

Put Yourself in my Shoes

GRADE LEVEL: K–6

BRIEF SUMMARY: To reflect on the similarities and differences between their lives here in Canada and the lives of the children featured in the National UNICEF Day video.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Ask students if they think that they have a lot or a little in common with the children in the UNICEF video. Discuss the reasoning for their choices.
2. Explain to the class that they are going to try and form a better idea of how many similarities and differences exist between them and the children in the video. Before we can do that, students must first take a look at their own lives. Ask students to describe a normal day in their lives, starting with when they wake up in the morning to when they go to sleep at night. For younger grades, the teacher can ask their students to draw the action they do in a normal day.
3. Once students have completed this activity, briefly go over the stories of the children in the video and ask students to think about which child they most related to. If Lesson Plan One was done with the class, students are encouraged to select the same child they wrote about on their cue cards.
4. Ask children to now describe a normal day again except that this time, they will put themselves in the shoes of the child they chose. Talk about the possible differences and similarities.
5. Once students complete the above activity, ask them to list the similarities and differences that may exist between them and the child they most relate to.
6. Discuss the results with the class.

VARIATIONS:

If your students are familiar with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (the Convention), ask the students to think about the rights affected in lives of the children in the video. Ask your students to think about whether or not the identified rights have affected their own life in Canada. Ask the students to think about why there are differences.