

Transcript from pupil presentation at the Developing Global Citizens conference run by WOSDEC on Oct 23 2009.

Pupils are P6 from Westercommon Primary, Possil Park, Glasgow

Jolene	Good Morning. My name is Jolene Warren and I'm reporting at the conference on Developing Global Citizens. I am joined today by Alex, Caitlin and Emma from Westercommon Primary, where I hear you've been exploring some global issues. Can you tell me more about these?
Caitlin	Well, one of the things we did was learn about climate change through our electricity topic. We looked at lots of photos of the effects of climate change and asked lots of questions to start us off.
Alex	The photos showed places in Scotland and around the world. We learned about floods and droughts and the biggest question we thought was 'why are there more and more of these?'
Emma	So we discovered how our lives here and all the electricity we use and the things we but affect people all round the world.
Caitlin	We wanted to know what we could do to help, so we found out about renewable energy and had an assembly to tell our families more that we can do in our homes.
Alex	And everyone signed a petition.
Emma	And we had a debate where we all had different parts to play.
Jolene	Ok, so what other big issues have you explored?
Caitlin	Well we also looked at working children through our Victorians topic.
Alex	Our teacher asked us at the start whether we agreed or disagreed with the statement 'children should never work'. We all had different opinions, but Mrs Ellis said that was ok as long as we could explain why.
Emma	By the end of the topic some of the class had changed their minds.
Jolene	Did you change your mind?
Emma	Yes, at the start I thought that I really disagreed but by the end I was kind of in the middle because I had looked at lost of different situations.
Jolene	That's really interesting. It also sounds like you really enjoyed it – did you?
Caitlin	I thought that stuff was brilliant. I really liked when we did role plays and discussion. We compared our lives to children in other countries and we noticed that there are lots more similarities than differences.

Emma	I really enjoyed working in groups thinking about my own opinions. I liked when my ideas changed and coming to compromises. And we learned about boycotts. It really made me think a lot about stuff. Even when I was in town with my mum and I saw a poster saying 'Boycott Israel' I thought that we need to find out both sides of the story.
Jolene	What about you Alex?
Alex	I was fascinated when we learned all the reasons why children have to work and that sometimes they want to work or they really have to work so their families can eat. It made me think about being a caring person.
Jolene	So do you all see yourselves as Global Citizens?
Alex	Maybe in the future when I'm grown up.
Caitlin	But why not at this age? There's lots of things we can do.
Emma	Yeah, remember in school when we did the influence map and we thought about who influenced us in our families, friends and even round the world, and then we thought about the other way round, like who we can influence in our families and round the world and stuff.
Caitlin	And Alex remember when we go the MSP Patricia Ferguson to come to our Global Week assembly? And the whole school wrote poems to Gordon Brown?
Alex	Oh yeah, that was when we were learning about the Millenium Development Goals and we made a brick wall and each brick had a different barrier to education. That was really good.
Jolene	Ok, so why do you think it's important to care about making a difference?
Caitlin	Well I think we need to teach other people about looking after our planet.
Alex	It's not just the environment, we need to care about the people too, like people getting along better in the future, to make the world a better place to live in.
Emma	I agree with both of you. The adults have had their turn, now it's up to us.
Jolene	Well this is what we think. (<i>turn to audience</i>) What do you think?