

UNCROC



SECTION 2



YouthLaw
Free legal help throughout Aotearoa

**UNITED NATIONS
CONVENTION ON THE
RIGHTS OF THE CHILD**



UNCROC Facilitator Notes



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ACTIVITY 2

ACTIVITY NAME: UNCROC Match Master

TIME: 10 mins

MAIN TOPIC: The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

AIM: Participants learn about their Rights under UNCROC.

LEARNING OUTCOME: Participants identify their rights under international conventions (which inform the law in New Zealand).

RESOURCES + PREP:

1. Youth Law 101 DVD – clip 2
2. Youth Rights Match Master Cards - you can photocopy and cut up enough sets of cards so that each small group within the group or class has its own set

FACILITATION TIPS:

- Don't be afraid to let this activity go on a little longer if the groups are engaged in discussion.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Explain that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCROC) is a law for people under the age of 18 all over the world. These are special protections to keep them safe, happy and healthy. Explain that UNCROC is divided into sections called articles and they are going to learn about the different articles by doing a matching activity.
2. Depending on the class or group size, divide them into smaller groups and give each group a set of cards and ask them to match the pictures and definitions.
3. You can put these questions on the board for discussion after each group has finished:

DISCUSSION POINTS:

- Why is it important that young people have rights?
- Is there anything missing that should be added to children's/youth rights?
- All up, there are 54 different articles so encourage the group to jump onto www.youthlaw.co.nz for more information.

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ACTIVITY 2



EVERYONE HAS RIGHTS – NO DISCRIMINATION! (ARTICLES 1 AND 2)

Everyone under 18 years has rights. You have rights no matter who you are, what you look like, what your sex, sexual orientation, culture or religion is, if you are rich or poor, speak a different language or have a disability.



WHAT'S IN YOUR BEST INTERESTS (ARTICLE 3)

Adults should always work towards what is in your best interests and put your wellbeing first.



THE RIGHT TO AN IDENTITY (ARTICLES 7 AND 8)

You have the right to have an identity. That includes your name, nationality and where possible your family ties.



HAVING YOUR SAY – PARTICIPATE AND BE HEARD (ARTICLE 12)

You have the right to have your views heard, considered and taken seriously in a way that is appropriate given your age, especially when decisions are being made that affect you.

UNCROC Match Master

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ACTIVITY 2



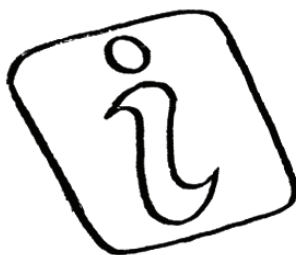
FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, THOUGHT AND RELIGION (ARTICLES 13 AND 14)

You have the right to express yourself and think for yourself as long as you don't hurt anyone. You have the right to your own religion and beliefs. The Government should respect your parents' or guardians' role in guiding you with this.



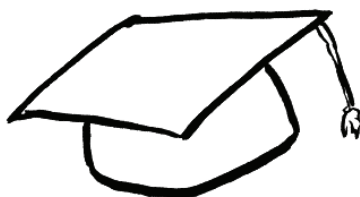
FRIENDS, GROUPS AND CLUBS (ARTICLE 15)

You have the right to choose your own friends and be involved in groups or clubs as long as it's legal and won't hurt you or anyone else.



YOUR RIGHT TO INFORMATION (ARTICLE 17)

You have the right to be informed. This means having access to information that you can understand, trust and that's important for you to know.



YOUR RIGHTS TO EDUCATION (ARTICLES 28 AND 29)

You have the right to a good quality education that helps you develop your personality, talents and abilities to the full. You should be treated with respect and be encouraged to respect each other's rights and values. Punishment at School should happen in a way that respects your dignity.

UNCROC Match Master

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ACTIVITY 2



YOUR CULTURAL RIGHTS (ARTICLE 30)

You have the right to learn about and practice your own culture, language, and religion. If you are from a minority or indigenous culture you have the right to special protection from things that might stop you from being you.



