



child rights LaunchPad

GUIDANCE FOR ADULTS

Version 4, August 2017
unicef.org.uk/rights-launchpad

FOR EVERY
CHILD

unicef 
UNITED KINGDOM

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THANK YOU

Unicef UK would like to give special thanks to our supporters and funders of Child Rights Launchpad – in particular, the **Scottish Government, International Inspiration (IN)**, and the **Hugh Fraser Foundation** – as well as everyone who donated to Unicef UK during the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.

If you have questions or feedback about this resource, please contact us:

0207 375 6059 | RRSA@unicef.org.uk



Thank you for visiting Unicef UK's **Child Rights Launchpad** and for downloading this guidance for adults. We'd encourage you to read the full document, but below you'll find a step-by-step [Quick Start Guide](#) to take you through the basics.

REGISTERING YOUR ACCOUNT

If you haven't already done so, the first step is to register as an Adult Guide at launchpad.unicef.org.uk/guide-signup. Please allow up to 48 hours for your account to be activated. As part of your registration you will receive a 'Launchpad Code'. Remember, every teacher or adult working with children should create their own individual Adult Guide account. When the children and young people you are working with are creating their own accounts, they will be asked for this code – this will link their account to yours.

FAMILIARISE YOURSELF WITH LAUNCHPAD

As well as the Adult Guidance documents, your Launchpad account allows you to browse through the content which children and young people will see (by accessing the menu in the top right of your account home page). Within your account you can also reset passwords and perform other administrative functions for attached child accounts.

Within Child Rights Launchpad there are three levels of difficulty:

- Level 1 for ages 3 to 7
- Level 2 for ages 8 to 12
- Level 3 for ages 13 to 18.

If you are working with children or young people who are generally performing at a level higher or lower than their age would suggest, you may wish to exercise some guidance in selecting a level that coincides with their stage of development during the creation of their accounts.

PLAN YOUR GROUP'S USE

This is a good time to create a skeleton plan of how you will use the resource. Launchpad is extremely flexible and can be used in numerous ways – see page 14 of this guidance for sample models of use.

It is important to recognise that not every child and young person you work with will have all of their rights respected, and exploring some issues may evoke strong feelings in both children and adults – it is not a passive activity. We ask that you familiarise yourself with your establishment's child protection policies and regularly remind children and young people of who they can talk to about any concerns. We also recommend providing parents with information about use of the resource (see the letter template for parents in this guidance).

ENGAGING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The next step is to create one or more child accounts, depending on how you intend to use the resource. As part of children's registration they will have to enter their level and the 'Launchpad code' provided to the Adult Guide. The first time they log into their new account, they will be asked to create an alien character, called a 'Super You'. The Super You will follow them on their journey, gathering new accessories as they complete missions.

After the child or young person creates their character, they will then be asked to choose which six missions (articles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child) they wish to explore. This is a free choice from the available articles. If the children and young people are working in a large group, it is advisable to discuss this together before making a choice.

USING THE RESOURCE

When the six missions have been chosen, this is a chance for you to get to grips with the specific content of those missions, ahead of exploration by the children and young people. You should explore the content directly through your account with support from the mission-specific guidance for adults. Based on your previous experience of working with the group, you may wish to consider how best to support the content of the mission – this could include an introduction or some reflective questions of your own, how you might facilitate or modify the suggested activities and how you will support the children and young people to take further action if they are inspired by the mission.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT

When users have completed all six missions, you will be able to access individual certificates through your Adult Guide account. Why not do something special and distribute these at a special assembly or organise a group event? We'd be keen for you to share any photos and stories of your experience with us, by contacting programmes@unicef.org.uk or tweeting us [@Unicef_UK](https://twitter.com/Unicef_UK).





Child Rights Launchpad is an award-winning digital resource for children and young people in Scotland. It has been made possible by Unicef UK's official partnership with the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Launchpad has been developed alongside key organisations working for children in Scotland, including the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland. It has been designed to bring aspects of Health and Wellbeing in Curriculum for Excellence to life in a wide range of settings, including classrooms, community centres, sports clubs and youth clubs.

The resource provides a platform to inspire children and young people to explore and express their rights, empowering them to lead happier and safer lives, as well as building empathy and a better understanding of the challenges facing other children across the world.

This guidance sets out key information about children's rights, as well as how to introduce and deliver Launchpad in schools and other settings.

WHAT IS CHILD RIGHTS LAUNCHPAD?

The Child Rights Launchpad is a resource to help children and young people in Scotland learn about and be empowered by their rights. Launchpad explores children's rights and how they are experienced in both Scotland-specific and global contexts.

The resource is designed to be an introduction to children's rights. We hope it provides a 'launchpad' for children and young people to be inspired to learn more about their rights and to enjoy them to the full.

