



UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS

LESSON FIVE

Summary

In this lesson, you will learn about the United Nations Universal Human Rights Declaration and how that applies to you. You will learn about your rights in school and your right to your education without being harassed or humiliated by others. Adults have a responsibility to protect your rights. You are worthy of these rights and this protection as a human being.

FACILITATOR TIPS

After you play the video, ask these questions one at a time and encourage students to share their answers. Be sure to encourage the participation of quieter students. The purpose of this group discussion is to reinforce the main points from the video, and to correct any misunderstandings.

Please note that the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights includes other rights and protections that were omitted from this lesson, such as the right to marry, leave and return to one's home country, right to nationality, non-slavery, right to own property and more. Only the ones most relative to the student's current learning situation are included here.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What is the United Nations Universal Human Rights Declaration?

A: Written in 1948 by representatives from countries all over the world, the United Nations Universal Human Rights lists your protected human rights. It says that all human beings are born free and equal, and that we should all act toward one another with a spirit of brotherhood and sisterhood. Everyone is entitled to all the rights, no matter race, skin color, gender, language, religion, income, etc. Everyone has the right to life, liberty, and safety...and to many other rights that uphold the dignity of all people.

What are rights? What does it mean that as a citizen of your country you "have rights"?

A: Human rights are moral principles or norms for certain standards of human behavior and are protected by local, national, and international law. Just by being a human being, everyone is entitled to these rights.

What are some of the rights that the law says you have a right to?

(List as many as you remember from the video.)

A: Everyone has the right to life, liberty, safety, dignity, equality, respect, education and to not be harassed!

CLASS ACTIVITY: **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS**

In this activity, you will review and discuss your Universal Human Rights with a partner and with the class. Follow the instructions on the Class Activity handout.



CLASS ACTIVITY: KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

All human beings are born free and equal.

We should all act towards one another with a spirit of
sisterhood and brotherhood.

Everyone – including me – has the right to life, liberty, safety, and dignity.

I have a right to my education without being harassed or bullied. This
education teaches me to respect others, no matter what our differences are.

Supportive adults like teachers, coaches, and counselors are here to help
protect my rights and keep me safe.

FACILITATOR TIPS

Help the students separate into pairs. Walk around and listen to the conversations. This may be a more difficult exercise for younger students. Help them stay on track and make sure they understand the concept of “rights”.

FACILITATOR NOTE:

The instructions and questions below are also on the student handout. Your role is to explain the instructions clearly and make sure all students understand. Your goal is to support the students as they complete the activity, and to keep them on track.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read aloud the **Universal Human Rights Summary** above.
2. Separate into small groups and share your answers to these questions:
Did you know that you have rights?
How does that make you feel?
What do you think “free and equal” means?
What do each of the following terms mean to you?
✓ life ✓ liberty ✓ safety ✓ dignity
3. Return to the large group and share what you’ve learned.



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HOME ACTIVITY:

Universal Human Rights Reflection

FACILITATOR TIPS

At the end of the class, go over this activity with the students. Make sure they understand the instructions, and encourage them to do it at home. Our intention is not that students be required to turn it in, but rather that they have an opportunity to think about and internalize the main ideas learned in class.

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

Did you know about the Universal Human Rights before today? Yes, no, explain.

How does knowing that you have these rights make you feel?

Name some of your rights that you remember learning about in class

How might you protect and assert your rights and your friends rights in a bullying situation?
