

## Introduction

Tell the UN how good of a job Ireland does in protecting the rights of children. Help the Committee for the Convention on the Rights of the Child determine what it needs to tell the Irish Government to help improve the lives of all children living in Ireland.

### 1. Discuss Card: (8 mins per card)

There are seven discussion cards each with a different theme. Spend 4-5 minutes in small groups of 4 children discussing the card.

### 2. Complete the 2 sentences on each card:

Each card asks you to complete two sentences. The first is a positive statement about how well Ireland provides for children, the second is a statement about how Ireland can improve.

### 3. Rate Ireland from 1-10 for each card

After you've discussed the theme and finished your sentences, give each theme a rating from 1-10.

### 4. Swap cards and repeat

### 5. Rate Ireland.

When you have discussed all of the cards or have run out of time. Add up all of your ratings and divide the total by seven. This is your overall rating for how well Ireland protects children's rights.

### 6. Take a picture with the class

Write the rating on A4 (nice and large) and group together with all your results and take a photo. Email your photo to [info@pictureyourrights.com](mailto:info@pictureyourrights.com)

### 7. Take a picture at home

Take your own picture of your rights, when you go home. Go to [PictureYourRights.com](http://PictureYourRights.com) and ask your parents to fill in the consent form and post your photos to [info@pictureyourrights.com](mailto:info@pictureyourrights.com)



# Being Me

## Me

You have the right to be who you are and to have that respected by others.

### Think about:

Yourself, what makes you special? What is your identity?

### Talk about:

#### Younger Group

1. What do you have in common with the people around you?
2. What makes you different to the people around you?
3. What makes you proud to be you?
4. Is it difficult for you to feel different to others?

#### Older Group

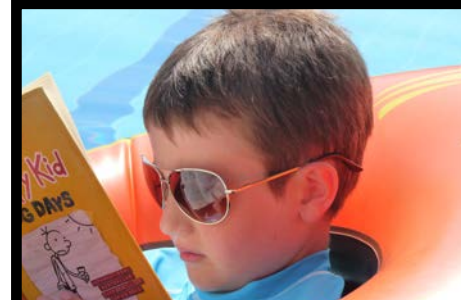
1. What does being Irish mean to you?
2. Do you have any other culture or identity that you belong to other than Irish?
3. Does your identity get recognised and appreciated in Ireland? How does that make you feel?
4. Do you feel different to most Irish people? Is it difficult for you to feel different to others?

### Complete these sentences

1. We are proud of Ireland because....
2. We are not so proud of Ireland because...

Rate from 1- 10, on how well Ireland supports you to be who you are.

1



# Being Involved

## Participation

You have the right to be involved and help make decisions about things that have to do with you.

### Think about:

When was the last time someone asked you for your opinion?

### Talk about:

#### Younger Group

1. What do you participate in?
2. Do people listen to you and does it matter to them what you say? How does that make you feel?
3. Do adults encourage you to take part?

#### Older Group

1. Are you involved in the running of your house, community, school, club?
2. Do you make decisions about things that affect you?
3. What things should young people have a say in?

### Complete these sentences

1. In Ireland, children are included in.
2. Sometimes we wish children were more included in...

Rate from 1-10, how well Ireland supports you to be involved and make decisions that matter to you.

2



**DAN GRIFFIN**  
Young people have a right to have their opinions heard on the children's referendum and other plebiscites that directly affect them, according to the director of Unicef Ireland.  
Peter Power said Unicef spent time talking to children across Dublin to hear how they felt their rights were being addressed and to find out what they thought about the referendum itself.  
Young people's understanding of the amendment is high, he said. "They understand clearly that the events which have happened in Ireland over the last 20 or 30 years have partly been caused by fundamental deficits in our constitution."



# Feeling Safe

## Safety

You have the right to be and feel safe.

### Think about:

What do I need to feel safe?

### Talk about:

#### Younger Group

1. Where do you feel safe?
2. What makes you feel safe?
3. Who helps to keep you safe?

#### Older Group

1. What does it feel like to be safe?
2. Where are places you feel safe/unsafe?
3. What sometimes causes children to feel unsafe?
4. What should adults do to make children feel safe?

### Complete these sentences

1. Children are safe in Ireland when....
2. Sometimes children don't feel safe because...

Rate from 1-10, how safe Ireland feels to you.

3



# My Skills

## Learning

You have the right to learn and build skills that help you have a good life.

### Think about:

What do you think about school?

### Talk about:

#### Younger Group

1. Do you like learning.
2. Do you get enough help when learning is difficult?
3. Who helps you learn besides your teacher?
4. What would you like to learn more about?

#### Older Group

1. What do you think about school?
2. Who helps you to learn beside your teachers, do you get enough help?
3. Do you learn enough, is there anything you feel you should be learning that you are not?
4. What do you need to learn to have a good life.

### Complete these sentences

1. Our school is good at teaching us....
2. School needs to be better at teaching us....

Rate from 1-10, your learning and education in Ireland.

4



# My Care & Wellbeing

## Feeling Good

You have the right to feel good, to be well cared for, healthy, and safe.

### Think about:

What makes you feel good?

