

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

**Grade Levels:** K-5

**Time:** 30 minutes

## **Lesson EVII-18: Universal Declaration of Human Rights - How Can We Put It into Action?**

### **Interdisciplinary Connections:**

Character education, literacy, civics

### **Objectives:**

- Students will become aware and familiar with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Students will recognize and be able to explain how these rights relate to them.

### **Key Terms:**

**Human rights**

**Universal**

**Respect**

### **Materials:**

- Copy of Universal Declaration of Human Rights - Children's version at: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/gallery/2008/oct/17/amnesty-declaration-human-rights-children?picture=338702837>

### **Activities/Procedures:**

- Read the declaration aloud to the students showing 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:**

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

### **Extension Activity: Taking Action and Giving Service:**

- Investigate who wrote the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Find out which countries of the world have officially adopted or endorsed the rights. Indicate if there are any nations that surprised you for their failure to officially endorse the rights.
- Ask students to tell one adult about the book and an example of a "right" in their own lives.



