

Rights Respecting Schools and Alberta Policy Connections

UNICEF Canada's Rights Respecting Schools (RRS) initiative uses the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as a basis for building an inclusive and respectful school culture. In these schools, children's rights are adopted as guiding principles that inform a common set of values shared by all members of the school community. These common values create a sense of community and become the lens through which students, teachers, school administrators and parents make decisions, choose behaviour, and participate at their school.

The RRS initiative is completely in line with Alberta's Social Policy, which strives for Albertans to be safe, healthy, secure and resilient, lifelong learners, included, active and engaged. The Social Policy principles of dignity, inclusion and accountability are particularly relevant to the RRS program where the school community works together to ensure that all students understand their rights and responsibilities and have an opportunity to share what matters most to them. In addition, much like the Social Policy Framework, the Alberta Children's Charter, which is in development, will strive to ensure that policies and programs in Alberta are interpreted through a "children's lens".

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS ALBERTA

Grade 7

SELECTED SPECIFIC CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS RELATED TO THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF A CHILD

Students will:

Links to Global Concepts

Interdependence
Images and Perceptions
Social Justice
Conflict and Conflict Resolution
Change and The Future
Human Rights

CONVENTION ARTICLES

English Language Arts

- extend understanding of ideas and information by finding and exploring oral, print and other media texts on related topics and themes
- listen and respond constructively to alternative ideas or opinions
- use talk, writing and representing to examine, clarify and assess understanding of ideas, information and experiences

12, 13, 17, 28, 29

Science

- investigate and interpret evidence of interaction and change
- analyze a local environmental issue or problem based on evidence from a variety of sources, and identify possible actions and consequences
- research information relevant to a given problem or issue
- use tools and apparatus effectively and accurately for collecting data
- Show concern for safety in planning, carrying out and reviewing activities
- identify the effects of different practices on the sustainability of agriculture and environmental resources
- identify questions to investigate arising from practical problems and issues
- appreciate that scientific understanding evolves from the interaction of ideas involving people with different views and backgrounds
- seek and apply evidence when evaluating alternative approaches to investigations, problems and issues

17, 28, 29

Social Studies

- evaluate, critically, ideas, information and positions from multiple perspectives
- re-evaluate personal opinions to broaden understanding of a topic or an issue
- generate creative ideas and strategies in individual and group activities
- propose and apply new ideas and strategies, supported with facts and reasons, to contribute to problem solving and decision making
- consider the needs and perspectives of others
- support and participate in activities and projects that promote the well-being and meet the particular needs of their community
- develop a position that is supported by information gathered through research
- draw conclusions based upon research and evidence
- elicit, clarify and respond appropriately to questions, ideas and multiple points of view in discussions
- listen to others in order to understand their perspectives

3, 12, 13, 17, 28,
29, 30

SELECTED SPECIFIC CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS RELATED TO THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF A CHILD

Students will:

Health and Physical Education

- compare personal health choices to standards for health
- relate the factors that influence individual food choices to nutritional needs of adolescents
- analyze the definition, effects and possible consequences of various forms of harassment
- analyze and appreciate differing personal perspectives on safety
- identify characteristics of resiliency
- analyze how thinking patterns influence feelings
- analyze the need for short-term and long-term support for emotional concerns
- identify sources of stress in relationships, and describe positive methods of dealing with such stressors
- examine the characteristics of healthy relationships, and develop strategies to build and enhance them
- analyze personal nutritional habits and how they relate to performance in physical activity
- demonstrate and evaluate ways to achieve a personal functional level of physical fitness
- identify and explain the effects of exercise on the body systems before, during and after exercise
- understand the connection between physical activity, stress management and relaxation
- clarify the positive benefits that occur as a result of participation in physical activity
- understand the consequences and risks associated with an inactive lifestyle

Links to Global Concepts

Interdependence,
Images and Perceptions, Social Justice
Conflict and Conflict Resolution
Change and The Future, Human Rights

CONVENTION ARTICLES

3, 19, 24, 26, 27,
34