



I Want One!

The first MDG is to “eradicate extreme poverty and hunger”. In order to claim that this goal is reached the UN set a target of halving the number of people who live on less than a dollar (US) a day from 1990 level. This is an ambitious yet achievable target. It is ambitious because currently around 1.1 billion people live on less than a dollar a day. It is achievable because, if shared well, there are enough resources on the planet to better support those who are in deepest need.

I Want One! is designed to help students discriminate between ‘Needs’ and ‘Wants’ and to help them understand some of the difficulties faced by those who are forced to live in extreme poverty.

You will need:

- A stack of junk mail
- Scissors
- 4 Envelopes per pair of student (with labels)
- Copies of ‘**I Want One**’ labels

Step 1

Distribute junk mail to students sitting in small groups. Draw two intersecting circles on the board. Label one **NEEDS** and the other **WANTS**. Ask students to browse the junk mail and call out items that might fit in either circle. You are likely to have some healthy disagreement amongst your students about what constitutes a ‘need’. Discuss the differences between wants and needs. You can also discuss the things that don’t fit neatly into either category.

Step 2

Distribute labelled envelopes and scissors to student in pairs. Have students browse, select and cut out items from the junk mail that correspond to the four labels.

Step 3

After students have a number of items in each envelope clear away the mountain of clippings and invite students to discuss the contents of their envelopes:

- Which envelope had the most items? Why?
- Which envelope had the least items? Why?
- How hard was it to decide which envelope an item should go into?
- Did you always agree with your partner about what was a ‘need’ and what was a ‘want’?

Step 4

If time allows, invite students to compare their findings and envelopes with another pair.

Step 5

Inform students that around 1 in 6 people on the planet live on less than a dollar a day. Discuss what the contents of the envelopes would tell

us about this situation. Discuss the sorts of hard decisions people living in extreme poverty might need to make.

Step 6

Let students know about the first MDG. Search the internet for work being done to meet this goal. If you're stuck for places to start have a look at www.symbiosis-int.org

I Want One! - Labels for Student Envelopes

NEED More than \$1	WANT More than \$1	NEED Less than \$1	WANT Less than \$1
NEED More than \$1	WANT More than \$1	NEED Less than \$1	WANT Less than \$1
NEED More than \$1	WANT More than \$1	NEED Less than \$1	WANT Less than \$1
NEED More than \$1	WANT More than \$1	NEED Less than \$1	WANT Less than \$1
NEED More than \$1	WANT More than \$1	NEED Less than \$1	WANT Less than \$1
NEED More than \$1	WANT More than \$1	NEED Less than \$1	WANT Less than \$1
NEED More than \$1	WANT More than \$1	NEED Less than \$1	WANT Less than \$1
NEED More than \$1	WANT More than \$1	NEED Less than \$1	WANT Less than \$1
NEED More than \$1	WANT More than \$1	NEED Less than \$1	WANT Less than \$1

NB There are sets of four different labels on this page!