

# The Rag Trade

These resources can be used for

- Cross-curricular topic work involving children's different languages
- Language classes in the community
- MFL classes

See also resource sheet and lesson plan ([links](#))



WHAT



CAN



WE



SEE??



Why are they asking us to save  
their life?



# Key words in Bengali

- Rag Trade – **Kaporer Bebsha**
- Labour - **srom**
- Export – **roptani**
- Slums - **bosti**
- Exploit – **shujuger bebohar**
- Trade - **bebsha**
- Fair Trade – **sromer mullo**

# The Rag Trade

Children in Bangladesh work in factories to make clothes that we buy in the UK

- Use photos and key words to prompt discussion around child labour, living conditions etc
- Children think of questions to take home to parents in different languages, using transliteration if necessary (eg Bengali written in English letters)

# Questions to ask parents in Bengali

## Ma babder jonno Proshno

- Bangladesher bachara ki bhabhe thake?  
(How do the children in Bangladesh live?)
- Ora pora shunar kototuku shjug pai?  
(What opportunities do they get to read and write?)
- Amra ki bhabhe bachader srom dur korte pari?  
(How can we stop child labour?)
- Tomra tader che pora shunar kototuku shjug pacho?  
(What opportunities do you get to read and write?)
- Tomra ei deshe khi bhabhe bash korteso?  
(How do you live in this country?)

# Questions across the globe

- A teacher from primary school visited Bangladesh. Children from primary school and Bengali community language class sent questions to children who work in the rag trade and go to night school, and children who go to day school. The teacher brought back answers to discuss. Children then roleplayed an interview with child factory workers in Bangladesh, and with children who did not work in factories.
- See also Rag Trade Questions (document)



# Daytime School





# Night Time School



**Question:** How many breaks do you get?

তোমরা কয়বার বিরতি পাও ?

*(Tomra kotobar birothi pau?)*

**Answer:** We work 9am-5pm with ½ hour lunch break

আমরা নয়টা থেকে পাঁচটা পর্যন্ত কাজ করি,

খাওয়ার জন্য আধা ঘন্টা সময় পাই।

*(Amra noita theke pasta porzontho kaz  
kori ar khawar jonno adha ghonta  
shomoi pai)*

Then we go to school from 7pm-9pm

তার পর আমরা সন্ধ্যা ৭টা থেকে ৯টা পর্যন্ত স্কুলে পড়ি।

*(Tarpur rath shathta theke noita  
porzontho school'e pori)*

# Child's Question from Bangladesh

## Do children in England have to work?

**Answer:** No, we are not allowed to work. We are very lucky

না ,আমদের এখানে কাজ করার নিয়ম নাই। আমরা খুব ভাগ্যবান।

(Na, ammader ekhane kaj korar niom nai. Amora khube bhaggoban)

