



## Aim

to examine the tasks that girls do as part of a normal day and the effect this has on their education

## Age

8 years and older

## Time

25 minutes

## Materials

copies of 'daily tasks', paper and art materials

## Note to Leader

This activity focuses on girls in India. If working with a group of boys, ask whether they think their own chores differ from those of girls.

## What to do

Everyone sits on chairs in a circle with the leader standing outside the circle. One person begins by saying one task that they do during the day. This continues around the circle. The leader then says 'Each day I...' and calls out a number of the tasks mentioned while walking around the circle. When their task is mentioned, the participants get up and follow the leader. If the leader shouts 'Bed time' everyone has to sit on a chair. Whoever is left without a chair takes over as leader and the old leader takes over their task.

After five minutes, break into groups of four and hand out copies of the 'daily tasks for poor girls in rural India'. Give the groups paper and art materials and ask them to present the information visually. Allow 10 minutes for this. Ask the groups to feed back and ask what was similar or different about their own lives and those of the girls in India. What did they find surprising? Would it have been different if it had been boys in India? Why? How does this affect their opportunity to get an education?

## Daily Tasks for Poor Girls in Rural India\*

### Always

- Sweeping, cleaning the house
- Washing utensils and clothes
- Lighting the fire and cooking
- Fetching water
- Going straight home after school
- Collecting fodder and fuel wood
- Washing up
- Collecting cow dung
- Feeding the cattle
- Caring for brothers and sisters

### Sometimes

- Working in the fields
- Cleaning the school classroom
- Spreading mats and putting them away
- Getting water for teachers and making tea
- Grazing cattle and goats
- Doing odd jobs in the fields
- Leisure time

\*Source: Educational Resource Unit, India (2003).