

LESSON E-UVII-L3

Universal Declaration of Human Rights: How Can We Put It Into Action?

Unit VII: Building Better Futures: Narrative, Recovery, and
Responsibility

Grade Levels: K-5

Time: 30 Minutes



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Unit VII: Post 9/11: Challenges and Consequences

Grade Levels: K-5

Time: 30 Minutes

Interdisciplinary Connections

Character education, literacy, civics

Objectives

- Become aware and familiar with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Recognize and be able to explain how these rights relate to them.

Lesson Materials

Copy of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (the children’s edition can be found at

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/gallery/2008/oct/17/amnesty-declaration-human-rights-children>

Lesson Plan

- Read the Universal Declaration of Human Rights aloud to the students and show the pictures that accompany the rights in the book/website. (Variation: Ask students to read one of the “rights” aloud to the class.)
- Ask students the following questions and discuss them as a class:
 - Why are these rights important?
 - How do we respect these rights?
 - Do you think all children and adults feel like these rights are respected?
 - What can we do to make sure the rights of every person in the world are respected and honored?

Evidence of Understanding

- Have the students choose one of the rights that they feel is most important from the declaration. Ask them to create a drawing that depicts what this right means to them.
- Have the students discuss or write how they can make sure everyone around them feels that the right is being honored.

Taking Action and Giving Service

- Investigate the authorship of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Find out which countries of the world have officially adopted or endorsed the rights. Have the students discuss whether there are any nations that surprised them for their failure to officially endorse the rights.
- Ask the students to request the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by their community or a community organization. Have students identify an adult who can assist in achieving

this goal.

- Have students identify one example of a “right” in their own lives or the lives of those in their communities and share their ideas as part of a celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.