# Year 6 Inquiry: Democracy In Action

(Submitted by David Kessell, 2017, while serving as Year 6 Teacher at Australian International School Jakarta, Indonesia)

<table>
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<th>Tool(s) used:</th>
<th>• Sustainability Compass</th>
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| **Purpose of using tool:** | • Generating Questions  
• Guiding Discussion  

**Overview:**  
I used the tool and COMPASS-LITE_slides-v2-9L1 Microsoft Powerpoint.  
I used the tool to promote discussion as to what each could be examples for each point. Then I showed them the power point and what Compass thought were examples for each point.  
I used the tool so the children could plot where each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals could go. It created great discussion in the class and between the children debating on why a goal should be at that particular point. |
| **Context of lesson/case study:** | Year 6 Inquiry lessons in the classroom. |
| **Participants (# and description):** | Seventeen Year 6 students, of which, five were EAL students, one student with special needs. One teacher, one Teacher Assistant, one EAL teacher |
| **Topic, Theme, or Key Understanding of unit/project:** | The topic is ‘Democracy In Action’. Students will learn about living in a democracy means having rights and responsibilities, and that they go together. The class will learn the principles of the democratic process and about the role of those involved in the process (political parties, MPs, government departments, local government, lobby groups, the electorate). We will look at the experiences of democracy and citizenship, including the status and rights of women and children. The topic is ‘Democracy In Action’. Students will learn about living in a democracy means having rights and responsibilities, and that they go together. The class will learn the principles of the democratic process and about the role of those involved in the process (political parties, MPs, government departments, local government, lobby groups, the electorate). We will look at the experiences of democracy and citizenship, including the status and rights of women and children. |
| **Length of unit/project:** | 5 weeks |
| **Resources/materials & setting required:** | 17 sustainable goals projected on the IWB, 17 sustainable goals cut out one set between two, titles of 17 sustainable goals on paper strips one set between two, Sustainability Compass, COMPASS-LITE_slides-v2-9L1 Microsoft Powerpoint |

**Lesson Plan/Description of the Project:**

**Lesson 1. Thursday 20th April 2017**

1. Talked about being a global citizen in a circle. Got kids input.  
2. Watched ‘The World’s Largest Lesson Introduced by Malala Yousafzai... What are the 17
Sustainable Development Goals [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ry_9SU0eq9M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ry_9SU0eq9M)

3. Handed out goals and discussed what they could be.
4. Got into partners and had a goal each. They had to write down three things about that goal.
5. We voted on what we thought was the most important one. (Number 5 won).
6. We looked at the Compass map and discussed where 5 of the goals could go on the map.

### Lesson 2. Thursday 27th April 2017

1. We discussed what we did last week with the 17 SDGs. Which one did we think was the most important?
2. The children were in partners they had 17 blank icons and had to match the 17 titles to go with the icons.
3. We looked at examples for each of the 4 points on the Sustainability Compass.
4. We used the Sustainability Compass in groups of 3 and placed the 17 goals where we thought they should go.
5. We looked at the answers from Compass and discussed them.
6. We glued them on the map and displayed them in the class

### Reflection

#### Plusses (Things that went well):
- It created great discussion in the class and between the children debating on why a goal should be at that particular point.
- The powerpoint was great as it gave me direction and let the children know of the answers after they had discussed where they should go.

#### Challenges (Things I would change):
My EAL children needed extra support and it wasn't until after the last lesson that my co-teacher told me the goals were also in Korean. I have since printed these out in Korean.

### Suggestions for other practitioners and educators:
Be prepared. It is great to see the children match the titles to the icons of the 17 goals and the 17 goals to position on the Compass. It does require advanced prep in cutting them up. But it is for the better I think as the children get a lot out of the lesson by debating each other and physically moving the paper around.