

Activity 17 | Barriers to education (20 min)

(discussion) In many countries around the world children face many barriers to getting an education, especially girls. Ask your students if they can think of things that could stop them from getting to school and staying in school. Encourage them to also think about the film clips they have seen of the children in the Growing up around the world series.

Here are some possible answers if they need prompting:

- Great distances to cover to get to school – some children spend half the day walking to get to school
- Needing to work to help with family income (like Panjy)
- Not enough money for school fees – even if education is free, there are still costs such as school uniforms, books, lunch
- Being a girl – families that can't afford to send all their children to school often prioritise boys over girls
- Lack of toilet facilities
- Illness – diseases such as malaria or intestinal worms, but also HIV/AIDS or malnutrition
- Fighting (as with Erodo)
- Being married at a young age
- No provision of secondary school or university