



## Clothes of the World

Help make your Scouts more aware of the impact of fashion on the global economy and environment with part one of the Global Issues Badge.

# SCOUTS



20/ 30 minutes

### EQUIPMENT

- Scouts bring in a selection of clothes from home
- A Large space

### Aim of Activity

Identify where your clothing or other belongings have been made. With other Scouts, talk about why companies might choose to have the items made in other countries. What are the advantages and disadvantages of overseas production? We live in a global community where products can be sourced from anywhere in the world and mass produced in a short time scale for low amounts of money. Things we buy in the UK can often be made in other countries at a very low cost because labour wages are lower. You could use the activity below to help Scouts to understand the global supply chain and explore why many of our belongings are produced in other countries. . Please turn over for activity

### Risk Assessment Considerations



**Leader support in group work**  
**Avoid creating trip hazards or blocking emergency exits.**

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### INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Before the session, ask your Scouts to bring in a spare item of clothing. It could be anything from a shoe to a scarf.**
- 2 Ask your Scouts to show the item they've brought with them. If they've forgotten, they can pick an item that they're currently wearing, where they can easily access the label.**
- 3 Explain to them that the meeting place floor is a world map and point out north, south, east, and west. Ask them to stand on the floor in the part of the world they think their item of clothing might have been made.**
- 4 Go around the room and ask the Scouts where in the world they are and something they know about that country. Then, ask Scouts to look at the label in their clothing to see where it was actually made.**
- 5 Next, ask Scouts why they think their clothing might have been made in that part of the world, and what the advantages and disadvantages of this are. Some ideas are provided below. The discussion could be completed together as a whole group, or Scouts could be grouped by Patrols or by where their item of clothing was made.**

#### ADVANTAGES

- Material may be available at a lower price.**
- Cost of labour may be cheaper because living costs are cheaper, so workers are generally paid lower wages.**
- Clothing may be cheaper for the customer to buy and/or the company can make more profits.**
- Some countries specialise in production of specific things and so can produce at a higher quality (eg Portugal and Spain are famous for making shoes).**

#### DISADVANTAGES

- Workers may not be paid a fair wage. There may be no minimum wage in the country, to ensure a fair wage for workers.**
- The company will need to pay for transport and charges like import tax.**
- Transporting clothing over long distances will have a negative impact on the environment.**
- Does not support clothing industry and jobs in the UK.**