Official development assistance, also known as overseas aid, is when one country helps another country. Aid is especially needed when a humanitarian disaster happens; for example, after a natural disaster like an earthquake, flood or like what is happening at the moment in Somalia. Sometimes this help comes from a country’s government and sometimes people give money to organisations like Trócaire.

Note: It is recommended that you show the Introduction to Somalia slide show, located on the Somalia branch of the Tree of Justice, and the Overseas Aid Explained by Trócaire video to the children first so that they will have context for this activity.
Step 3
As a class, brainstorm some things that they would like to know about overseas aid. Fill in W: What do we want to know about aid?

Step 4
Watch the Overseas Aid Explained by Trócaire video again. Set the following questions for the class before playing:
- What is overseas aid?
- Why is overseas aid needed?
- Why is overseas aid important?
- How much do you think your government should give to overseas aid for every 100 pounds/euro?

Step 5
The United Nations (UN) has said that all countries who are members should aim to give 0.7 per cent of their national income to overseas aid. However, current estimates are that Ireland gives 0.31 per cent to overseas aid. The United Kingdom for many years managed to deliver on its 0.7 per cent commitment, but reduced this to 0.5 per cent in 2020 due to financial pressures on the UK economy.
- Is this enough? Why or why not?
- Why is overseas aid important for what is happening in Somalia at the moment?
- Which of Nasteha’s basic needs are being fulfilled because of overseas aid?

Step 6
Fill in the L section of the KWL chart: What have we learned about overseas aid?