



Migration Board Game

Age	12+
Group size	2-8, or several small groups
Time	45 minutes

Overview

A board game to introduce challenges faced by immigrants

Objectives

- To realise why immigrants are more at risk of poverty
- To discuss the challenges migrants face when they arrive in a new country

Materials

- Copy the board (Appendix 1) or make your own (you can also use the whole floor of your group room).
- Copy the role cards and the chance cards (Appendix 2).
- 1 Dice
- Prepare cards for each participant, saying either 'immigrant' or 'native'.
- A table written on flipchart paper, with the names of all players and their starting budget(50 money points)

Step-by-step instructions

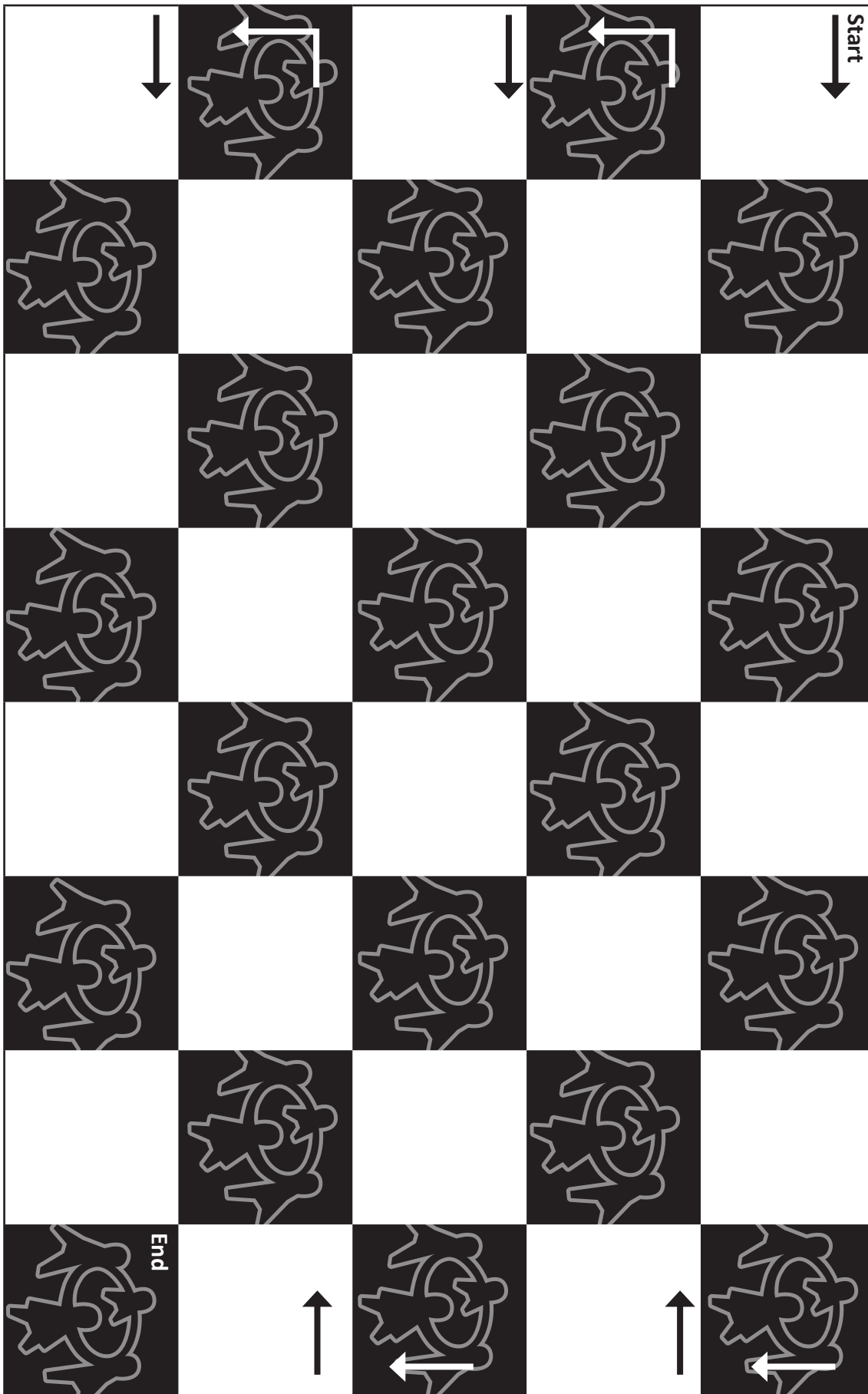
1. Everyone gets a role card, saying either 'immigrant' or 'native'. Explain that they all just moved to the same town. They want to find a job, new friends – start a new life. The 'natives' come from another town in the same country, but in their hometown the economic situation is very bad and there are no jobs for young people, so they decided to move. The 'immigrants' came from a country where a civil war broke out some months ago. It is impossible to find work and the situation has become too tense to be bearable anymore.
2. Explain that everyone starts with 50 money points (written on a table).
3. Deduct 20 money points from all immigrants. Explain that they have to pay the people who organised their escape from their home country.
4. Start the board game. Everyone throws the dice once, and the player with the highest number starts.
5. One after the other they throw the dice and move forward the number of places they threw. If they come to a black field, they take a card and read out both the instructions for immigrants and for natives. They follow the instructions for their role.
6. When everyone has arrived at the last place of the board, they count their money. Whoever has most money left has won the game.

Debriefing

- How did you feel in your role?
- What problems did you find worst?
- Was it fair?
- Do you think the game reflects reality?
- Are there other challenges immigrants face?
- Why do immigrants leave their own country?
- What needs to change to make the situation fairer?



