

Youth Club Young Volunteer Handbook

Skill Development



Rights and Responsibilities

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Youth Club Young Volunteer Skill Development Rights & responsibilities

Training Plan

Aim: • To explore rights and responsibilities

Learning Outcomes: By the end of the session the participants will:

- have explored the range of rights and be able to explain what responsibilities young people and others have to protect these
- gained an understanding that with rights come responsibilities
- used different forms of drama to explore rights issues

Time: 1 hour

Group size: 4 - 6

Venue: Large room with chairs

Materials:

- UNCRC Lists of Rights
- Activity Cards “Acting Rights”
- Blue Tac
- 2 sets of Rights and Responsibilities Cards
- Flip Chart paper
- Pens
- Activity Sheet “Rights and Responsibilities” for each young person

TIME	WHAT	WITH
5 mins	Introduction: Explain aim of session and set basic ground rules including respect for each other, listen to who is speaking and only one person speaking at a time.	
10 mins	<p>United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child: Tell the group that United Nations (which nearly all the countries in the world belong to) has made a list of rights for all the children and young people in the world. Go through the list, either the UN list or the simplified version.</p> <p>Ask whether or not they think all the children in the world experience these rights at the moment? If not ask for or give examples (refer to a war going on at the time, or their schools “twin” in another part of the world where life is different). Perhaps young people will be able to think of some groups that are particularly vulnerable to exclusion – the homeless, for example?</p> <p>Stress this does not mean those young people do not have the rights – the rights are for everyone. It’s just that not everyone can get at them at the moment.</p>	UNCRC List of Rights

TIME	WHAT	WITH
15 mins	<p>Drama</p> <p>Divide the young people into groups and give each a scenario. Ask young people to devise a 1 minute drama to illustrate the rights theme they have been given (5 mins). Each group should perform their role play to the rest of the group. Then ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What feelings did the young people have as they played people who were deprived of these rights? • What could be done to change the situation? • What right was being withdrawn? 	Activity Cards “Acting Rights”
10 mins	<p>Matching Rights with Responsibilities</p> <p>Divide the group in half and hand each group a set of Rights and Responsibilities Cards. Ask them to match the rights with the appropriate responsibilities (5 mins).</p> <p>Bring group back together and discuss – reiterating that whilst everyone has the right to things, they have a responsibility not to take these rights from others</p>	2 sets of Rights and Responsibilities Cards
15 mins	<p>Rights and Responsibilities</p> <p>Give out the activity sheets. Ask young people to choose a right and think about what can be done to protect it. Encourage them to go beyond their individual responsibility and to consider others who are responsible for protecting rights: community and pressure groups, local government, central government and the international community.</p> <p>Come together and share ideas. Feed into the discussion the examples that have been given by young people from Peru (on health).</p> <p>Each person can then decide, either alone or through discussion with a partner, on one or two actions that they would like to take forward.</p>	Activity Sheet Rights and Responsibilities
5 mins	<p>Conclusion</p> <p>Summarise the key point that all citizens have rights – and young people have extra specific rights – which are linked to accepting responsibilities for the rights of others. Ask each young person to exercise their right to have a voice (or their right to refuse) by completing the sentence ‘The most important thing I learnt from this session was...’</p>	



Summary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

- ▶ **Article 1**
Everyone under 18 years of age has all the rights in this Convention.
- ▶ **Article 2**
The Convention applies to everyone whatever their race, religion, abilities, whatever they think or say, whatever type of family they come from.
- ▶ **Article 3**
All organisations concerned with children should work towards what is best for each child.
- ▶ **Article 4**
Governments should make these rights available to children.

Article 28

Children have a right to an education. Discipline in schools should respect children's human dignity. Primary education should be free. Wealthy countries should help poorer countries achieve this.

Article 29

Education should develop each child's personality and talents to the full. It should encourage children to respect their parents, and their own and other cultures.

Article 30

Children have a right to learn and use the language and customs of their families, whether these are shared by the majority of people in the country or not.

Article 31

All children have a right to relax and play, and to join in a wide range of activities.

Article 32

The Government should protect children from work that is dangerous, or that might harm their health or their education.

Article 33

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

Article 34

The Government should protect children from sexual abuse.

Article 35

The Government should make sure that children are not abducted or sold.

Article 36

Children should be protected from any activities that could harm their development.

Article 37

Children who break the law should not be treated cruelly. They should not be put in prison with adults and should be able to keep in contact with their families.

Article 38

Governments should not allow children under 15 to join the army. Children in war zones should receive special protection.

