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Introduction

Refugee camps are places which provide temporary accommodation for people who are forced to leave their homes and countries. There are lots of reasons people have to flee and become refugees including war, persecution and hunger. Take a look at these images and see what you can learn about what life is like in a refugee camp.

Kate Evans

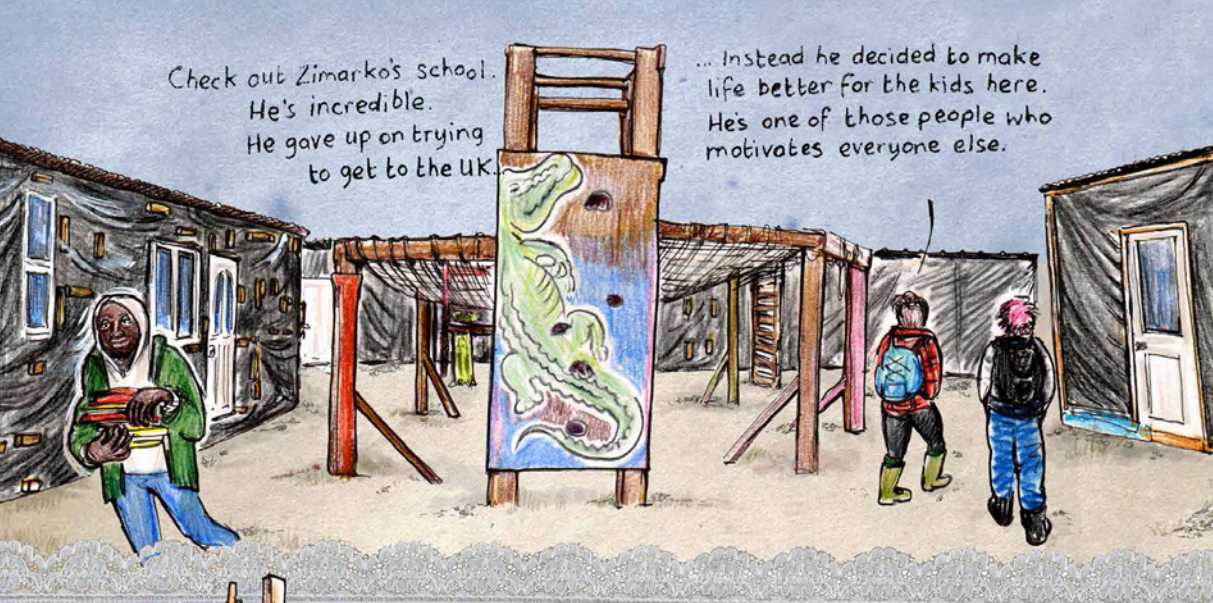
Page from Threads, 2016

Coloured pencil and collage

This page from the graphic novel Threads shows a family showing the artist round their temporary home in a camp in Calais, France.

- Why do you think the man says they are lucky?





Check out Zimarko's school.
He's incredible.
He gave up on trying
to get to the UK.

... Instead he decided to make
life better for the kids here.
He's one of those people who
motivates everyone else.



Cool playground!

I helped to
build that.

SCHOOL

How many
times have
you been
back
here?

I think this is... the fourth
time? It's like Pringles
- once you pop
you can't stop.

It's true.
Everyone I know
who has been to Calais
asks me when I'm going
back. Not if.
When.

BEEP BEEP

I got a
text
from
Cano.

