



# CHILD LABOUR LESSON PLAN

Children as young as eight years old are working on Indonesian palm oil plantations. Teach your students about child labour and how we can all help end this human rights abuse.



#### **Curriculum relevance:**

Australian Geography Curriculum K-10

- Stage 4 Place and Liveability
- Stage 5 Human well being

Australian English Curriculum K-10

Objective D

65 minutes

Lesson structure:



After completion of this lesson students will:

**Objectives:** 

- Understand the human rights and environmental issues associated with the production of palm oil
- Understand key vocabulary
- Have responded to a range of text types



This resource has website links to video assets. Please view this toolkit on your computer to click through to the assets.

ACTIVITY	RESOURCES	TIME
Intro discussion: Children in schools or at work		5 mins
Vocabulary exercises	<ul> <li>Students are to complete the following, (included at the end of this lesson plan as hand-outs):</li> <li>Find-a-word</li> <li>Crossword</li> </ul>	10 mins
Video watching and response:	<u>Video: Fruits of their Labour</u> While watching the video students are to answer	15 mins
	the following questions in note form.	
	<ol> <li>What are the main problems for people working in palm oil plantations identified in the video?</li> </ol>	
	2. What is the name of the Palm Oil production company mentioned in the video?	
	3. In what country are the palm oil plantations featured in this video?	
	4. How are women workers discriminated against on the palm oil plantations?	
	5. Why are toxic chemicals used in producing palm oil?	
	6. What are the risks to people working with those chemicals?	
	7. How old are the children who work on the palm oil plantations?	
	8. Name six products that contain palm oil.	
	<ol><li>Name four companies that use palm oil in their products.</li></ol>	
	10. What is Amnesty International asking people to do to help fix the problems for the people who work on palm oil plantations?	

Post-video research	<ol> <li>The video is produced by Amnesty International.</li> <li>What sort of organisation is Amnesty International?</li> <li>What does Amnesty International do?</li> <li>Who funds Amnesty International?</li> <li>What international prize was Amnesty International awarded in 1977?</li> </ol>	5 mins
Imaginary writing	Imagine you are the maker of this documentary. You would like to add 3 minutes of a detailed look at a typical day of one of the children working on the palm oil plantation. Create a storyboard for this sequence. <b>Resource:</b> <u>How to create a storyboard for your</u> <u>video shoot</u>	10 mins
Letter/email writing	Write a letter or email to one of the company's using Wilmar's palm oil in its products. Tell the company why you are concerned and what you would like them to do to fix the situation. See the letter writing guide at the end of this document for tips	10 mins
Video	10 mins	

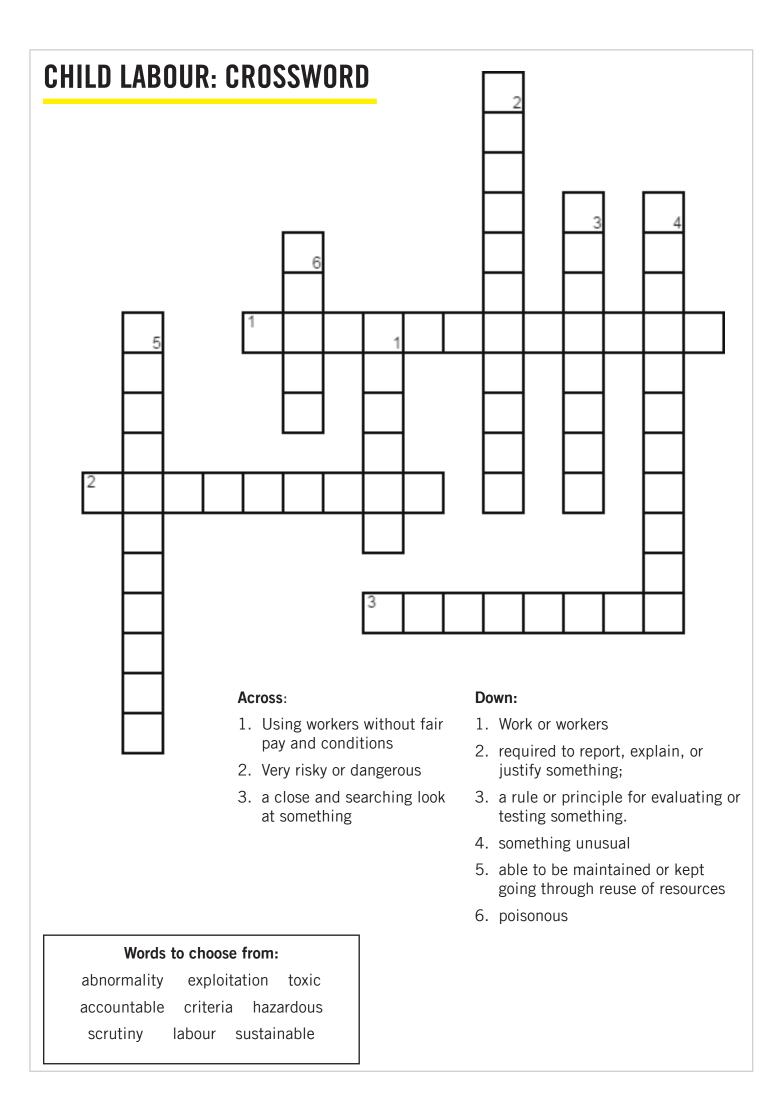
#### Amnesty International campaigns for a world where human rights are enjoyed by all.

