

Fact File



General ideas

- Students compile a set of questions on a chart or set of charts to test understanding. Students try out their questions on each other.
- Using a set of charts, students prepare a PowerPoint or KeyNote presentation or an information chart for display in the library.
- Students prepare a public information leaflet, or record a short radio broadcast or podcast, based on a set of charts.
- Students can use a set of charts as a starting point for a television programme on a particular issue.
- Using a set of charts as a stimulus, students can email their MP about an issue. Use the free website <http://www.writetothem.com> to find your MP – it just requires your postcode.
- A set of charts can be the basis for a newspaper or magazine article on a particular issue.
- Take one of the surveys in Fact File and conduct a similar local survey.
- Using the Fact File spreadsheet data (for Excel or any spreadsheet program) enter alongside the Fact File data, your own data to produce your own graph. Compare and contrast then display the results.
- Using the spreadsheet data, change one type of graph into another (eg a bar chart into a pie chart if appropriate) then headline what you consider to be the most important statistic or conclusion.
- Students can write a lively list of facts gleaned from Fact File on a particular issue under the title
Surprising Facts About...
OR Did you know...?
OR Five things you didn't know about...
- An issue can be personalised by students writing a story or a magazine article about someone who is a statistic in one of the tables. (The information in related tables will provide additional points.) Many of the articles in the Essential Articles series will provide good models. Use the online QuickSearch Essential Articles and Fact File <http://www.carepress.co.uk/quicksearch> to find statistics and journalism as well as personal accounts. Often you can find opposing or contrasting viewpoints on an issue.
- Students should think of an issue NOT covered in Fact File and decide what charts would be required to give a comprehensive view of the issue.