This cross-curriculum resource enables pupils aged 9–14 years to find out about who makes the sportswear and sporting merchandise they buy. It brings alive the concepts of human rights, equality and fairness by telling the stories of people who make these goods in poorer countries, often working with few rights for poverty wages.

Pupils investigate what a ‘global supply chain’ is and how they and workers in poorer countries are connected through this chain. They debate some of the moral and ethical issues associated with the global trade in sportswear, and merchandise for major sporting events. Pupils explore human and trade union rights in relation to the world of work, and develop their understanding of why decent working conditions are part of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, which aim to end poverty by 2015.

By focusing on global connections, pupils are encouraged to think about the actions they can take to help create a fairer world. The lesson ideas and activities make links between different subjects including art and design, citizenship, English, geography and maths.

This pack has been produced for the Playfair 2012 project and campaign. The campaign calls on the sportswear industry and Olympic movement to ensure that the rights of workers making their products in global supply chains are respected, in line with internationally recognised standards and the UN Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

The campaign is coordinated by the Trades Union Congress (TUC) and Labour Behind the Label, and supported by more than 20 trade unions and campaigning organisations. While Playfair 2012 is focused on the London Olympic Games, it is part of the ongoing global Play Fair campaign calling for the rights of all workers involved in delivering world sporting events to be respected.