

English and Literacy: Children's rights

Lesson plan 2: The Convention on the Rights of the Child

Age group: 8-10

Resources:

You will need the **Worksheet: Articles from the Convention of the Rights of the Child** (below).

Introduction and whole-class activity:

Tell the pupils about the international law called The Convention on the Rights of the Child.

It was written in 1989 and came into force in 1990. All the countries in the world have agreed to it except the USA and Somalia. All the countries of the world try to make the law work.

These rights for children are about what children are allowed to do, and what the people responsible for children have to do to make sure they are happy, healthy and safe. Look at the list of **Articles from the Convention** (below)

Choose a selection from the list (or all of them if time allows) and ask the pupils to explain what they think each one means and why it is important.

Group activities:

Give each group a copy of the Articles. (You may give all to some groups and a selection to others). Ask each group to select three Articles that they think are particularly important and note down their reasons.

Plenary:

Each group shares their top three Articles, and their reasons for choosing them, with the class. Which were the most popular Articles chosen? Why was this? Do the pupils think that all children are given these rights?

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Worksheet: Articles from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 3

Adults should do what is best for you.

Article 6

You have the right to live.

Article 14

You have the right to think what you like and be whatever religion you want to be. Your parents should help you learn what is right and wrong.

Article 15

You have the right to make friends.

Article 17

You have the right to collect information from radios, newspapers, television, books etc., from all around the world.

Article 19

No one should hurt you in any way.

Article 24

You have a right to good health.

Article 27

You have the right to food, clothes, and a place to live.

Article 28

You have a right to education.

Article 30

You have the right to enjoy your own culture, practise your own religion and use your own language.

Article 31

You have the right to play.

Article 37

You should not be put in prison.