

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 Kindergarten

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

- share personal experiences prompted by oral, print and other media texts
- talk about ideas, experiences and familiar events
- talk and represent to explore, express and share stories, ideas and experiences
- listen to experiences and feelings shared by others
- participate in shared listening, reading and viewing experiences, using oral, print and other media texts from a variety of cultural traditions and genres, such as picture books, fairy tales, rhymes, stories, photographs, illustrations and video programs
- listen and view attentively

3, 12, 13, 17, 28, 29

Social Studies

- appreciate feelings, ideas, stories and experiences shared by others
- value oral traditions of others
- examine what makes them unique individuals
- explore how we demonstrate respect for ourselves and others
- appreciate how their participation in their communities affects their sense of belonging
- develop age-appropriate behaviour for social involvement as responsible citizens contributing to their community
- demonstrate skills of oral, written and visual literacy

2, 3, 12, 13, 28

Health and Physical Education

- describe ways, and make choices, to be physically active daily
- identify and use positive hygiene and health care habits
- recognize that nutritious foods are needed for growth and to feel good/have energy
- identify unsafe situations, and identify safety rules for protection
- experience how physical activity makes one feel
- understand the connections between physical activity and emotional well-being

3, 19, 24, 27, 28, 31