
CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

SECONDARY LEVEL

A New Planet Activity

Orientation Activity

- **Purpose:** the purpose of this activity is to introduce students to human rights by identifying the essential qualities that make us human. At the same time, this activity will demonstrate that rights are universal and don't vary based on superficial differences.
- **Instructional method(s):** group activity, class discussion.
- **Differentiated instruction:**
 - Students perform task independently.
- **Estimated time:** 10 minutes
- **Steps:**
 1. Divide the class into groups of four.
 2. Ask students to imagine the following scenario:
 - A small new planet has been discovered that has everything needed to sustain human life. No one has ever lived there. There are no laws, no rules, and no history. You will all be settlers there and in preparation, your group has been appointed to draw up the human rights for this new planet.
 3. Instruct students to work together to do the following:
 - Give their planet a name.
 - Decide on ten human rights that should be guaranteed to the settlers of this new planet.
 4. Ask each group to present their list to the class. As they do so, make a master list that includes all the rights the group mentioned, combining similar rights.
 5. Discuss human rights using the following discussion questions:
 - Did your ideas about which rights were most important change during the activity?
 - What would life be like on this planet if rights were excluded?
 - Are there any rights that you would like to add to the final list?
 - Are there one or two rights that you think are most important?
 6. Before concluding this activity, ensure students have a preliminary understanding of human rights.

Stand up for children's rights by taking the Vow of Silence. Learn more about this empowering campaign at www.weday.com/takeaction.