For more information about Amnesty's child labour campaign please visit  $\underline{www.amnesty.org.au}$ 

For more student resources or to get in touch with Amnesty's schools team visit www.amnesty.org.au/student-resources

Amnesty International Australia | ABN 64 002 806 233 | www.amnesty.org.au | 1300 300 920 | supporter@amnesty.org.au





### WORD SEARCH

## Child Labour

F	I	Ε	Ι	V	L	S	Ε	L	Ε	Y	С	L	Т	TOXIC	
S	V	F	Ρ	Α	Α	Ε	Х	Α	Α	Т	т	Y	Т	CULTIVATE FOREMAN CASUAL PENALISE EXPLOITATION WAGE ABNORMALITY OVERTIME CRITERIA SCRUTINY HARVESTER SUSTAINABLE HAZARDOUS LABOUR	
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Ν	Ι	U	Ε	R	Ε	В	S	N	Ι	L	H	С	Ι		

Play this puzzle online at : http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/194474/

### **LETTER WRITING TIPS**

- Always be polite. You want to stop human rights abuse by persuading the people involved to take immediate action.
- It is good to give them an idea of who and what you are. Tell them your age and which town and country you live in. It will prove your letter is genuine and show the target that different people from across the world are watching.
- If you use to be a customer of the brand, it is good to mention this in your letter.
- Use plain language rather than technical terms.
- Be brief. Try to write one page at the most, as long letters are less likely to be read. Sometimes just one paragraph can get your message across.
- Include Amnesty International's specific calls on how to improve the situation (see dot points in letter below). Amnesty has carefully researched the situation and developed an appropriate and respectful course of action.
- Emphasise how the person you are writing to has the power to make a difference.
- To end your letter, you can say 'Yours truly' or 'Yours sincerely'. Some people prefer to use the more formal 'Yours respectfully' or 'Yours faithfully'.

#### Dear Colgate

My name is Sandy and I am a 15-year-old student at Brisbane State High School. As one of your customers, I am extremely concerned after hearing reports of a range of labour rights abuses on the plantations operated by palm oil giant Wilmar and its suppliers in Indonesia – from which you source some of your palm oil.

*I am shocked that children as young as eight alongside other workers at these plantations continue to suffer severe labour rights abuses – despite your company's promises to customers that there will be no exploitation in your palm oil supply chains.* 

I ask you to:

- Tell palm oil giant Wilmar to stop abusing children's right and improve their working practices immediately.
- Address, in cooperation with Wilmar, the harms suffered by children, as well as all other workers, who have been involved in hazardous work on plantations.
- Publicly disclose which of your products contains palm oil from Wilmar's Indonesian operations.

Your company can really make a difference in ending child labour, and I hope to hear about your immediate action to end this and other human rights abuses on palm oil plantations.

Yours sincerely

Sandy

