



Today's children are tomorrow's citizens. Today's youngsters are tomorrow's elders. Future of our society depends on the children. Their thoughts are boundless. Indian Constitution has given a few rights to all its citizens. Similarly, children have many rights. Parents, teachers, neighbours and society should be kind and affectionate to the children. Everyone should think about their development. Elders expect the children to be recognized and flourish in life and do take efforts to achieve their objectives. But, is it right to do? So, that are the different activities done in the name of children's development acceptable?

All the children are provided with the rights to education, better life standards, rights to participate in the games with freedom, protection against exploitation and express opinions freely etc.,

**Children! You must try to be happy.**

Record some incidents that make you happy

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Who are the people who make you happy

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What are the places that make you happy

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What are the activities that make you happy

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Children! now you know when you feel happy. Well! you also feel unhappy now and then. Try to remember on what occasions, which persons, things and places make you unhappy.

### Situations that make you unhappy

What are the incidents that make you unhappy

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Who are the people who make you unhappy

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What are some of the places that make you unhappy

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What are some of the activities that make you unhappy

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### Do you know?

Helen Keller was born in America. When she was 19 months old she had viral fever and lost both her vision and speech. She lost her hearing ability also. But her parents did not lose hope. Neither did they ridicule the girl and her disabilities. They tried to make her happy. Helen Keller learnt the Braille script at the age of 8 years. She learnt to speak under the supervision of her teacher, 'Saraputter'. She learnt language by keeping her fingers on the lips and throat of the speakers. She started giving speeches about the 'people with special needs' from the age of 33 years. Inspired by her determination, many Indian parents of children with disabilities, shifted them back to their homes and started paying personal attention. Helen Keller inspired many people in various ways.

The children who are happy and healthy will grow up as good citizens and strive for the development and pride of India.

Now, let us know the different rights you have.

### 16.1. Child rights

Children have four main Rights.

1. Right to Survival
2. Right to Protection
3. Right to Development
4. Right to Participation

As part of the above, children have many Rights.

Look at the pictures on Child Rights

1



Right to have complete health

2



Right to have pure drinking water

3



Right to have parental protection

4



Right to conduct associations

5



Right to have the name wanted

6



Right to get nutritious food

7



Right to survival

8



Right to get protected from sexual (Mental & Physical) exploitation

9



**Right to adopt any nationality**

10



**Right to get social safety**

11



**Right to have fun**

12



**Right to get free and quality education**

13



**Right to relaxation**

14



**Right to participate in cultural programmes**

15



**Right to receive love and affection**

16



**Right to play**

17



**Right against physical and economical exploitation**

18



**Right to get protection from humiliation**

19



**Right to appreciation**

20



**Right to freedom of expression**

21



**Right to get identified as citizen**

22



**Right to get protection from violence**

23



**Right to express one's feelings**

24



**Right to get honoured**

25



**Right to get protection from wars**

26



**Right to get information**

27



**Right to freedom of thought**

28



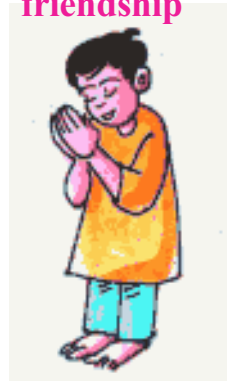
**Right to have love and friendship**

29



**Right to get equal health opportunities**

30



**Right to behave with self-consciousness**

31



**Right to social equality**

32



**Right to get relief from social discrimination**



**Right to freedom of Religion**



**Right to receive equal educational opportunities**



**Right to get equal cultural opportunities**

### Group work



- ◆ Which of the above mentioned Child Rights you enjoy?
- ◆ What are the rights you want to enjoy now, which are not already provided to you?
- ◆ What do you do to ensure that all the Children enjoy their rights?
- ◆ You want to enjoy Rights. In your opinion, how and who should help you to get these rights.
- ◆ Who are street children? Why did they become street children? What should we do with them?

## 16.2. What should be done at home?

No one should not consider the children as workers or sources for earning money, Some children are made to work and are forced to do whatever is told to them. Sometimes they don't even get proper food to eat and they have to fulfil all the demands of the adults. But, everyone should act and protect their rights.

Good environment should be created for their growth. Children's opinions should be honoured. Decisions related to them should be taken after consulting them. Their likes and dislikes should be respected. They should be sent to school. No questions of targets because child labour is illegal and should not be punished in the name of discipline. Write down what else should be done.

