

GO-GIVERS

Make a Difference Challenge

SPRING/SUMMER 2017

What is the Make a Difference Challenge?

The Make a Difference Challenge is a **child-led active citizenship project for KS2** that supports pupils in identifying, researching and addressing a cause that they democratically choose to do something about, by developing an awareness-raising campaign, fundraising or taking direct action. It presents an opportunity for children to take the lead in making a difference to their communities. It provides an excellent context for meaningful **SMSC learning, literacy, numeracy** and **personal development** and supports **Pupil Voice**.

How does the project work?

The project runs January–July and involves the following stages:

- **Teacher Training Day**

Participating teachers attend a full day's training session to equip them with materials, ideas and activities to scaffold the project and facilitate children's learning.

- **Children choose their project focus**

Back in school, teachers introduce the project and facilitate the decision-making process as children choose the cause or issue they wish to champion.

- **Children research their topic**

Children gather views of the local community, engage with beneficiaries and identify the areas where they can contribute, making links with relevant organisations.

- **Children take action to 'make a difference'**

Children implement their action plan to raise awareness, fundraise and/or take direct action.

- **Project scrapbook is submitted**

Scrapbooks documenting the children's project are submitted and judged to select which schools are invited to present their work at a special Celebration Event.

- **Celebration Event**

Representatives from local schools make persuasive presentations about their cause to local VIPs at a Celebration Event held at a convenient venue.

How much time will it take?

The Make a Difference Challenge will take as much time as you are able to devote to it but, on average, schools spend 18 hours on the project. Bearing in mind the cross-curricular nature of the challenge, we recommend that activity is not restricted to PSHCE lessons and is run by the class teacher so they are able to use it as a meaningful context for learning in other subjects.

For more information visit <http://www.gogivers.org/teachers/make-a-difference/> and view sample campaigns at: <http://www.gogivers.org/kids/case-studies/> or <https://www.youtube.com/user/GoGiversMADC>



An independent randomised control trial carried out by the Cabinet Office to evaluate the impact of the project found a **"significant increase in measures of empathy, problem solving, determination/resilience and community orientation"** in children who had participated in the 2014/15 Make a Difference Challenge in Kent and Birmingham.

How do I sign up?

Email Victoria Quijada: Victoria.quijada@citizenshipfoundation.org.uk for a booking form, or write to: Go-Givers, Citizenship Foundation, Universal House, 88-94 Wentworth Street, London E1 7SA.

As the Make a Difference Challenge is supported by the Pears Foundation, we are able to offer the programme at a subsidised rate of £160 per school. This price includes CPD training, all teaching resources and ongoing support.



"The children got so much out of this project, academically and socially."