

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
SECONDARY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME**

GRADE SEVEN (7)

SOCIAL STUDIES

WEEK 9 LESSON ONE (1)

Topic: Cooperative Society/Movement

Sub-Topic: The Cooperative Movement

Objectives: Students will:

- Define the term co-operation
- List ways one could cooperate in school, at home, in the community and at the national level.
- Give examples of what cooperation looks like.

Concept:

When we cooperate we demonstrate a willingness and ability to work with others to accomplish a common goal.

Content:

Definitions of the term co-operation:

- the action or process of working together to the same end.
- the act of working together with someone or doing what they ask you.
- the process of working with another company, organization, or country to achieve something.
- the actions of someone who is being helpful by doing what is wanted or asked for: common effort.
- Co-operation is the cordial working together of a group of persons to achieve a common goal.

The Concept of Co-operation

HAN' WASH HAN' MEK HAN'COME CLEAN

This well-known Guyanese proverb helps in the development of the concept of cooperation. Co-operation acts as a catalyst in the achievement of goals. Every individual is expected to participate fully in realising the group's goals. Co-operation facilitates the developmental process. Without co-operation progress is difficult.

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For us to live and work in groups and goodwill is of primary importance. Cordial relationships existing within the group enables it to move forward. In our communities, even in school, some tasks cannot be effectively completed by one person. This is so because each person has different, limited physical abilities. When resources of physical strength and skills are combined, tasks are completed in a shorter time and they are less burdensome. As we have seen in the lesson on Community leaders, the leaders motivate the other members of the society to co-operate so that development can be achieved.

Some ways by which students can co-operate in school

- Listening attentively to what is taught.
- Being respectful to teachers.
- Respecting school property and that of other students.
- Assisting with the distribution and collecting of books.
- Observing the school rules.
- Participating in group activities e.g. debates, sports, etc.
- Sharing ideas with other students.

In the home, there are also many opportunities for individuals to co-operate. Among these are:

- Working in the garden.
- Helping with the house cleaning.
- Assisting with the washing of clothes
- Preparing for social activity, e.g. a wedding, harvesting a crop, etc.

Co-operation is voluntary and each person joins the team of his/her own free will. Everyone has the same goal and this interest supplies motivation. It is found that family groups and others who co-operate feel a sense of satisfaction and they experience development.

In the community there are bridges to be built, fields to be cleared, houses to be constructed and services to be provided. Because no single individual can do all the work alone, there is a need for resources to be pooled.

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At the national level co-operation is also needed. This is evident by the many appeals made

by governmental and non-governmental organisations.

- There is a need for blood at the hospital.
- Appeals are made for the surroundings to be kept clean to avoid epidemics.
- Citizens are asked to co-operate with the traffic police to avoid road accidents.
- Co-operation with the Environmental Protection Agency can ensure that the environment is free from pollution.

Sustainable development can ensure the preservation of the environment for future generations. Co-operation is important in every area of human activity, and should become a way of life.

What does cooperation look like?

People who cooperate:

- Model working together with others.
- Work together with people in their home life, community and school.
- Make good decisions and choices.
- Have positive relationships with family, teachers and peers.
- Understand that cooperation is a process, not a program.
- Help bring out the BEST in all by working together.

Activity

1. List five ways you can cooperate in your community.
2. Create a poster educating grade 6 students about ways they could cooperate.

Homework

1. Check the newspapers for articles showing persons cooperating at a national level, cut and paste the article in your notebook.

Reference

1. http://www.mlhsss.gov.gy/how_to_establish_a_Co-op_Society.pdf
2. <https://www.ica.coop/en/cooperatives/what-is-a-cooperative>

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3. Ministry of Education Social Studies teacher's guide level 7 pages 51 to 52
4. Ministry of Education Social Studies Curriculum guide level7, page 7
5. <https://www.polk-fl.net/staff/resources/documents/keystocharacter/November2011.pdf>