



The Convention on the Rights of a Child

Learning About the Rights of Every Child All Over the World!

This booklet includes all 54 articles from the Convention on the Rights of the Child, simplified to a 3rd-grade reading level to ensure that children can easily understand its contents.



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INTRODUCTION

What are Human Rights?

Human rights are special rules that help everyone stay safe, happy, and respected. They belong to every person in the world, no matter who they are or where they live.

Why are Human Rights Important?

These rules protect the things we all need, like going to school, having a home, and sharing our ideas. They make sure everyone is treated fairly and kindly.

Who Protects Our Human Rights?

Everyone—like your parents, teachers, police officers, and government leaders—should respect and protect these rules. If you ever feel like your rights are not being respected, you can talk to a trusted grown-up like a parent, teacher, or counselor. You can also ask for help from the Turks and Caicos Islands Human Rights Commission. They are there to listen to you and make sure your rights are kept safe.



A group of diverse children and adults are smiling together. In the foreground, a young girl with curly hair is smiling broadly. Behind her, a young boy is also smiling. To the right, a woman is smiling. The background is slightly blurred, showing more people. The overall mood is positive and happy.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child is a list of special rules to help make sure all children stay safe, healthy, and happy. These rules say that if you are under 18, you have special rights—like the right to learn, play, and be heard. There are 54 different rules in this Convention, and this booklet will help you learn about each one so you know how to protect yourself and feel safe.

Articles 1–10

Article 1: These rules apply to anyone under 18 years old. That means all kids have these rights.

Article 2: No child should be treated unfairly because of who they are or where they come from.

Article 3: Grown-ups and leaders must do what’s best for kids first.

Article 4: Governments must make sure these rights happen for every child.

Article 5: Families can help children learn about their rights and how to use them.

Article 6: Every child has the right to be alive and grow strong.

Article 7: Kids have the right to a name and to belong to a country.

Article 8: Kids have the right to their own identity, like a name and family ties.

Article 9: Kids should live with their parents unless it’s bad for them. If not, they still have the right to stay in touch.

Article 10: If parents live in different countries, kids have the right to visit and be together if possible.

Articles 11–20

Article 11: The government should stop people from taking kids out of their home country if it's not safe for them.

Article 12: Kids have the right to share their thoughts, and adults should listen.

Article 13: Kids can find out things, share ideas, and talk openly (as long as it's respectful).

Article 14: Kids can choose their own beliefs and religion, with help from parents.

Article 15: Kids can meet with friends and join groups, as long as it's safe.

Article 16: Kids can have privacy—no one should bother their letters, calls, or personal stuff.

Article 17: Kids should be able to get information from books, TV, radio, and the internet, in safe ways.

Article 18: Both parents share the job of raising their children, and should always think of what's best for them.

Article 19: Kids should be protected from violence, hurt, or abuse by anyone.

Article 20: If a child can't live with their family, they should be cared for by people who respect their religion, culture, and language.

Articles 21–30

Article 21: Adoption should be done in a safe, legal way that’s best for the child.

Article 22: Kids who move to a new country to find safety should get help and protection.

Article 23: Children with disabilities have the right to live a full life and get special care if needed.

Article 24: Kids have the right to good health care, clean water, and healthy food.

Article 25: If kids can’t live at home, they have the right to have their living place checked to make sure it’s good and safe.

Article 26: Kids can get help from the government if they need money or support.

Article 27: Kids have the right to a good life, with enough food, clothing, and a safe home.

Article 28: Kids have the right to go to school and learn.

Article 29: Education should help kids develop their talents, respect others, and care about the world.

Article 30: Kids can use their own language and enjoy their culture and religion, especially if it’s different from most people.

Articles 31–40

Article 31: Kids have the right to rest, play, and enjoy fun activities.

Article 32: Kids shouldn't do work that is bad for their health or keeps them from going to school.

Article 33: Kids must be protected from dangerous drugs and from being used to make or sell drugs.

Article 34: Kids should be protected from sexual abuse or being hurt in a sexual way.

Article 35: Governments should make sure kids are not stolen or taken for bad reasons, like selling them.

Article 36: Kids should be protected from any other kind of exploitation that could harm them.

Article 37: Kids who break the law shouldn't be treated cruelly. They should go to jail only when there's no other choice, and they must be treated kindly.

Article 38: Governments should not let kids under 15 join the army, and must protect children during wars.

Article 39: Kids who have been hurt by war or any bad situation should get special help to recover.

Article 40: If a child is accused of breaking the law, they should be treated fairly, with help from a lawyer or another grown-up.

Articles 41–54

Article 41: If a country has laws that protect children more than these rules, those stronger laws should be used.

Article 42: Governments should tell kids and adults about these rights so everyone knows them.

Articles 43–54 explain how adults and governments around the world must work together to make these rights real. They also tell us about the Committee on the Rights of the Child, which checks that all countries respect these rights.

Key Takeaway

These 54 articles are like special rules that help all children stay safe, healthy, and happy. They also make sure grown-ups do their jobs to protect children. If you ever feel like your rights aren't respected, remember there are trusted adults who can help you and listen to you!

Children's Rights Affirmations

- I am important, and my voice deserves to be heard.
- I have the right to be safe and protected from harm.
- I am free to learn and grow every day.
- I have the right to be treated with kindness and respect.
- My ideas and opinions are valuable, and adults will listen to me.
- I deserve to play, relax, and enjoy my childhood.
- I am allowed to keep some things private, and that's okay.
- My health is important, and I can get help when I need it.
- I have the right to be loved and cared for by my family.
- I am unique, and my rights are for me and all children everywhere.



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