YOUR RIGHT TO PLAY, AND CULTURAL, SPORTING AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES (ARTICLE 31)

You have the right to rest, play and be involved in things like sports, music, arts, drama and cultural activities. The Government should promote and encourage this.



YOUR RIGHTS IF YOU ARE IN TROUBLE WITH THE LAW (ARTICLE 40)

You have the right to be treated fairly by the justice system in a way that respects your rights. You have the right to a fair hearing and legal help.



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| ACTIVITY 3 |

ACTIVITY NAME: 'All Good' or 'No Good'

TIME: 15 mins

MAIN TOPIC: UNCROC

AIM: Participants will learn that rights also mean that you are responsible for how your behaviour or actions may impact others. Rights are for everyone.

LEARNING OUTCOME:

- Participants identify rights and responsibilities.
- Participants share opinions on rights and responsibilities.
- Participants identify situations when young people's UNCROC rights might be being violated.

RESOURCES + PREP:

1. Photocopy one share sheet and one 'All good or no good' scenario card for each small group

FACILITATION TIPS:

- Encourage participants to think about the different perspectives of the people involved in each scenario.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Hand out one Share Sheet and one 'All good or No good' scenario card to each group.
2. Ask each group to discuss their scenario and fill out the Share Sheet based on all the ideas of each group member. (Allow 5-7 minutes to complete).
3. Then ask each group to read out their scenario and share their answers.

DISCUSSION POINTS:

- Encourage participants to learn more about their rights, and to call YouthLaw or their local Community Law Centre if they have any questions about their rights.
- Remember, rights are there for a reason. It's important that young people are living safe & healthy lives where their rights are respected.

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All Good or No Good Scenarios

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ACTIVITY 3



SCENARIO ONE: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

A guy at your school says “No offense, but I think that schools should be separated by culture. People who have different cultures or religions won’t learn anything if they’re together”.

DISCUSS:

- Is this guy exercising his ‘Freedom of expression’ OR is he discriminating and being mean/rude/stink?
- Read out to the group UNCROC articles 13 & 14: According to UNCROC, is this guy’s view ALL GOOD or NO GOOD?

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SCENARIO TWO: FRIENDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

A group of students at school call themselves the ‘No Statement Crew’ or NSC. They’re known for selling stolen gear on Facebook. Police find out about their activity and question them.

DISCUSS:

- Is this group exercising their right to choose their own friend and, be in a group/club or are they breaking the law?
- Read out to the group UNCROC article 15: According to UNCROC, are this group’s actions ALL GOOD or NO GOOD?

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All Good or No Good Scenarios

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ACTIVITY 3



SCENARIO THREE: HAVING YOUR SAY

Sara is 14 and she has just been suspended from school for smoking. Sara tells her friend Jo that she only tried it because she felt under pressure from other friends and would never do it again. Jo tells her that she'll be kicked out straight away and that no one at school will care what her story is so she should start looking for another school to go to.

DISCUSS: Is Jo right or does Sara have a right to tell her side of the story?

- Read out to the group UNCROC article 12: According to UNCROC, is Jo's advice ALL GOOD or NO GOOD?

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SCENARIO FOUR: RIGHT TO INFORMATION

Damon is 15, and would like to find out about the Youth Benefit because he is thinking about leaving home when he turns 16. He asks a school counsellor about getting this information but is told to "stop being ungrateful" and that he should stay at home.

DISCUSS: Does Damon have a right to information in this situation?

- Read out to the group UNCROC article 17: According to UNCROC, is the school counsellor's response to Damon ALL GOOD or NO GOOD?

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All Good or No Good? Share Sheet

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| ACTIVITY 3 |

WHAT ARTICLE OF UNCROC DOES THIS SCENARIO RELATE TO?	MAIN POINTS OF THE ARTICLE:
ALL GOOD? WHY?	NO GOOD? WHY?