

**Title:** This house believes there is still a need for battery hens.

**Subject Area:** English

**Key Stage 3** (could also be appropriate for KS2)

**NC link:** En1 GCSE oral objective

**Learning Objective:**

- Discussing current moral issues surrounding battery hens
- Presenting arguments in a structured forum of a debate
- Using language to persuade

**Resources:**

- Access to the internet if appropriate. See <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200203/cmselect/cmenvfru/779/779.pdf>
- Before the debate pupils must think about both sides of the motion.
- Classroom should be set up appropriately for the debate.

**Starter**

Brainstorm points to consider in the debate.

For the motion;

- History of battery hens post war, need for eggs, demand and nutritional value, current conditions and arguments, plans for improvements by 2007.

Against the motion;

- Animal rights empathy and financial gains in egg production business.  
Health issues.

**Main Teaching Activity:**

Format of debate will depend of time available in lesson- either a 'half and half' debate or selected speakers on two teams (mace). Pupils should present their arguments sensibly and respond to the points of others.

**Plenary**

At the end ask for a show of hands to gauge opinion. Discuss.

**Differentiation**

For the motion is more of a challenge.