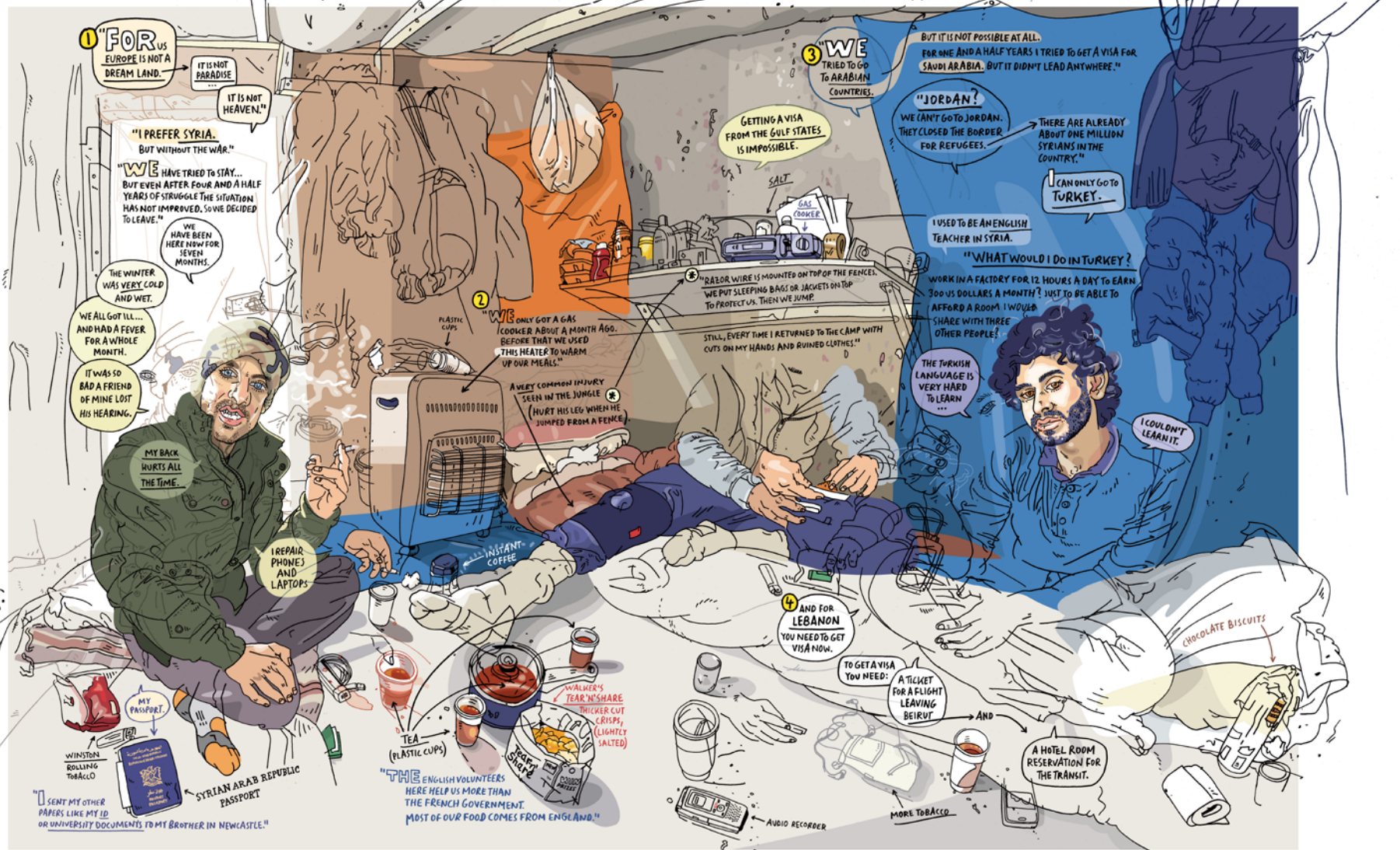
Kate Evans

Page of Threads, 2016

Coloured pencil and collage

This page shows a school and a playground that the man in the picture has built at the refugee camp.

