

Lesson: Human Rights Day

December 10

Global Themes

- Social Justice

Overview and Purpose

This lesson is designed to teach children about Human Rights Day and the rights of the child highlighted by this UN Day (all UNCRC Articles).

Background Information for Teachers

Human Right Day

ohchr.org

Grades

K – 3

Materials

Book entitled *We Are All Born Free*, by Amnesty International

Student handout “Freedom is”

Poster paper, Felt markers, Colouring supplies: felt pens/crayons/pastels/pencil crayons/etc.

Activity One

- Introduce December 10th as Human Right’s Day; a UN day celebrated around the world. This day has special significance because the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was signed over sixty years ago (1948) to protect the rights of all people everywhere.
- Read the book entitled *We Are All Born Free* by Amnesty International.
- Discuss the title of the book. What does it mean that we are all born free? What does it mean to be free?
- As a class, brainstorm ideas for the completion of this phrase Freedom is _____
Examples include: Freedom is walking to school with friends. Freedom is playing with friends. Freedom is free from bullying. Freedom is being accepted for who I am.

Activity Two

- Ask students to select a human right that they feel is very important (remind them that all rights are equal and universal and can’t be taken away).
- Have the students create an artistic representation of the right (using the book as a reference).
- Ask the students to write an artist’s statement.

Discussion

What can you do to make sure all the human rights are met? This can include in the classroom, at school, at home, in the community and in the world.

Extension

Have students collect pictures from magazines, newspapers, brochures and create a collage that highlights people of all ages, world locations, and cultural backgrounds having their human rights met.

Additional Resources

UN Cyber School bus

cyberschoolbus.un.org/

Human Rights Education

humanrightseducation.info

Play it Fair Toolkit

equitas.org

Free Human Rights posters can be ordered by emailing rights-droits@pch.gc.ca.

Human Rights Day

Think of what freedom means to you and draw a picture below.

Freedom is
