

Picture News



How might your life be different if you weren't able to go to school?

Six months after the Taliban seized power in Kabul, Afghanistan, there have been big changes to the lives of many in the country, particularly for the younger generation. The BBC has reported that more and more Afghan children are having to work to help support themselves and their families. As many people have not been paid for months, some children have had to work and earn money, instead of going to school. The Taliban also declared that girls would no longer be able to attend secondary school. Some schools are campaigning hard to remain open for all pupils.



- Look at this week's poster. Does anyone know where in the world this is? Explain that it is a school in Afghanistan. Does anyone know where Afghanistan is? Find the country on a map or globe or look at the map slide.
- A group called the Taliban took over the country in August 2021 and many things have changed for people living there. Two of the key things that have changed are that many people have become unemployed and lots of children no longer have access to or are able to attend school. How do you think these two things are affecting people living there?
- Read the assembly resource, which provides information about education and life in Afghanistan. Think about what education means to you. How do you think going to school will affect your life in the future?
- Watch this week's useful video, which shows some children who need to work to help support their families. Discuss how difficult the situation must be for some of the families there.

Reflection

Having access to school and education is something that many are lucky to have. Learning about our world can help us grow into informed citizens, who want to make the world a better place for us all to enjoy.

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KS1 focus

How are schools around the world different?



- Think about your school day. What do you wear to school? How do you get to school? What do you learn in your lessons e.g. maths, PE, writing? What do you do at breaktimes? What do you have for lunch? Who are the adults in your school?
- Explain that there are many different schools around the world. Have you ever been to a different school somewhere else in the world? Do you know anybody who has?
- Look at resource 1, where some children share some information about what their school is like. How are their schools different from your school? Can you locate the country where each of these children go to school on a world map?
- Discuss how all schools, wherever they are in the world, are different. Some children go to school in a building, on a boat or even outside. Some children start school at different ages, different times of day. Some children wear a uniform and others do not.
- Do you think there is anything that will be the same in all schools around the world? Will all schools have a teacher? Do all schools help children learn?
- Think about your school. What do you like about school? Is there anything you don't enjoy?

Reflection

Every school in the world is different but all schools should be places where we can learn.

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KS2 focus

What are the components of a good learning environment



- Write the words 'learning environment' on the board. What do you think a learning environment is?
- Explain that a learning environment can include the learning resources and technology we use, the ways we are taught and where we are. The best learning environments optimise (make something as good or as efficient as possible) our ability to learn.
- Look at resource 2, which shares some elements that might make up a learning environment. Which of these do you think optimises your ability to learn? Can you think of anything else e.g. learning outside? Does everyone agree or do some people in your class prefer different learning environments?
- Think about the learning environment in your school and your classroom. Do you have a school motto? Do you have some class expectations e.g. challenge yourself, be kind, be resilient? Explain that these form part of our learning environment.
- Share some of the things that help you learn in your classroom and some of the ways you prefer to learn e.g. do you prefer to write things down, listen or discuss?

Reflection

A learning environment can affect our ability to learn. The best learning environments will help us reach our potential.



KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Often the adults in our families help us to choose the school we will go to. They might look around the school, talk to the headteacher, look at the school website and read a school prospectus to help them choose.

- Can you plan and write a leaflet about your school that could be shared with people?

Think about:

- Introduction – where your school is, how many children, your school motto/values
- Lessons/subjects you take part in
- Breaks and lunchtimes
- School clubs
- Uniform
- What makes your school special

Option 2

Some schools or classes have their own song as a way to unite everyone and share what is important. Think about your class and your learning environment.

- What is special about your class?
- Do you have any class rules or expectations?
- Can you describe your learning environment?

Use these to inspire lyrics and create your very own class song.



KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Discuss your timetable for the school day.

- Which sessions are you most looking forward to?
- Are there any sessions you do not want to do?
- What time is lunch?
- When does school finish?
- How long is your break?

Imagine you could plan your school day! Share everything you would do for the day. You could do this through pictures, record as a list or even create your own timetable. Once you have finished, explain your day to somebody else.

Challenge – can you share what time you will do some of your sessions?

Option 2

Write a letter to share some information about your school. Think about:

- What time does school start and finish?
- What do you wear to school?
- What subjects do you learn?
- How do you travel to school?
- What is your favourite part of the day?

Send the letter to another school (somewhere else in the world if possible). You could include some photographs and pictures too!



This week's useful websites

This week's news story

www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-60236826

This week's useful videos

Life in Afghanistan for children
www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/59881582

This week's virtual assembly

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This week's vocabulary

Declared

Openly or formally stated or announced something. The Taliban also **declared** that girls would no longer be able to attend secondary school.

Generation

All the people born and living at about the same time. There have been big changes to the lives of many in the country, particularly for the younger **generation**.

Informed

Having or showing knowledge of a subject or situation.

Learning about our world can help us grow into **informed** citizens, who want to make the world a better place for us all to enjoy.

Seized

To take using sudden force.

Six months after the Taliban **seized** power in Kabul, Afghanistan...

Taliban

An Islamic political and military organisation. A group called the **Taliban** took over the country in August 2021.

Unemployed

Not having a job.

Two of the key things that have changed are that many people have become **unemployed** and lots of children no longer have access to or are able to attend school.