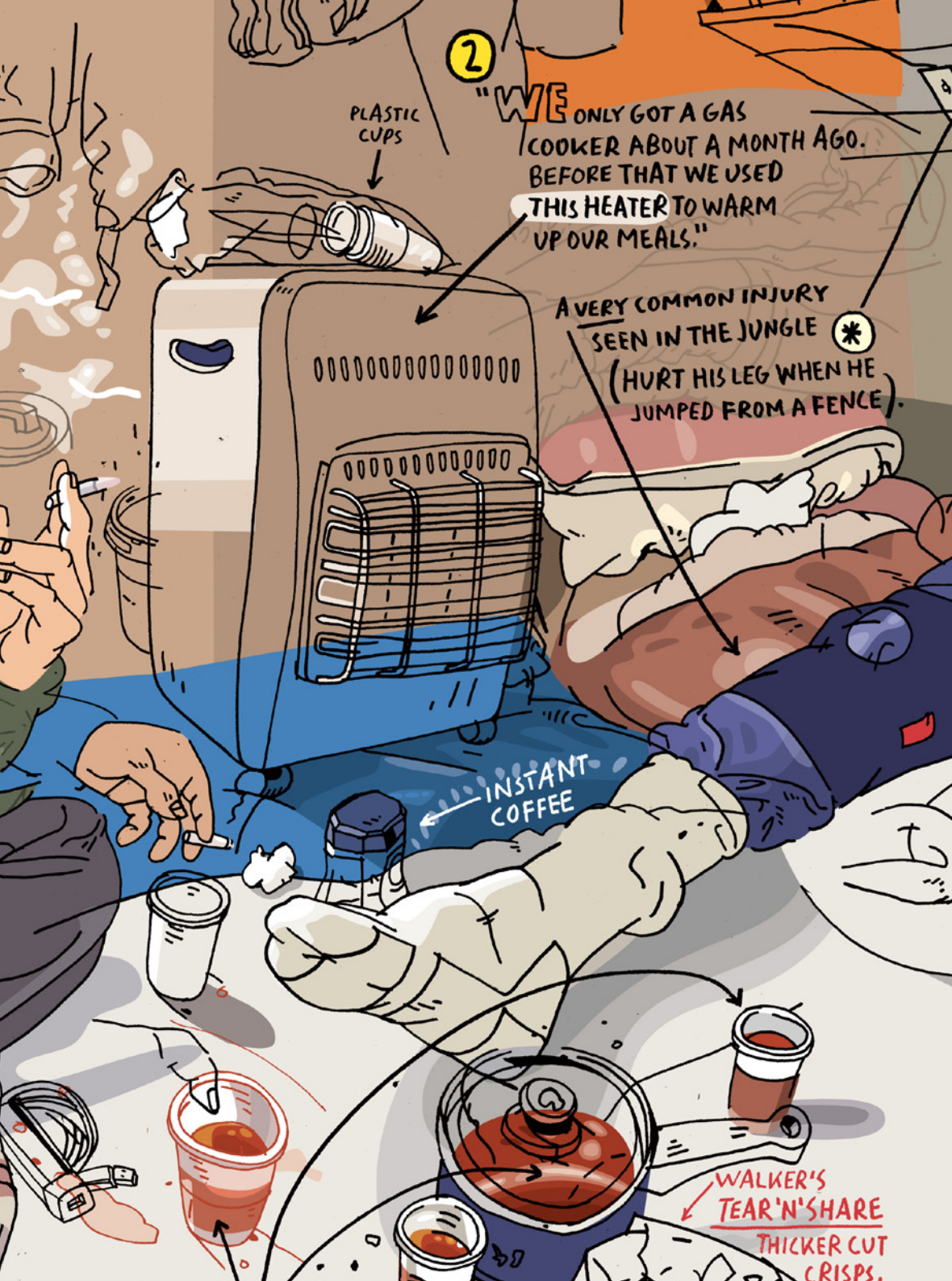
- Why do you think the man has built a school?
- Do you think it is important for all children to go to school? Why?
- Do you think children need to be able to play?



Olivier Kugler Calais (Ammar seated on left), 2016

Digital

- Why do you think the people in the picture are sitting on the floor?
- What kind of clothes are they wearing? What might that tell us about the weather and the place they are staying?



2

"WE ONLY GOT A GAS COOKER ABOUT A MONTH AGO. BEFORE THAT WE USED THIS HEATER TO WARM UP OUR MEALS."

PLASTIC CUPS

A VERY COMMON INJURY SEEN IN THE JUNGLE * (HURT HIS LEG WHEN HE JUMPED FROM A FENCE).

INSTANT COFFEE

WALKER'S TEAR'N'SHARE THICKER CUT CRISPS.

