then discussing it, or giving out tokens for all the resources and discussing them all together at the end.

How to play

- Select pupils to represent the population of the continents according to the percentages below. These can be approximate. *(Percentages are also shown in numbers based on a group of 20 people.)*

- Distribute the four different resources – food, money, education and health care – according to the Resources distribution table opposite. Distribute the food by continent and the other resources by groupings of rich countries (Europe and North America) and poor countries (the rest).

Each continent group holds a placard with its name on it.

Population distribution (with 20 people representing the world)

Asia (excluding Japan)	**57%** of world population	11 people
Europe and CIS (Russia, Commonwealth of Independent States)	**15%** of world population	3 people
Africa	**12%** of world population	2 people
Latin America and the Caribbean	**8%** of world population	2 people
North America (including Japan & Australia)	**8%** of world population	2 people

Resources distribution table

1 Food

Asia	**15%** of the world's food	3 food tokens	} Poor countries 20%
Africa	**5%** of the world's food	1 food tokens	
Latin America	**10%** of the world's food	2 food tokens	
Europe	**50%** of the world's food	10 food tokens	} Rich countries 80%
North America	**20%** of the world's food	4 food tokens	

2 Money

The **rich world** gets	**85%** of the world's wealth	17 money tokens
The **poor world** gets	**15%** of the world's wealth	3 money tokens

3 Education

The **rich world** gets	**89%** of the world's education resources	18 education tokens
The **poor world** gets	**11%** of the world's education resources	2 education tokens

4 Health care

The **rich world** gets	**94%** of the world's medical and health care	19 health tokens
The **poor world** gets	**6%** of the world's medical and health care	$^1/_2$ health tokens

Suggestions for discussion

- How do those representing the continents feel about their situation?

- How do you think Asia should feel about this when they have most of the world's population?

- Did you learn anything new about the way the world is divided?

- Should the rich world be willing to share what they have? How could this be done?

- Get the whole group to take a careful look at the situation and ask them to make some suggestions as to how they would set about creating a fairer world for all.

- Get the group to suggest some reasons why the resources of the world are so unfairly divided. (Examples for teacher: historical, geographical, economical, political.)

- Relate the way the world is divided to the Millennium Development Goals (see Primary and Secondary Fairground Spring 2004).

- Illustrate the statistics using graphs or pie charts or symbols on a Peters Projection Map of the world.

- Find out similar statistics about how the world is divided (eg by religion, skin colour).
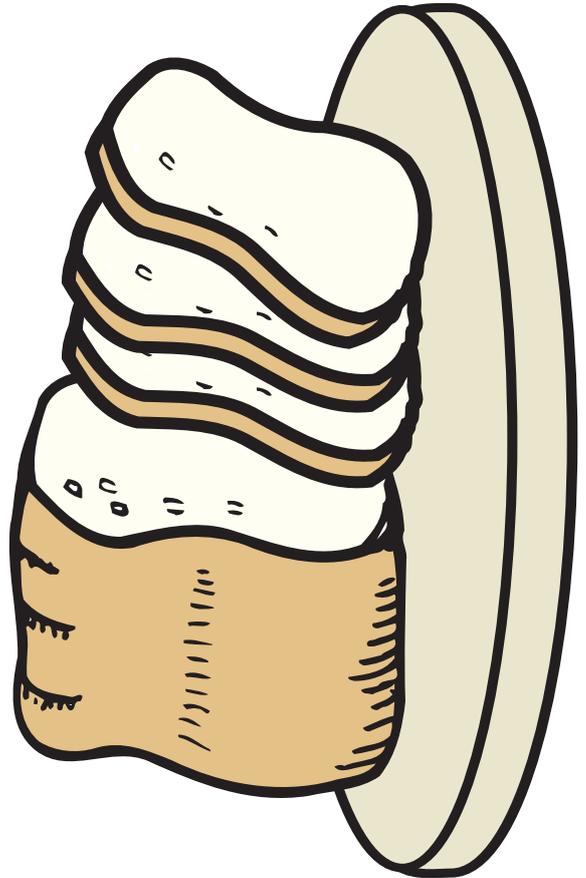
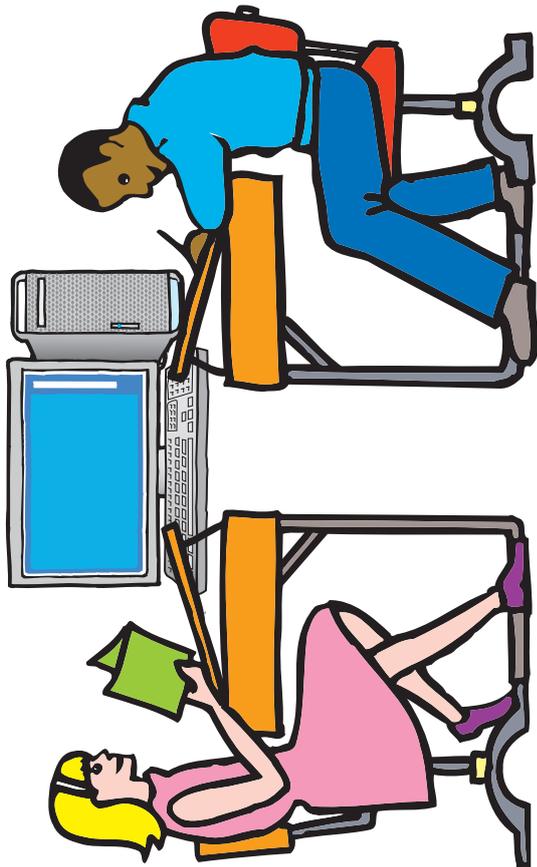# A divided world? game tokens

Photocopy this sheet and cut out the tokens

Money token

Food token

Education token

Health care token