### Talk about:

#### Younger Group

1. Who takes care of you?
2. What keeps you healthy?
3. Where do you play?

#### Older Group

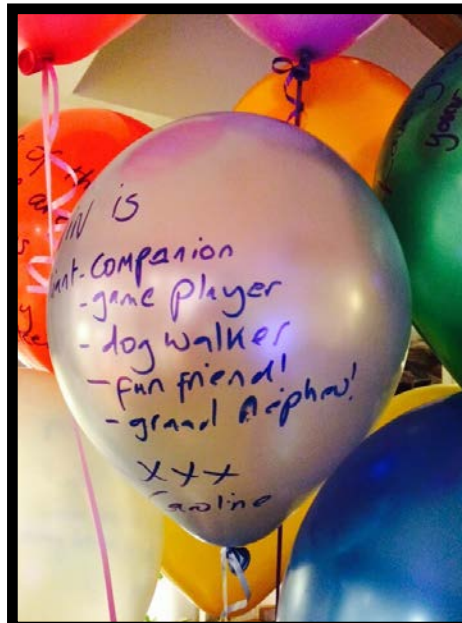
1. What do children need to be well cared for?
2. Are there enough places to play, clubs to join and things to do as a child?
3. Do you feel healthy and are you fit and active?
4. Do you have time to play and be with your friends?

### Complete these sentences

1. Ireland helps to make sure we are well cared for by....
2. Ireland be better at caring for all children by having more....or being better at.....

Rate from 1-10, how well Ireland ensures you are well cared for and healthy.

5



## Fair Play

# Every Child

Every child deserves to have their needs met and rights protected. No child should be treated badly.

### Think about:

What do children need to feel equal to other children.

### Talk about:

#### Younger Group

1. Who should make sure children are well cared for? What do children need to be well cared for?
2. Do children get treated badly by others because of who they are?
3. Do all children have what they need in Ireland to feel well cared for?

#### Older Group

1. Is Ireland a fair place to live for all children?
2. Do children get discriminated against because of who they are or what they look like?
3. What might some children in Ireland not have that they need to be cared for and protected?
4. Whose job is it to make sure all children are cared for and have their needs met?

### Complete these sentences

1. We think Ireland makes sure all children....
2. We think Ireland would be a fairer place for children if....

Rate from 1-10, how well Ireland makes sure children's needs and rights are met.

6



# My Future

## Life

You have the right to a future and a world that meets your needs and helps you to thrive.

### Think about:

What will my life be like in 15 years?

### Talk about:

#### Younger Group

1. What would you like to be when you grow up?
2. What will the planet look like in 15 years?
3. So you have any worries about the future?

#### Older Group

1. Does Ireland do a good job in protecting the environment?
2. Do politicians listen to children and think about their future when making decisions?
3. Are you learning the skill you need to live and thrive in the future?
4. What do you think will be the important issues for the government in 15 years?

#### Complete these sentences

1. In 15 years we think Ireland will be a good place to live because...
2. To protect our future Ireland needs to make sure....

Rate from 1-10, how well Ireland invests in your future.

7





# Our Views

## Rate Ireland 1-10

### Directions:

Fill in a number from 1-10 for each student add all the numbers together and divide by 4 or the number of students in your group. Fill in the total.

### Being Me:

<input type="text"/>	+	<input type="text"/>	+	<input type="text"/>	+	<input type="text"/>	=	<input type="text"/>	/4 =	<input type="text"/>
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### Being Involved:

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### Feeling Safe:

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### My Skills:

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### My Care and Wellbeing:

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### Fair Play:

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### My Future:

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Total divided by 7:

1. **BEING ME:** We are proud of Ireland because \_\_\_\_\_

however we are not so proud of Ireland because \_\_\_\_\_

2. **BEING INCLUDED:** In Ireland children are included in \_\_\_\_\_

however sometimes we wish children were more included in \_\_\_\_\_

3. **FEELING SAFE:** Children are safe in Ireland when \_\_\_\_\_

however sometimes we don't feel safe because \_\_\_\_\_

4. **MY SKILLS:** Our school is good at teaching us \_\_\_\_\_

However school needs to be better at teaching us \_\_\_\_\_

5. **CARE&WELLBEING:** Ireland helps to make sure we are well cared for by \_\_\_\_\_

however Ireland could be better at caring for children by having more \_\_\_\_\_

or being better at \_\_\_\_\_

6. **FAIR PLAY:** We think Ireland makes sure all children \_\_\_\_\_

however we think Ireland would be fairer place for children if \_\_\_\_\_

7. **MY FUTURE:** In 15 years we think Ireland will be a good place to live because \_\_\_\_\_

however to protect our future, Ireland needs to make sure \_\_\_\_\_

## Consent form

Dear Parent/Carer,

We will be running a workshop with our class focusing on children's rights. Children will be participating in small group discussions.

This is part of the *Picture Your Rights* Project, to create a Children and Young People's Report for the UN Committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Ireland will be reviewed by the Committee next year and we would like as many young people as possible to participate and have their voices heard. The report is underway and will be completed by the 20th of February.

We would like (if the children are willing) to take photos and include them on our website [www.pictureyourrights.com](http://www.pictureyourrights.com), in the report and in an exhibition for the launch of the report in March.

If you wish for your child to participate in the activity, please complete this consent form.

This project is for all young people under 18. If you have other children who might like to participate or if you would like to get more information about the project please go to [www.pictureyourrights.com](http://www.pictureyourrights.com) or contact Vivienne Parry at UNICEF offices on (01) 809 0280.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, confirm that I am the parent / legal guardian of

Name of child: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Age of Child: \_\_\_\_\_

**I confirm that I have given my full consent for my child to participate in the project and be photographed as part of the class. Examples of images below.**

**I allow my child's first name, age and school to be displayed along with their photograph.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

