

Child Labor Today

Subject: History/Social Studies/Current Affairs/Labor Laws

Grades: 7-12

Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Research● Writing● Critical Thinking	Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Access to internet● Link to Canva or other free interactive infographic creator
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Summary:

Children around the world are routinely engaged in paid and unpaid forms of work that are not harmful to them. However, they are classified as child laborers when they are either too young to work or are involved in hazardous activities that may compromise their physical, mental, social or educational development. In the least developed countries, slightly more than one in four children (ages 5 to 17) are engaged in labor that is considered detrimental to their health and development. In the world's poorest countries, slightly more than one in five children are engaged in work that is potentially harmful to their health. *From Unicef

A report by risk analysis firm [Maplecroft](#), which ranks 197 countries, identifies Eritrea, Somalia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar, Sudan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Zimbabwe and Yemen as the 10 places where child labor is most prevalent.

Countries with high poverty rates fare badly in the index due to the need for children to supplement their family income, the report said, but economically important countries like China, India, Russia and Brazil were also found to have extreme risks because child labor laws are often poorly enforced.

Instructions:

Students will research countries from around the world engaged in child labor today and create an infographic page to show what they have learned. Students may work independently to research their country or in groups.

Divide students into groups of 2-3 (or may work independently) and assign them one of the following countries: Somalia, Pakistan, Nigeria, Myanmar, Liberia, India, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Chad and Bangladesh. Students will use [World Atlas](#),

[Britannica](#), or similar database to learn basic information about their country, the [conditions for child workers](#), and [major products](#) children produce in each country. Use the attached sheet below to gather information.

Students will demonstrate their knowledge by creating an infographic poster using Canva or another free infographic maker. Using the information gathered on the research sheet below students will create and print an infographic of their country to share with the class.

Extension Activity

Take Action: Investigate organizations that are working to end child labor around the world. Some examples are [UNICEF](#), [The Stop Child Labor Coalition](#), [International Initiative to End Child Labor](#), and [International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labor \(IPEC\)](#) and identify ways students can get involved.

Writing Prompt: What is the difference between children working and child labor? Explain.

Name(s): _____ Date: _____

Child Labor Around the World Today Information Gathering Sheet

Assigned Country: _____

Basic Information

Capital:	Continent:	Population:
Major cities:	Currency:	GDP:
Languages spoken:	Currency:	Type of government:

Child Labor Information

Estimated number of child laborers:	Major industries children work in:	Age range of child laborers:
Major reasons for large number of child laborers:	% of population engaged in child labor:	% of children in school:
Some of the major hazards child laborers face:		