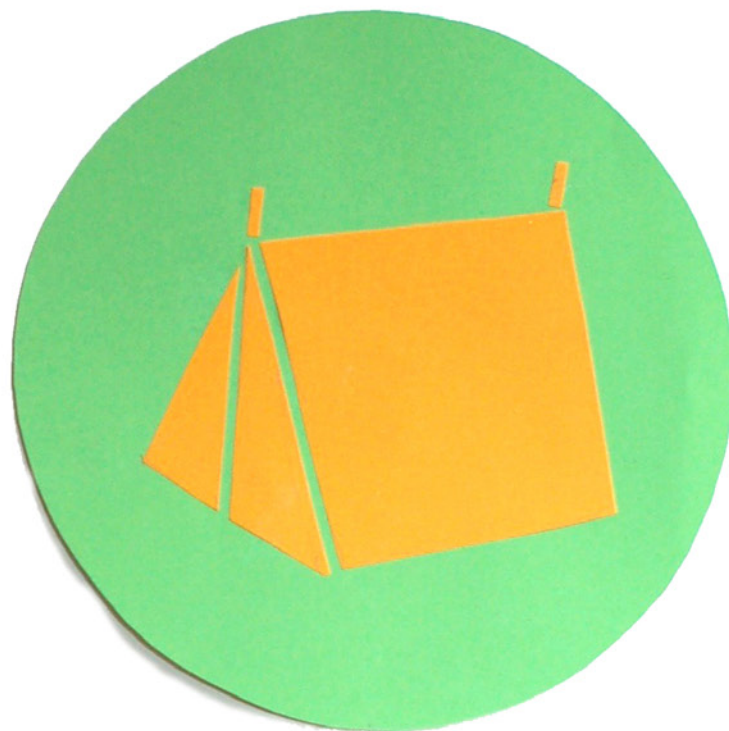
- What other things can you see in the picture that the two men need to look after themselves?
- What does the picture tell us at number 2 next to the picture of the heater?

Reflection

After looking at these images, discuss what all people including those staying in temporary homes need just to stay alive. What other things do you think all humans should have?

Make a list or mind map. Are some of these things more important than others?

