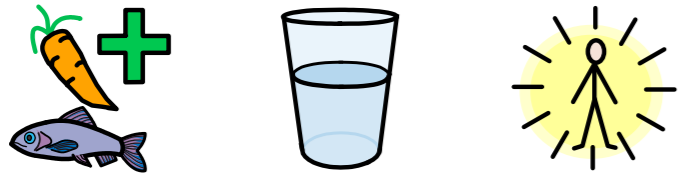




# UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

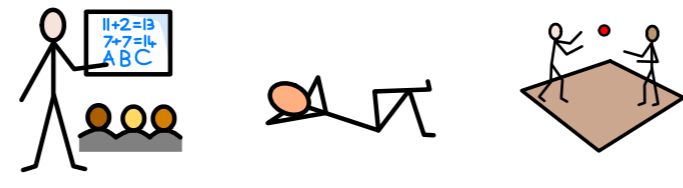


## Survival



You have a right to life, good food, water, and to grow up healthy

## Development



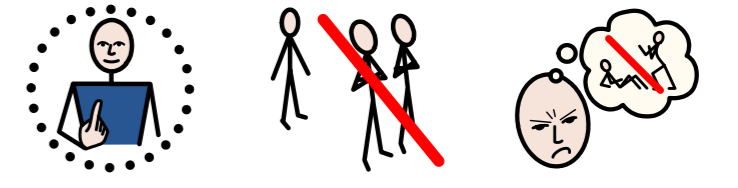
You have a right to an education and time to relax and play

## Participation



You have a right to say how you feel, be listened to, and taken seriously

## Protection



You have a right to be treated well and not be hurt by anyone

- 1** Everyone under 18 has these rights
- 2** All children have these rights
- 3** Adults must do what's best for me
- 4** The Government should make sure my rights are respected
- 5** The Government should respect the right of my family to help me know about my rights
- 6** I should be supported to live and grow
- 7** I have a right to a name and to belong to a country
- 8** I have a right to an identity
- 9** I have a right to live with a family who cares for me
- 10** I have the right to see my family if they live in another country
- 11** I have the right not to be taken out of the country illegally
- 12** I have the right to be listened to, and taken seriously
- 13** I have the right to find out and share information
- 14** I have the right to have my own thoughts and beliefs and to choose my religion, with my parents' guidance
- 15** I have the right to meet with friends and to join groups
- 16** I have the right to keep some things private
- 17** I have the right to get information in lots of ways, so long as it's safe
- 18** I have the right to be brought up by both parents if possible
- 19** I have the right to be protected from being hurt or badly treated
- 20** I have the right to special protection and help if I can't live with my own family
- 21** I have the right to have the best care if I am adopted
- 22** If I am a refugee, I have the same rights as children born in that country
- 23** If I have a disability, I have the right to special care and education
- 24** I have the right to good quality health care, to clean water and good food
- 25** If I am not living with my family, people should keep checking I am safe and happy
- 26** My family should get the money they need to help bring me up
- 27** I have the right to have a proper house, food and clothing
- 28** I have the right to an education
- 29** I have the right to an education which develops my personality, respect for others' rights and the environment
- 30** I have a right to speak my own language and to follow my family's way of life
- 31** I have a right to relax and play
- 32** I should not be made to do dangerous work
- 33** I should be protected from dangerous drugs
- 34** Nobody should touch me in ways that make me feel uncomfortable, unsafe or sad
- 35** I should not be abducted, sold or trafficked
- 36** I have the right to be kept safe from things that could harm my development
- 37** I have the right not to be punished in a cruel or hurtful way
- 38** I am not allowed to join the army until I am 15
- 39** I have the right to help if I have been hurt, neglected or badly treated
- 40** I have the right to legal help and to be treated fairly if I have been accused of breaking the law
- 41** Where our country treats us better than the UN does we should keep up the good work!
- 42** Everyone should know about the UNCR

**1**  **Everyone under 18 has these rights**

Under the UNCRC a child means every human being below the age of 18.

Unless under the law of that country majority is attained earlier – for example if I get married at 16.

**2**  **All children have these rights**

The UNCRC applies to everyone whatever their race, religion, abilities, whatever they think or say, no matter what family they come from.

