

## Using Mind the Gap

Mind the Gap is an online information tool designed to bring global education data to life. It highlights the wide gaps in access to education between girls and boys, and between haves and have-nots. Create a profile and see how your character's situation compares to that of others around the world. The more you play, the more you will learn!

### Getting Started

- Use the following instructions to play **Mind the Gap** as part of a classroom or group activity.
- Find a partner to help do the activities and discussion. It's more fun that way!
- Prepare to use **Mind the Gap** on your tablet or laptop.
- Go to <http://www.uis.unesco.org/mind-the-gap>
- Click "**Let's Start**".
- Create a profile for your character as:
  - a **child** (7-11 years old)
  - or an **adolescent** (12-18 years old).
- Play through the game once and consider the **Big Questions** (below) as you go.
- Record your findings on your handout.
- Then experiment with different profiles by changing the age, sex, level of education, and country.
- When you have finished the handout for the child and adolescent profiles, compare your findings with your partner. Give some more thought to the **Big Questions**.
- If time permits, go on to explore the **student** and **adult** profiles as well.
- When everyone has finished, your facilitator will bring you back as a large group for a discussion.

### Player Tips

- Use the "Pause/Play," "Next" and "Previous" buttons to move through at your own pace.
- Each statistic is named at the bottom of the screen above the country name.

### Big Questions

Consider these as you play:

1. Education is a universal human and children's right, but do all children have equal access to education?
2. In which parts of the world are children more likely to go to school? In which parts are they less likely to go to school?
3. What are the consequences of poor access to education for individuals and their community?
4. What did you notice about girls' access to education versus boys'? How do you feel about this?

## Using Mind the Gap – Examining the Child Profile

Create your child profile and then record your findings and ideas here. Leave the second column blank so you can compare your results with a partner after you are finished.

### 1. In the country you chose, what percentage of girls and boys are going to school?

Your Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Partner's Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Net Enrolment Rate (%)	Female		
Primary Net Enrolment Rate (%)	Male		

### 2. What is the total number of children out of school in your country and the world?

Your Country

World

Partner's Country

Out-of-School Children (total #)	Female			
Out-of-School Children (total #)	Male			

### 3. What differences (if any) are you noticing about girls' and boys' access to education?

### 4. What do you think are some of the reasons for the differences between the percentage of boys and girls in school?

### 5. In the country you chose, what is the percentage of boys and girls who are dropping out before finishing primary school?

Your Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Partner's Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Dropout Rate (%)	Female		
Primary Dropout Rate (%)	Male		

### 6. What do you think are some of the reasons why boys and girls are dropping out of school early?

### 7. What reasons do some of the other characters give for not going to school?

## Using Mind the Gap – Examining the Adolescent Profile

Create your adolescent profile and then record your findings and ideas here. Leave the second column blank so you can compare your results with a partner after you are finished.

### 1. What is the total number of adolescents out of school in the country you chose and the world?

		Your Country	World	Partner's Country
Out-of-School Adolescents (total #)	Female			
Out-of-School Adolescents (total #)	Male			

### 2. In the country you chose, what is the percentage of adolescent boys and girls who are enrolled in lower secondary school?

		Your Country	Partner's Country
Lower Secondary Enrolment Rate (%)	Female		
Lower Secondary Enrolment Rate (%)	Male		

### 3. What is the percentage of adolescent boys and girls that are enrolled in upper secondary school in your country versus sub-Saharan Africa (regional average)?

		Your Country	Sub-Saharan Africa	Partner's Country
Enrolment in Upper Secondary Education (%)	Female			
Enrolment in Upper Secondary Education (%)	Male			

### 4. What reasons do some of the characters give for why adolescents drop out of or do not attend secondary school?

### 5. In many places more adolescent girls are out of school than boys, but did you notice a country where the opposite was true?

### 6. What do you think your character's chances are of going on to further schooling (e.g. university)? List a few reasons.

You can end the activity here or explore the **Student** and **Adult** profiles.

**Student Profile:** The purpose of this sequence is to illustrate enrolment in higher education. Take note of the gender differences and the fields of study. In some countries, especially in North America and Europe, women are more likely than men to be studying at this level. However, the fields of study remain fairly traditional: women in the Humanities, men in Sciences. What do you think you will study later on? Ask your friends too. Is the gender breakdown in your group reflected in the percentages presented in Mind the Gap?

**Adult Profile:** The purpose of this sequence is to draw attention to the number of illiterate adults in the world. About 774 million adults who never had a chance to go to school can't read and write and will likely never learn. More than 2/3 of them are women. What would your life be like if you or your parents couldn't read?