## 16.3. What should be done at the school?

Child Rights should be identified and effected. The children should not be subjected to violence either physically or mentally they should not be punished for not doing homework nor for not being able to read and write or not for getting the 1<sup>st</sup> rank etc; They should not be forced to accept anything against their will. They should be called by their names. They should not be scolded. Everyone should be friendly with them. Healthy atmosphere for growth should be created. Write down what else should be done.

## 16.4. What should be done in the society?

Society should respect the future citizens. As elders our rights are recognised. Children's rights also should be identified and respected. They should be given preference in every thing. They should be identified as growing people. Equal opportunities should be provided.

Children's rights should be protected every where. At home, school, society and wherever they participate, their rights should be understood and protected. Elders should know the child rights and act accordingly.

## 16.5. Parliament of children

Child Parliament can be formed with 30 children from the age group of 6 years to 19 years. The children of that area become members. The child parliament can discuss the issues of education, health, problems of children, denial of Child Rights etc., Every week they can conduct meetings and try to protect the Children's Rights. They can work with the organizations who work for the protection of Child Rights. In Kerala, there are 6 lakh child members in 2722 Child Parliaments. Think about the children who lost their rights working as bonded labour all over the world. What can you do to bring justice to them? Think... and participate in the preparation of programmes. Let us all work together to protect the Child Rights with a confidence of achieving success.



### Do This



- ◆ Establish a Child Rights protection club at your school. Conduct the programmes in full swing.
- ◆ Meet the people who work for the protection of Child Rights. and be a part of their programmes.
- ◆ Form a Children's Parliament. Work for the protection of Child Rights through the Child Parliament.

## 16.6. Who cooperates for the protection of child rights?

### 16.6.1. Centre for the protection of child rights

Centre for the protection of child rights will take action against the persons who violates child rights and torture children physically or mentally. They take measures according to right to compulsory and free education Act-2009 (R.T.E.). Punishing children for not paying the fee, not studying properly, not attending to domestic work is a crime according to law. When child rights are violated, you can call the number **18004253525** and give details. Action will be taken. This is a free service. This office is situated at Rajiv Vidya Mission in Hyderabad.





### 16.6.2. Child rights protection club

Child Rights protection clubs should be started in each and every school. Children should become the members of this club. This ward help in the protection of child rights. They should meet every month and review the proceedings. The important activities of this club are to ensure that Child Rights are not violated and to fulfil the needs of the children.

- Always be happy. Play games. Ask and find out about things without fear. Remember asking questions is your birthright and mankind has progressed only by asking questions. Participate in every thing. Follow your likes. Honour the rights of other children. Act freely.



### 16.6.3. Special help centre for children - child line

#### To Whom?

The centre is for child labourers, street children, children subjected to discrimination, children habituated to drugs, victims of child marriages, H.I.V. / Aids infected children.

#### How does it function?

The children or the persons who want to help the children can dial the tollfree number 1098. Then the information will be passed to the officials on child line. They respond immediately and take proper action for the children. They unite the children with their parents when it is needed; otherwise, send the children to children's rehabilitation centres and provide free accommodation and education.

#### Think and say

- ◆ What should we do for the implementation of Child Rights at the school?
- ◆ Why should we establish Child Rights protection club? What are its programmes?
- ◆ On what occasions the child line should be used and how?

#### Keywords

Child rights	Right to development	Child parliament
Right to survival	Right to participation	Centre for protection of child rights
Right to protection	Healthy atmosphere	Child rights protection club



## What have we learnt?



### 1. Conceptual understanding

- What are the Rights of the children?
- What is right to participation? Where should the children participate?
- Why are the children losing their Rights?

### 2. Questioning and hypothesis

- Write 5 questions on Child Rights.

### 3. Experiments - field observations

- Observe the children of your village and write down the Rights they are losing.

### 4. Information skills, projects

- Collect the following particulars from your class. How many children are healthy? How many children play games every day? How many children take Mid-day-meals? How many children ask questions freely? How many children are called by their names?

### 5. Communication through mapping skills, drawing pictures and making models

- By drawing pictures show how the children look like when they play and sing happily.

### 6. Appreciation, values and creating awareness towards bio-diversity

- Some children go to work without attending school. These children lose their childhood. They don't enjoy their Rights. What do you do to Re-admit them into the school?
- Write some slogans on Child Rights keeping in view what parents and teachers should do. Exhibit them in the classroom.
- Join as a member of Child Rights protection club in your school. Inform your problems to your Headmaster.

### Can I do this?

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|---|----------|
| 1. I can explain about Child Rights.  | Yes / No |
| 2. I can ask questions about Child Rights.  | Yes / No |
| 3. I can collect the details on Child Rights.   | Yes / No |
| 4. I can help the children to go to school and see that the Child Rights are implemented. | Yes / No |