

Lesson plan - Children's rights

Children's rights

This is a quick lesson plan designed to be used with the UNICEF Top 10 cartoons for children's rights.

Preparation

You'll need to download the video files from the UNICEF website at:

http://www.unicef.org/videoaudio/video_top_cartoons.html

Or be able to give your students access to a live internet connection to view them during the lesson.

Lead in:

- ❑ Ask your students if they have ever heard about the 'Convention on the Rights of the Child'. See if they know what it is / what it's about.
- ❑ Ask them if they know what rights it says that Children are entitled to.

Discussion:

- ❑ Ask them in groups to draft their own bill of rights, with 10 key things that they believe children have a right too.
- ❑ Get them to compare and discuss as a class which ones they feel are most important.
- ❑ Show them the list from the page with the top 10 cartoons on and see how many of the ones on the page are included in their own list.

- ❑ Freedom from Discrimination
- ❑ Family
- ❑ Identity
- ❑ Education
- ❑ Protection in War
- ❑ Protection from Neglect
- ❑ Freedom from Child Labour
- ❑ A Protective Environment
- ❑ Self Expression

- ❑ Ask students to compare this list to their own and discuss which of their own ones they think should be included.

Video viewing:

- ❑ Get the students to each watch one of the short videos then put them in groups to describe the video and how it portrayed the child's right.
- ❑ Get the students to watch all of the videos and decide which they feel is the most powerful in making its point. They should discuss this as a group and then vote for the best one.

Follow up discussion:

Get your students to discuss these questions in pairs or groups.

- ❑ Which of these rights is the most difficult to protect?
- ❑ Do the laws of your country ensure that these rights of children are protected?
- ❑ Which are the responsibilities of parents and which are the responsibilities of the government?
- ❑ Which are the most difficult for parents to ensure?

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Find out more:

You can find out more about the UNICEF mission to protect the rights of the child here:

<http://www.unicef.org/crc/>

Find out about what UNICEF is doing in your country here:

<http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/index.html>