Governments should respect and ensure my rights in the UNCRC without discrimination of any kind.

Governments should take measures to make sure that I am protected against discrimination.

**3**  **Adults must do what's best for me**

All adults should do what's best for me.

When adults make decisions, they should think how they affect me.

**4**  **The Government should make sure my rights are respected**

The Government should make sure the rights in the UNCRC are available to me.

For example – The Government can't take away my rights whenever they want to, they have to honour the rights which are set out in the UNCRC.

**5**  **The Government should respect the right of my family to help me know about my rights**

Governments should respect the rights and responsibilities of parents to guide their children.

As I grow, my family should direct and guide me so that I learn to use my rights properly.

**6**  **I should be supported to live and grow**


I have the right to life.

Governments should ensure that I survive and develop healthily.

**7**  **I have a right to a name and to belong to a country**


I have the right to a legally registered name and nationality.

I have the right to know and be cared for by both my parents.

**8**  **I have a right to an identity**

My right to a name, a nationality and family ties should be respected.

For example – This means that despite a person's nationality, name or family background, the UNCRC recognises that they are an individual and have a right to be so.

**9**  **I have a right to live with a family who cares for me**

I should not be separated from my parents unless it is for my own good – for example if a parent is mistreating or neglecting me.

If my parents are separated, I have the right to stay in contact with both of them, unless this might harm me.

In any discussions around separation, I should be given a chance to make my views known.

**10**  **I have the right to see my family if they live in another country**

Governments should let families move between countries so that parents and children can stay in contact.

If my family are living in different countries, I have the right to stay in contact with both of them.

**11**  **I have the right not to be taken out of the country illegally**

Governments should take steps to stop me being taken out of my own country illegally.

Governments should make agreements with other countries to guarantee this.

**12**  **I have the right to be listened to, and taken seriously**

When adults are making decisions that affect me, I have a right to say what I think and be listened to.

I have a right for my views to help inform decisions about what happens to me, at home, in school, in my community and in my country.

Adults should support me so that I can give my views in a way that is best for me to do so.

**13**  **I have the right to find out and share information**

This includes the freedom to find, get and share information of all kinds.

I can do this by talking, by writing, by creating art or whatever I choose.

I can do this as long as the information is not damaging to myself or others.

**14**  **I have the right to have my own thoughts and beliefs and to choose my religion, with my parents' guidance**

I have the right to practice my religion and believe what I want.

I have this right as long as I'm not stopping other people from enjoying their rights.

My parents should guide me on these matters.

**15**  **I have the right to meet with friends and to join groups**

I have the right to join groups and organisations as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights.

For example – I am free to move around my community and public spaces to meet others.

**16**  **I have the right to keep some things private**

My letters, diary or phone calls should be private.


The law should protect me from attacks against my way of life, my good name, my family and my home.

**17**  **I have the right to get information in lots of ways, so long as it's safe**

Television, radio and newspapers should provide information that I can understand.

No one should promote materials that could harm me.

The Government should encourage the production of children's books.

**18**  **I have the right to be brought up by both parents if possible**

Both parents share the responsibility for bringing up children.

Parents should always consider what is best for each child.

Governments should help parents by providing services to support them, especially if both parents work.

**19**  **I have the right to be protected from being hurt or badly treated**

Governments should make sure that I am properly cared for.

I have the right to be protected from violence, abuse and neglect from adults.

**20**  **I have the right to special protection and help if I can't live with my own family**

If I cannot be looked after by my own family, I must be looked after properly, by people who respect my religion, culture and language.

The Government should make sure that alternative care is available for me.

**21**  **I have the right to have the best care if I am adopted**

If I am adopted, the first concern must be what is best for me.

The same rules should apply whether the adoption takes place in the country where I was born or if I move to another country.

**22**  **If I am a refugee, I have the same rights as children born in that country**

If I have come into a country as a refugee, I should have the same rights as children born in that country.

Governments should try to help find the family of any refugee child.

**23**  **If I have a disability, I have the right to special care and education**

I have the right to a full and happy life and adults should support me to be an active participant in my community.

I have the right to special help and care to make sure I can receive education, health care services, and recreation opportunities.