Article 39

Children who have been neglected or abused should receive special help to restore their self-respect.

Article 40

Children who are accused of breaking the law should receive legal help. Prison sentences for children should only be used for the most serious offences.

Article 41

If the laws of a particular country protect children better than the articles of the Convention, then those laws should stay.

Article 42

The Government should make the Convention known to all parents and children.

The Convention on the rights of the child has 54 articles in all. Articles 43-54 are about how adults and governments should work together to make sure all children get all their rights.

A convention is an agreement between countries to obey the same law. When the government of a country ratifies a convention, that means it agrees to obey the law written down in that convention.

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 16 December 1991. That means our government now has to make sure that every child has all the rights in the Convention.

Article 5

Governments should respect the rights and responsibilities of families to direct and guide their children so that, as they grow, they learn to use their rights properly.

Article 6

All children have the right to life. Governments should ensure that children survive and develop healthily.

Article 7

All children have the right to a legally registered name, and nationality. Also the right to know and, as far as possible, to be cared for, by their parents.

Article 8

Governments should respect children's right to a name, a nationality and family ties.

Article 9

Children should not be separated from their parents unless it is for their own good. For example, if a parent is mistreating or neglecting a child. Children whose parents have separated have the right to stay in contact with both parents, unless this might hurt the child.

Article 10

Families who live in different countries should be allowed to move between those countries so that parents and children can stay in contact, or get back together as a family.

Article 11

Governments should take steps to stop children being taken out of their own country illegally.

Article 12

Children have the right to say what they think should happen, when adults are making decisions that affect them, and to have their opinions taken into account.

Article 13

Children have the right to get and to share information, as long as the information is not damaging to them or to others.

Article 14

Children have the right to think and believe what they want, and to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Parents should guide their children on these matters.

Article 15

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

Article 16

Children have a right to privacy. The law should protect them from attacks against their way of life, their good name, their families and their homes.

Article 17

Children have the right to reliable information from the mass media. Television, radio, and newspapers should provide information that children can understand, and should not promote materials that could harm children.

Article 18

Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their children, and should always consider what is best for each child. Governments should help parents by providing services to support them, especially if both parents work.

Article 19

Governments should ensure that children are properly cared for, and protect them from violence, abuse and neglect by their parents, or anyone else who looks after them.

Article 20

Children who cannot be looked after by their own family must be looked after properly, by people who respect their religion, culture and language.

Article 21

When children are adopted the first concern must be what is best for them. The same rules should apply whether the children are adopted in the country where they were born, or if they are taken to live in another country.

Article 22

Children who come into a country as refugees should have the same rights as children born in that country.

Article 23

Children who have any kind of disability should have special care and support, so that they can lead full and independent lives.

Article 24

Children have the right to good quality health care, to clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment, so that they will stay healthy. Rich countries should help poorer countries achieve this.

Article 25

Children who are looked after by their local authority, rather than by their parents, should have their situation reviewed regularly.

Article 26

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

Article 27

Children have a right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and mental needs. The Government should help families who cannot afford to provide this.

Acting rights activity sheet

<p>You come in one evening and find your mum reading your diary</p>	<p>Your parents have just decided to separate and you hear them discussing where you should live. What about your say?</p>
<p>Your mum won't let you take your bike out. You tell her it is not fair and she says it's because the roads are dangerous</p>	<p>You use a wheelchair. Your family is moving house. You can't go to the school that you have chosen because it won't let you use a stair climbing wheelchair</p>
<p>You have been told that you will get into trouble if you keep hanging around with a particular group of friends. You feel it's not fair because your parents don't even know them</p>	<p>You want to watch a video, but your dad feels it is not suitable for someone of your age</p>
<p>You are walking down the corridor at break time. You see two girls teasing another because she is wearing different clothes and does not speak English fluently</p>	<p>You want to stay up late, but your mum won't let you because you've got school tomorrow</p>

**Youth Club Young Volunteer Skill Development
Rights & responsibilities**

Rights & responsibilities cards

(These should be enlarged, laminated and cut)

RIGHTS	RESPONSIBILITIES
I have the right not to be bullied	I have the responsibility not to bully others
I have the right to privacy in my bedroom	I have the responsibility to keep my bedroom tidy
I have the right to be myself	I have the responsibility to respect others and allow them to be themselves
I have the right to grow up healthy with good food	I have the responsibility to eat healthy things
I have the right not to be hurt or exploited	I have the responsibility not to hurt or exploit others
I have the right to a good night's sleep	I have the responsibility to go to bed when I am asked to
I have the right to live in peace	I have the responsibility to allow other people to live in peace
I have the right to play	I have the responsibility to let other children play
I have the right to grow up healthy with good housing	I have the responsibility to respect other people's homes and property
I have the right to say how I feel and have my views respected	I have the responsibility to respect other peoples views and feeling
I have the right to feel safe all the time	I have the responsibility to allow other people to feel safe all the time
I have the right to an education	I have the responsibility to let other children learn