The Launchpad journey takes place online through a space-themed website, with content including accessible chunks of information, case studies, film and photographs.

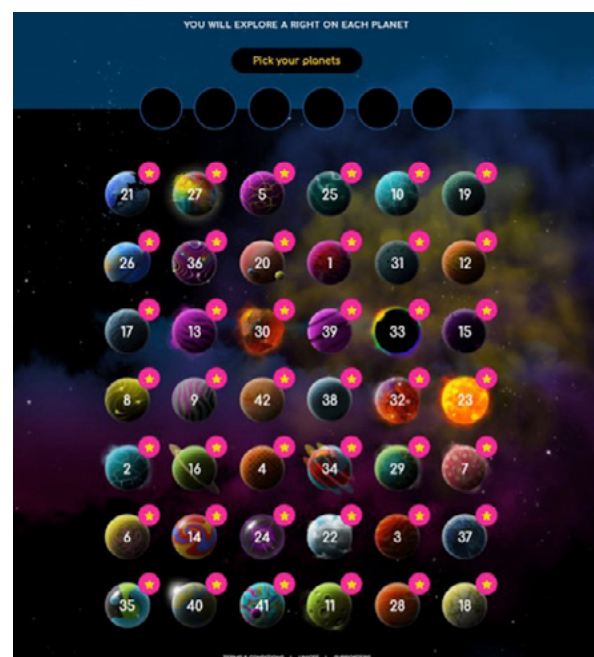
WHO IS LAUNCHPAD FOR?

The Launchpad is for all children aged three to 18.

The resource is pitched at three different levels, broadly aimed at three separate age bands:

- Level 1 for ages 3 to 7
- Level 2 for ages 8 to 12
- Level 3 for ages 13 to 18.

The level is chosen when a child account is created. Where children are using the game through individual child accounts, you may wish to exercise some guidance in selecting a level that coincides with their stage of development.



WHAT IS THE ROLE OF AN ADULT GUIDE?

Launchpad requires an Adult Guide to support children on their rights journey. The role of the Adult Guide is to help answer questions and to help children with the activities, if they need it. This Adult Guide could be a teacher, coach, youth worker or other adult.

WHAT ARE CHILDREN'S RIGHTS?

Children's rights refer to the rights of the child, enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). This important international agreement applies to every child up to the age of 18. The Convention was established in 1989 and ratified by the UK in 1991 – it has the most signatories of any international human rights agreement. The UNCRC sets out 54 articles covering the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights that allow children to experience full and happy lives. The first 42 articles under the UNCRC relate directly to children; the rest concern national and international arrangements for protecting children's rights.

The UNCRC has four articles with special status, called General Principles. These articles are guiding principles through which every article under the UNCRC should be read. They are:

- Non-discrimination (Article 2)
- The best interests of the child (Article 3)
- The right to life, survival and development (Article 6)
- The right of children to be heard, and have their views taken into account on matters that affect them (Article 12)

The Convention enshrines a minimum level of requirements for children to have an adequate standard of living, the highest attainable health, rest, leisure, play and recreation. Children's rights aim to ensure every child has the best possible childhood.

In addition to the UNCRC, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has introduced three Optional Protocols, which offer additional legal mechanisms on specific issues related to children's rights. These are:

- The Optional Protocol to the UNCRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict
- The Optional Protocol to the UNCRC on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography
- The Optional Protocol to the UNCRC on a Communications Procedure (not yet ratified by the UK)

LAW IN SCOTLAND

Scottish law and policy offer multiple protections for children's rights. Significantly, the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 puts direct obligations on Scottish Ministers to give due consideration to the UNCRC as they develop policy and legislation. It also requires them to promote awareness and understanding of children's rights.

Launchpad has been exclusively designed for children in Scotland - as such, the resource makes specific reference to Scottish legislation and policy throughout. The purpose of this is to provide a relatable reference for children in Scotland to understand their rights in practice.

Every day, individuals and organisations show their commitment to children's rights in different ways. This need not always come from detailed knowledge of international or domestic law, but is borne out of deep respect and compassion for children.

WHY IS CHILD RIGHTS EDUCATION IMPORTANT?

Children are rarely in a position to stand up for their own rights, so it's important that they are given the opportunity to know and understand what treatment and protections they are entitled to receive.

A child rights approach to education involves educating in a way that reflects the principles set out the UNCRC, helping to enable children to learn about and enjoy their rights. Following a child rights based approach to education has been shown to generate numerous positive outcomes for children.

A 2010 Unicef evaluation reported that child rights education promoted increased tolerance, better behaviour in class, higher self-esteem, improved well-being, and an increased understanding of democratic principles and citizenship.

