

# Equality v equity



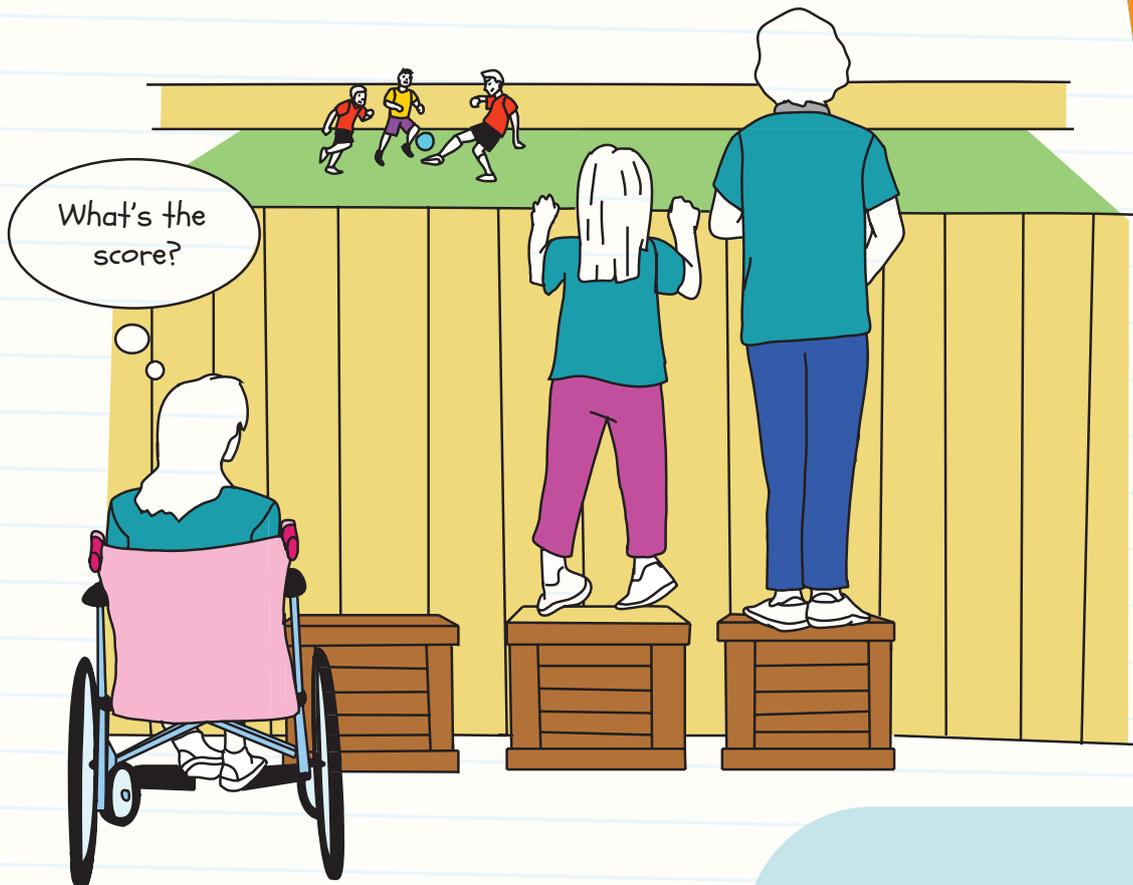
Better together



20 mins



Give it a go



## Aim of activity

Does equality always equal fairness? Put yourself in different situations and discover if equity can help promote equality and fairness for all.

## What you'll get out of it

- Explore the terms equality and equity.
- Think creatively about how to make your local community more equal.

## What you'll need

- Twine or string
- Pens
- Paper
- A peg, 2 per girl

## Note to leader

Before you start, put up a line of twine across your space that only a few of your girls will be tall enough to reach.



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding



## What to do

**1** Can you see your unit's washing line? Each grab a piece of paper, pen and two pegs. Quickly draw a piece of clothing and peg it on.

**2** Could you all reach the line? Was it too high? What if you were all given a box or chair to stand on? That would make it more equal, right?

**3** What does **equality** mean to you? Have a quick chat about it. What did you come up with? Equality is the same status, rights and responsibilities for all members of a society, group or family.

What if you couldn't stand on a box or chair because of your needs? Is giving everyone the same thing the fairest?

**4** Have you heard the term **equity** before? Equity is another way to try to make situations fair, taking into account people's circumstances. So instead of giving everyone an equal chance, or a chair in your case, it recognises that someone may need different conditions to complete the same task. Do you think this is fairer?

**5** Now look at the picture on the front of this card. It's a visualisation of equality – all the people have been given the same size box to look over the fence. What would equity look like? Draw it out or stage a photo.

**6** How did your picture turn out? Equity would acknowledge that people are different heights and have different needs, so need different support to watch the game.

Although equality aims to promote fairness, this can only happen if everyone starts at the same place or has the same needs. Sometimes equity can appear unfair on the surface, but it helps everyone reach the same outcome by levelling the playing field. Equity is often said to help an equality of outcomes. It's about levelling out differences in opportunities and taking into account people's circumstances.

**7** As a unit, what could you do to make something in your local community fairer? Could you level the playing field at an event, or make it easier for anyone to join your Ranger unit? Put your ideas into action and make your community more inclusive and equitable for all!