Appendix 1: Board





Appendix 2: Chance Cards

<p>Your cousin moves to the same city. You're very happy to know someone else here.</p> <p>Your cousin and you support each other wherever you can. You can throw again.</p>	<p>End of the month. You still have some of your savings.</p> <p>Native: Very good, you keep them for next month. Immigrant: You send your savings to your family back home. Pay 3 money-points.</p>
<p>You are writing lots of job applications, but you don't find anything because the competition is so high and there are not enough jobs.</p> <p>Pay 3 money-points to cover your living expenses.</p>	<p>You found a company that would like to employ you on a short-term contract.</p> <p>Native: Of course you take the job; this is a great chance for you although it is just for some months. Your first payment is 3 money-points. Immigrant: Of course you want to take the job, but you did not get your work permit yet. This means they cannot employ you. Pay 3 money-points to cover your living expenses.</p>
<p>A restaurant offered to employ you.</p> <p>Native: This is well below your qualifications, but it is okay to earn some money and at least you get tips as well. You get 5 money-points. Immigrant: As you don't speak the language very well yet, you can only work in the kitchen. The restaurant agrees to employ you even without work permit, but this means you earn less. You get 3 money-points.</p>	<p>You need to register your residency in the new town. You go to the city hall very early in the morning to avoid long queues.</p> <p>Native: You are waiting for half an hour, then you have to pay 1 money-point for your registration. Immigrant: You are waiting in the foreigners' queue for two hours, then you have to pay 3 money-points for your registration. You are asked to come back next week to bring additional documents. You miss your next turn.</p>
<p>You finally want to work in the profession you have studied, but it's very difficult to find a job in that area.</p> <p>Native: Miss your next turn to write job applications. Immigrant: Your diploma from university in your home country is not accepted. Miss two turns to take a course to convert your qualification and pay 3 money-points to pay the course.</p>	<p>You want to find friends in the new city.</p> <p>Native: It's not so easy to get to know new people – you don't have much time and people who lived here their whole life seem to be quite closed. Immigrant: You get in contact with a group of people from your world region – they meet in church every week and you find good friends there. You can throw the dice again.</p>
<p>You get bad news from home.</p> <p>Native: Your dad is in hospital and needs to get surgery. You are really worried and go home over the weekend. Miss one turn and pay 1 money-point. Immigrant: There was a big attack in your hometown and your brother was killed. He was the only one of the family who had paid work. Now you have to send more money home. Pay 5 money-points.</p>	<p>You fall in love!</p> <p>You are really happy and you can take another turn.</p>



<p>Payment day!</p> <p>Native: you get paid 3 money-points from your current job.</p> <p>Immigrant: you get paid 2 money-points from your current job.</p>	<p>End of the month! You still have savings.</p> <p>Native: Great, you can go on a short trip. You pay 1 money-point.</p> <p>Immigrant: You send money to your family. Pay 3 money-points.</p>
<p>You are at a party with some of your new friends. At midnight you get very tired and decide to go home.</p> <p>Native: You walk home and fall into bed.</p> <p>Immigrant: You are on your way home when suddenly a group of men stops you. They tell you that you should go back where you come from and then punch you in the face. Luckily someone passes by with a car and brings you to the hospital. You miss a turn.</p>	<p>You think there are not enough cultural activities going on in the city. Therefore you join a meeting of the culture committee to support their work.</p> <p>You have some good ideas and find people who will organise a concert together with you. This gives you a lot of motivation for the week. You can play again.</p>
<p>Soon there will be holidays. Everyone is talking about where they want to go.</p> <p>Native: You will go to Turkey – it's very cheap and they have nice beaches. Pay 2 money-points.</p> <p>Immigrant: You would like to go to Turkey with your colleagues. You pay for the visa, but you don't get it. You will stay at home. Pay 1 money-point for the visa costs.</p>	<p>In your job, you work closely with clients. You have just got a new project with a new client.</p> <p>Native: The client is not very friendly, but everything works out somehow. You get a bonus after the successful project. You get one money-point.</p> <p>Immigrant: The client is a racist and does not want to cooperate with foreigners. You have to do everything on your own and lose a lot of time. Miss a turn.</p>
<p>You have to take a loan from the bank.</p> <p>Native: You have heard a lot in the news about a new system that will save you some money when taking a credit. You pay 2 money-points.</p> <p>Immigrant: You have no idea how these things work in this country. You just go to the bank and take what they tell you. You pay 3 money-points.</p>	<p>You are looking for a flat, which is not easy in a popular city like this. Many people move here and the prices are very high. You have found one that you like a lot.</p> <p>Native: The landlord likes you and believes that you are able to pay the rent regularly. You get it!</p> <p>Immigrant: The landlord tells you that he wants to have a tenant who speaks his native language perfectly. You need to continue looking for a flat. You miss your next turn.</p>
<p>You need to find a new job.</p> <p>Native: You find an interesting challenging job where you learn a lot. You earn 3 money-points.</p> <p>Immigrant: You don't manage to find anything interesting despite very good qualifications. In the end you take a job where you clean offices in the nights. You earn 1 money-point.</p>	<p>Your wallet has been stolen.</p> <p>Native: Very annoying! You lose two money points for the money that was in there and an additional point to get the documents back.</p> <p>Immigrant: Very annoying! Especially that the police didn't want to believe you at first. You lose two money points for the money that was in there and two additional points to get the documents back. You also have to miss a turn because you have to stand for three hours in the queue to get a new residence card.</p>