

Little Thoughts
on
BIG Matters

EVERY DAY
IS
SATURDAY

ARTICLE OF THE WEEK

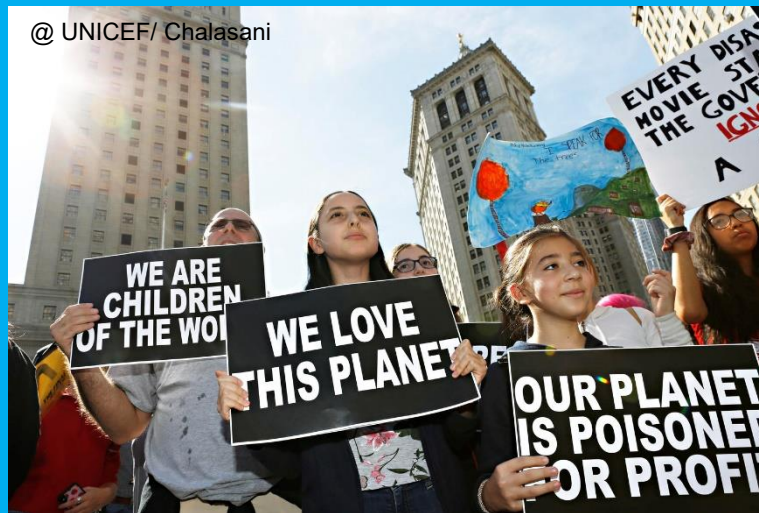


RIGHTS
RESPECTING
SCHOOLS



unicef
UNITED KINGDOM

GUESS THE ARTICLE



These pictures provide a clue to this week's articles.

How do these pictures help you? Can you guess how they are linked together?

Write down your thoughts or discuss with someone in your class.



INTRODUCING ARTICLE 12

Steven Kidd, RRSA Professional Adviser, introduces Article 12



Click [here](#) to watch on YouTube

Article 12 – respect for the views of the child

Every child has the right to **express their views, feelings and wishes** in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.





EXPLORING ARTICLE 12

Why should you be able to share your views and opinions on matters that affect you?



EXPLORING ARTICLE 12

Did you think of these?

- Being involved in decisions makes you feel like a part of it, you have ownership.
- Relationships between children and adults improve when there's communication.
- School is there to help children to learn, so it is important to put children at the centre.
- Children have some great ideas that adults might never think of.
- It helps to prepare you for adulthood.
- Children and young people feel valued.
- Involving young people means there are more people to make a difference.
- We all have different views and experiences, so including everyone means we get lots of perspectives.
- It can help you to learn about politics and democracy.
- It is your right to be involved in decisions which affect you!

What else did you think of?



PRIMARY ACTIVITIES



You do not need to complete every activity but if you have time, you can try to complete more than one.

For the youngest children: Talk about choosing at nursery/school – snack choices, who to play with etc. Discuss why is it important for children to have the opportunity to make choices. [This story](#) may help discussion about choices.



What **decisions** do you make in your house? What about in school? Do you think you should have more of a say? Write down your reasons why and try to persuade the grown-ups.

Think about what your face looks like when you like something, when you don't like something, or when you are scared or excited. Can you tell how someone else is feeling by looking at their **facial expressions**? How can we 'hear' people even when they don't speak so that we can **respect their views**?

Have you ever used [Two Stars and a Wish](#) to give feedback? It's really simple, you think about two things that were really good (stars) and one that you'd like to change (wish). Thinking about your last week at school, what would be your Two Stars and a Wish feedback? If you can, share this with your class.

PRIMARY ACTIVITIES 2

You do not need to complete every activity but if you have time, you can try to complete more than one.

What do the words 'opinion' and 'viewpoint' mean? Discuss as a class how your teachers listen to your opinions in different ways every day.



Have you heard of the **UN Global Goals**? Watch [this video](#) to show how the voice and participation of children and young people can make a difference. Can you think of one thing you could do to make the world a better place and promise to do it? Perhaps you could get other people to sign your pledge, too.

Listen to this story, [Everyone Gets A Say](#), then discuss with your class why it's important to listen to a lot of people's ideas.



People don't only share their opinions and thoughts through talking. Write a list of as many ways as you can think of **through which people share their thoughts and opinions**. Now pick one from your list and use it to share your opinion with the class.



REFLECTION

Give yourself some time and try to find a space where you can be quiet and think...

- How does it feel when you know you are being listened to and your views are respected?
- When has your voice and your views made a difference?
- If adults are not creating a space for your views to be heard, how can you respectfully claim this right? Who could help you?
- Are there more things you could speak up about in your own life or in the wider world? How might you do this - on your own or with friends?





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THANK YOU