

Upper 5 test out the distribution of global resources using Smarties



Upper 5 have just begun their final topic of resources in geography. As an introduction to the unequal distribution of resources around the world, the class played a game involving Smarties.

Green sweets represented food, orange were energy whilst blue were water. Despite all 'countries' starting with the same number of resources at the start of the game, it soon became a division of resource-rich versus resource-poor, with some countries hoarding resources whilst others saw them exploited and depleted based upon various geographical issues.

It was very interesting to observe the players within the game, some of which targeted other players to extract resources, some being competitive and seeking conflict whilst others simply felt the unfairness of it all. Whatever approach each player took, it allowed us to engage in some very valuable discussions about how resources are distributed globally and what we can do as geographers to understand some of the issues faced by some countries.

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