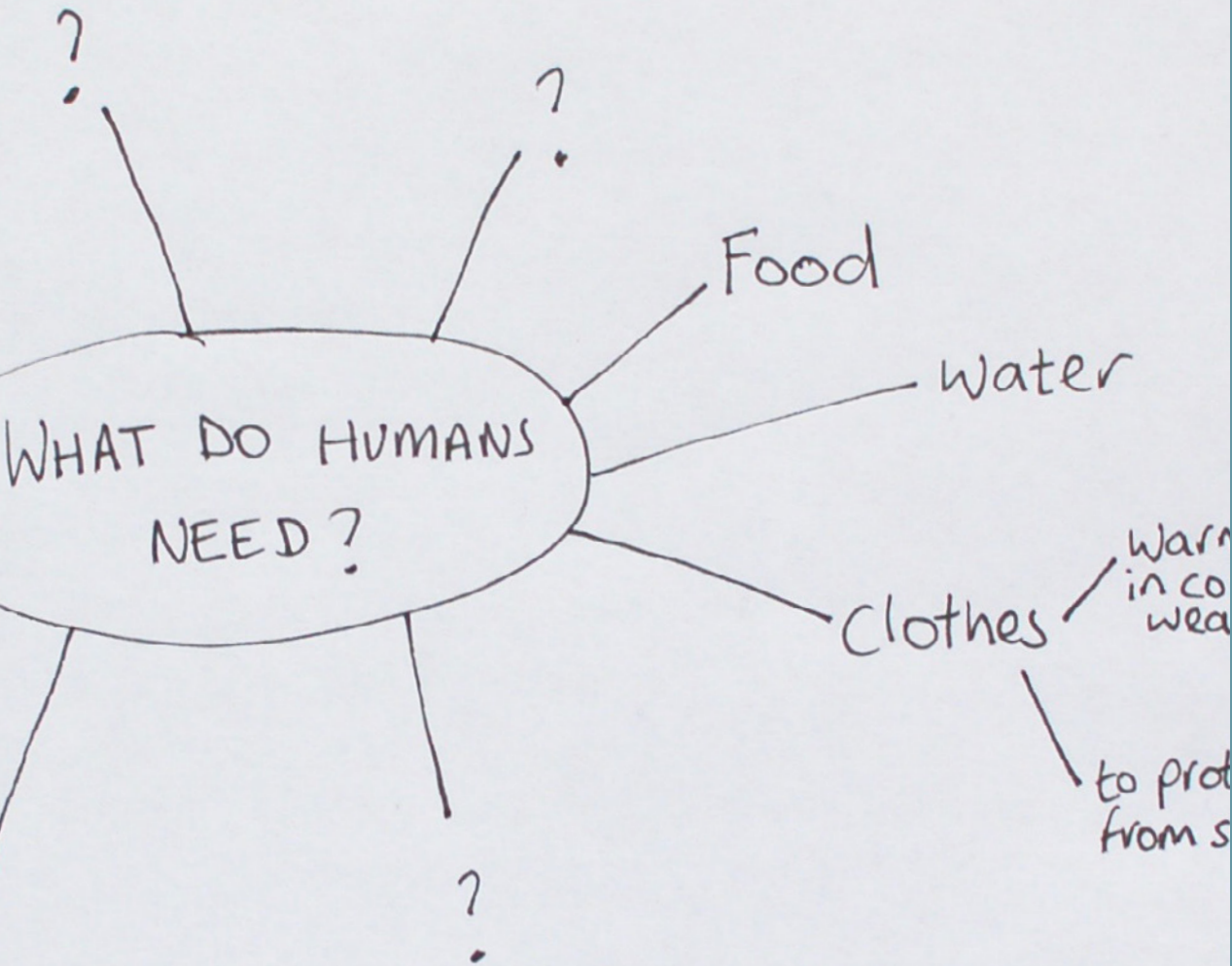
Activity



Materials:

- Sketchbooks
- Coloured paper - this could be coloured printer paper or sugar paper. A small or limited range makes for a good graphic result.
- Large white or coloured paper to mount work on - you could also mount work directly on the wall with blue tack.
- Pencils and rubbers
- Felt pens - only one per child in any colour
- Scissors
- Gluesticks
- Round things to draw around or compasses



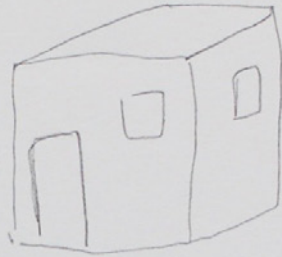
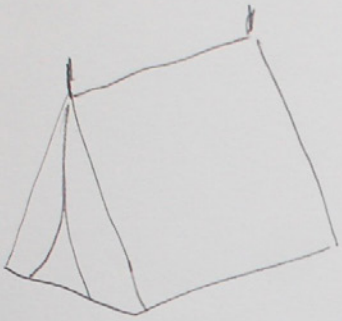


Split into groups of around six people.

Assign a different need to everyone in the group to illustrate from your list.

A poster or wall display needs to show the whole range of needs not just lots of the same one. Some needs will be more straightforward than others for example food or water will be much more obvious than more abstract needs like safety or warmth.

Shelter

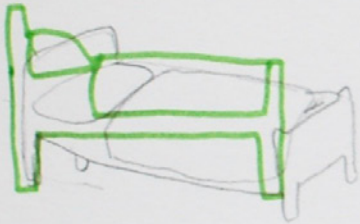
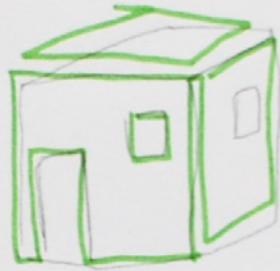
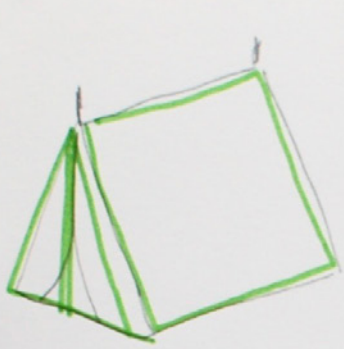


Sketch out at least 3 different images to symbolise your need in your sketchbook.