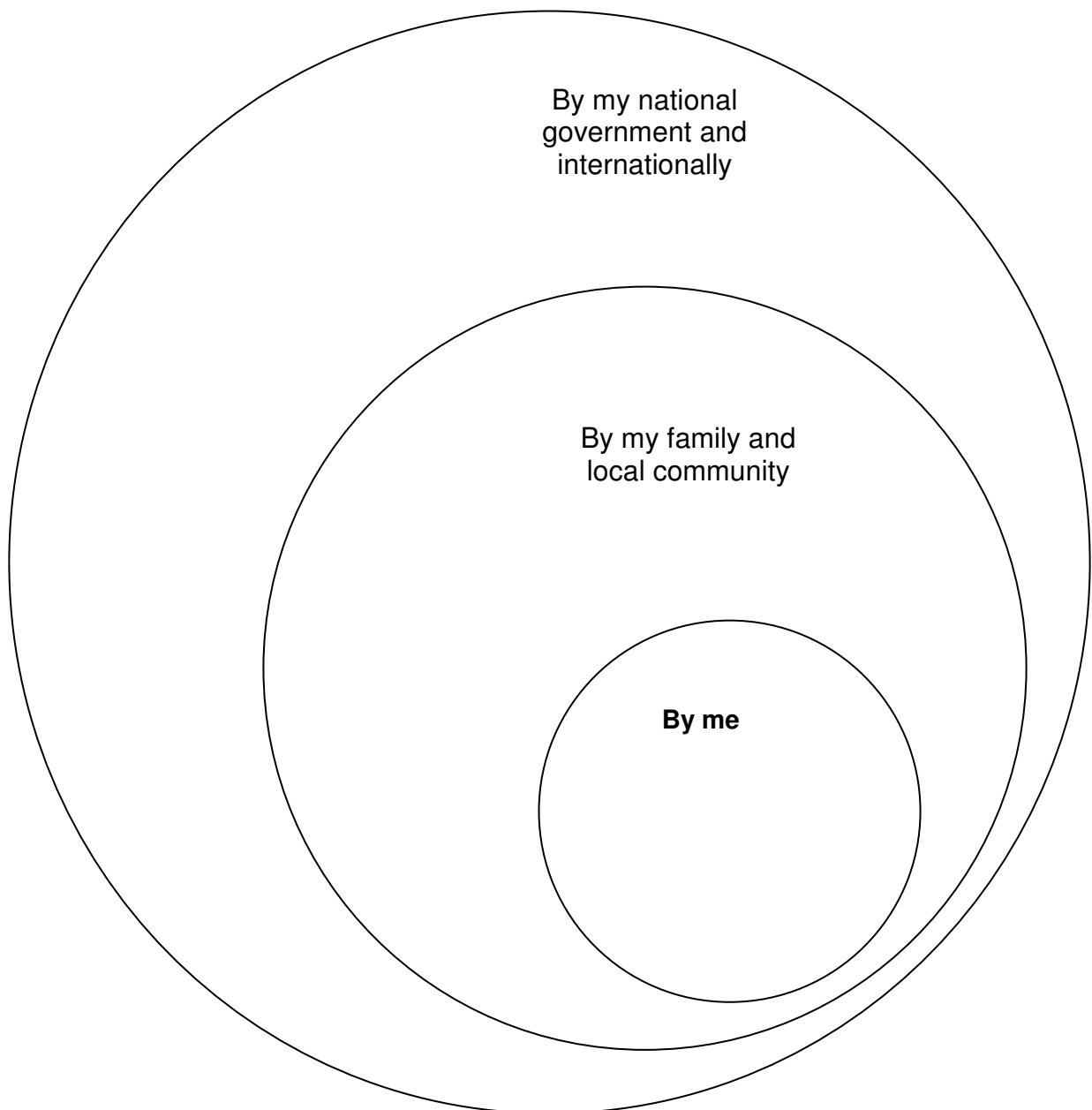
**Youth Club Young Volunteer Skill Development
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Rights & responsibilities handout

Choose a right and then fill in the circles, putting in ways the right can be protected by you or others

The right

How this right can be protected:



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Rights & responsibilities Example handout

The right to health