Adults should support me to reach my full potential and individual development and provide opportunities for me to participate in activities with others.

**24**  **I have the right to good quality health care, to clean water and good food**

I have the right to good quality health care and to clean water.

I have the right to nutritious food and a clean environment so that I can stay healthy.

Rich countries should help poorer countries achieve this.

**25**  **If I am not living with my family, people should keep checking I am safe and happy**

I have the right to have a review of my care if I am looked after by the local authority rather than by my parents.

I have the right to have my situation reviewed regularly.

**26**  **My family should get the money they need to help bring me up**

I have a right to have a standard of living that is good enough to meet my mental and physical needs.

The Government should help families who cannot afford this.

**27**  **I have the right to have a proper house, food and clothing**

The Government should provide extra money for the children of families in need.

For example – If a family does not have money or is unable to support themselves the welfare state should help the children.

**28**  **I have the right to an education**

I have a right to a primary education, which should be free.

Schools should respect my dignity.

I should be encouraged to reach the highest level of education that I am capable of.

**29**  **I have the right to an education which develops my personality, respect for others' rights and the environment**

Education should develop my respect for human rights.

It should develop my personality and talents.

Education should develop my respect for the natural environment.

It should encourage me to respect my parents, my own and other cultures.

**30**  **I have a right to speak my own language and to follow my family's way of life**

I have the right to learn and use my own language whether or not these are shared by most of the people in the country where I live.

I have the right to follow the customs of my family whether or not these are shared by most of the people in the country where I live.

**31**  **I have a right to relax and play**

I have the right to play, relax, and join in a wide range of cultural, artistic, and other recreational activities.

Adults should think about what I need to make sure I have opportunities to play and relax in my local community and should involve me in planning.

I have a right to play and be with other children in a safe, supportive, stimulating and stress-free environment.

**32**  **I should not be made to do dangerous work**

The Government should agree a minimum age for when I can start work.

The Government should say how many hours I am allowed to work when I am old enough.

The Government should make sure that adults who don't stick to these rules are fined.

**33**  **I should be protected from dangerous drugs**

The Government should provide ways of protecting me from dangerous drugs.

For example – The Government should make sure I know about dangerous drugs and what they do and that I am protected from coming into contact with them.

**34**  **Nobody should touch me in ways that make me feel uncomfortable, unsafe or sad**

The Government should protect me from sexual abuse.

Nobody should do anything to my body that I do not want them to do, like touching me or taking pictures of me or making me say things I don't want to say.

If I have been harmed or abused I should get the help I need to recover.

**35**  **I should not be abducted, sold or trafficked**

The Government should make sure that I am not taken from my family illegally.

I should not be abducted, sold or trafficked.

The Government should make sure that I am not exploited.

**36**  **I have the right to be kept safe from things that could harm my development**

I should be protected from any activities that could harm my development.

For example – I shouldn't do work that is unsafe. That means that people who employ me should only do so when I'm old enough. They should only ask me to do things which are safe.

**37**  **I have the right not to be punished in a cruel or hurtful way**

If I break the law, I should not be treated cruelly.

I should not be put in prison with adults.

I should be allowed to keep in contact with my family.

I have the right to get legal help.

**38**  **I am not allowed to join the army until I am 15**

I am not allowed to join the army until I am 15.

If my country is at war, I should get special protection.

**39**  **I have the right to help if I have been hurt, neglected or badly treated**


If I have been hurt, neglected or badly treated I should get special help to make me feel better.

For example – I have the right to be given support if I want to get better following neglect, abuse, punishment or being involved in a war.

**40**  **I have the right to legal help and to be treated fairly if I have been accused of breaking the law**


If I am accused of breaking the law, I should get legal help.

Putting children or young people in prison should only happen for the most serious offences.

**41**  **Where our country treats us better than the UN does we should keep up the good work!**

If the laws in my country protect me better than the articles of the UNCRC then those laws should stay.

The rights listed in the UNCRC are a foundation on which Governments can build.

**42**  **Everyone should know about the UNCRC**

It is the government's job to make sure that adults and children know about the UNCRC.

They should make sure they do this in an appropriate and active way.