More abstract needs can be more symbolic whilst more literal ones will just need a bit of thought
Eg. is food best illustrated with a sandwich or a bowl of soup?



Shelter



Trace over your designs in a way that simplifies the ideas down into simple shapes.

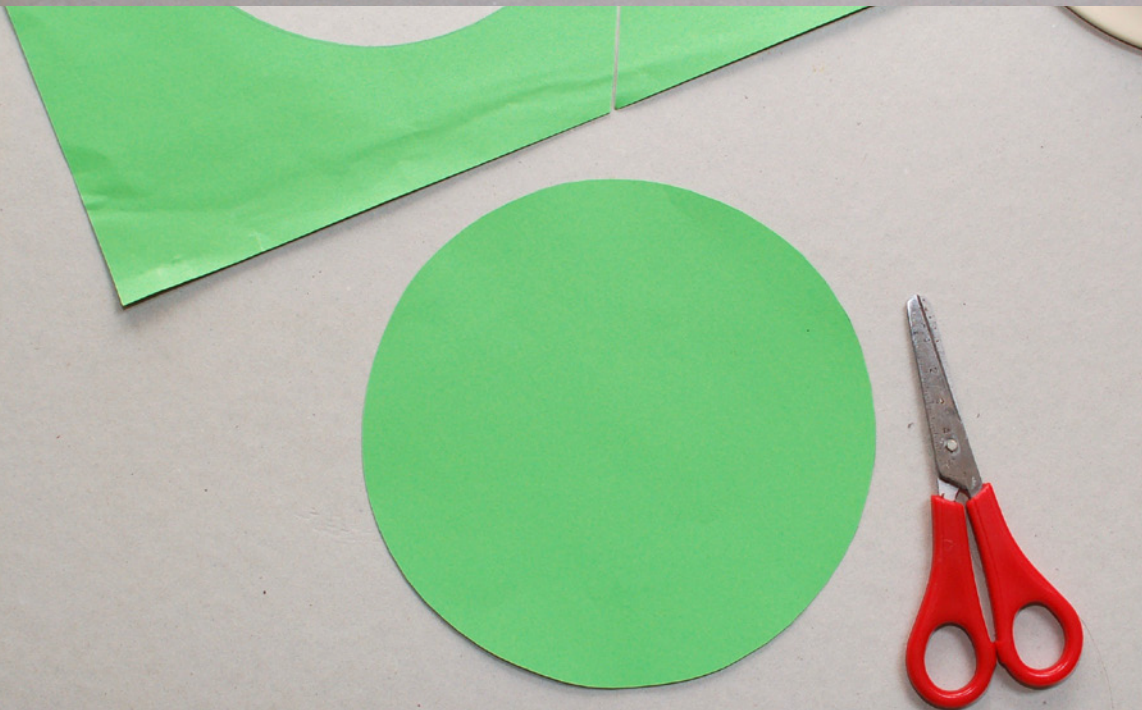
Pick the strongest one.





Pick a piece of coloured paper for the background. Draw a large circle on the paper by drawing round something circular (for example a paper plate or bowl). Cut the circle out as neatly as possible.

N.B., If circles are tricky other shapes could work too.



Using one or two different colours of paper, turn your design into collage shapes by sketching the shapes out onto the coloured paper and then cutting them out. Try to use only 2-3 different colours.

Remember to think carefully about making the size of your symbol fit nicely and fill your background shape.





Arrange your cut-out symbol pieces on your background circle. Glue the symbol into place. Make sure you rub out any pencil lines.



As a group arrange all your symbols of human needs onto a background paper or wall and decide together where to stick down the symbols.

Are some needs more important than others? Could you show that in the way you arrange them?

Extension ideas

This activity could lead on to discussing human rights. Amnesty International UK has [resources](#) on teaching this topic.

To create a different look for the illustrations, how about making your own collage colours by painting paper first? Or perhaps have a go at making a textile version using cut felt?