Child rights education also plays a key role in encouraging children to become Global Citizens. To be a Global Citizen is to actively participate in the global community, concerning yourself with social, political, economic and environmental issues, as well as contributing to building shared values and practices across the globe.

MORE ABOUT THE UNCRC

The UNCRC describes the necessary conditions for a safe, happy and fulfilled childhood for every child up to the age of 18.

It values the family as the best place for children and young people to grow up 'in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding'. It places duties on governments to support families.

It says the views of children must always be heard and treated with importance, whether at home, in school or in wider society. It also grants children other civil rights such as freedom of expression, freedom to choose and practice a religion if they choose and the freedom to meet together in public.

It has zero-tolerance of violence against children, and requires that care and assistance be provided for those subject to abuse, neglect or exploitation.

It requires education to be aimed at developing children's personalities, talents and abilities, with school discipline that reflects their human dignity.

It gives additional protection and assistance to children who are at risk of their rights being violated – disabled children, those unable to live with their families, children in conflict with the law and child refugees, for example.

It states that all of the rights in the treaty belong to every child without any form of discrimination (including that connected to the status of parents).

MORE ABOUT UNICEF UK'S WORK

Unicef UK works for children in more than 190 countries. We believe that every child, no matter who they are or where they live, has the right to grow up healthy, happy and safe.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child underpins all of Unicef UK's work. We advocate for governments to protect and promote the rights of every child. We believe that children's rights should never be compromised by their circumstances.

We work for lasting change for children right here in the UK through our advocacy with government and through our work across the country : Rights Respecting Schools, the Baby Friendly Initiative and Child Rights Partners, as well as through initiatives like Child Rights Launchpad.

We are a UK registered charity, supported entirely by donations. We do not receive any money from the UN.

For more information, please visit [unicef.org.uk](https://www.unicef.org.uk)

USEFUL DOCUMENTS FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

- [Evaluation of Unicef's Rights Respecting Schools Award](#)
- [The full text and summary text of the UNCRC](#)



GETTING STARTED WITH LAUNCHPAD

See also our quick start guide on pages 3 and 4 at the start of this guidance.

SIGNING UP

If you are intending to support the children you work with through Launchpad, register as an Adult Guide at [unicef.org.uk/launchpad](https://www.unicef.org.uk/launchpad) where you will be required to provide some personal information such as your name, date of birth and occupation, in order to create an account. Remember, every teacher or adult working with children should create their own individual Adult Guide account.

Your registration will be validated by Unicef UK within 48 hours. As Launchpad is an educational resource, this validation process is designed to ensure that only those who work professionally with children are granted access. Therefore to ensure quick validation, **please register with your work email address.**

Once your account has been validated, you will receive your 'Launchpad code' via email. **Please note that this code is not your password** – you chose your password when you

registered. This code should be passed onto the children that you will be working with. They will need it to create their child accounts, which can be accessed here: launchpad.unicef.org.uk/child-signup-form

The code links child accounts to your adult account, enabling you to perform simple administrative functions like resetting passwords, deleting or resetting child accounts, checking progress through the game and awarding certificates to children on completion of their Launchpad journey.

It is also possible for children to sign up using an adult's email address, if they have not been given a code. The adult will be notified, by email, that a child has nominated them as their Launchpad guide. The nominated Adult Guide will then be asked to login or sign up to activate the child's account.

DATA PROTECTION AND CONSENT

We ask children to consent to using Launchpad upon registration, before they start using the resource, and to accept our child-friendly terms and conditions on the registration page when creating an account. For children younger than 13, we recommend that parental consent is also confirmed prior to beginning the Launchpad journey.

See the template letter we have provided for parents, providing information about Launchpad and an option to opt-out.

No data on children will be stored by Unicef UK, other than for use in the Launchpad game. The information we store is limited to: first name, age category, username and password.

If one or more of the children that you work with does not consent to the use of their details to create a child account, they may still be able to participate in another way. Please see the models of use guidance on page 14 for information on creating a purpose-made child account for group use.

HOW DOES LAUNCHPAD WORK?



- Once a child account has been created, the user is taken to a page displaying 42 planets. Each planet represents one of 42 articles under the UNCRC that directly relate to children.
- Users must select six planets for their Launchpad journey in order to start the game. Each planet contains a mission relating to a UNCRC right.
- Once the child moves through the related information, images and videos, they will be asked to complete an activity.
- Activities can be completed away from the computer, individually or in small groups. The length of time required for each activity is flexible but we advise that you consider this before starting each mission. Remember, you can review all of the missions prior to selection by viewing them through your adult account first.
- After completing the activity, the children will be asked to confirm that they have finished the task. They will then go on to explore how that right is experienced, or not experienced, by children in other countries.
- Following this section, there is a shorter activity based on the global examples that they have just explored.
- Finally, they will be asked to complete a reflective quiz.

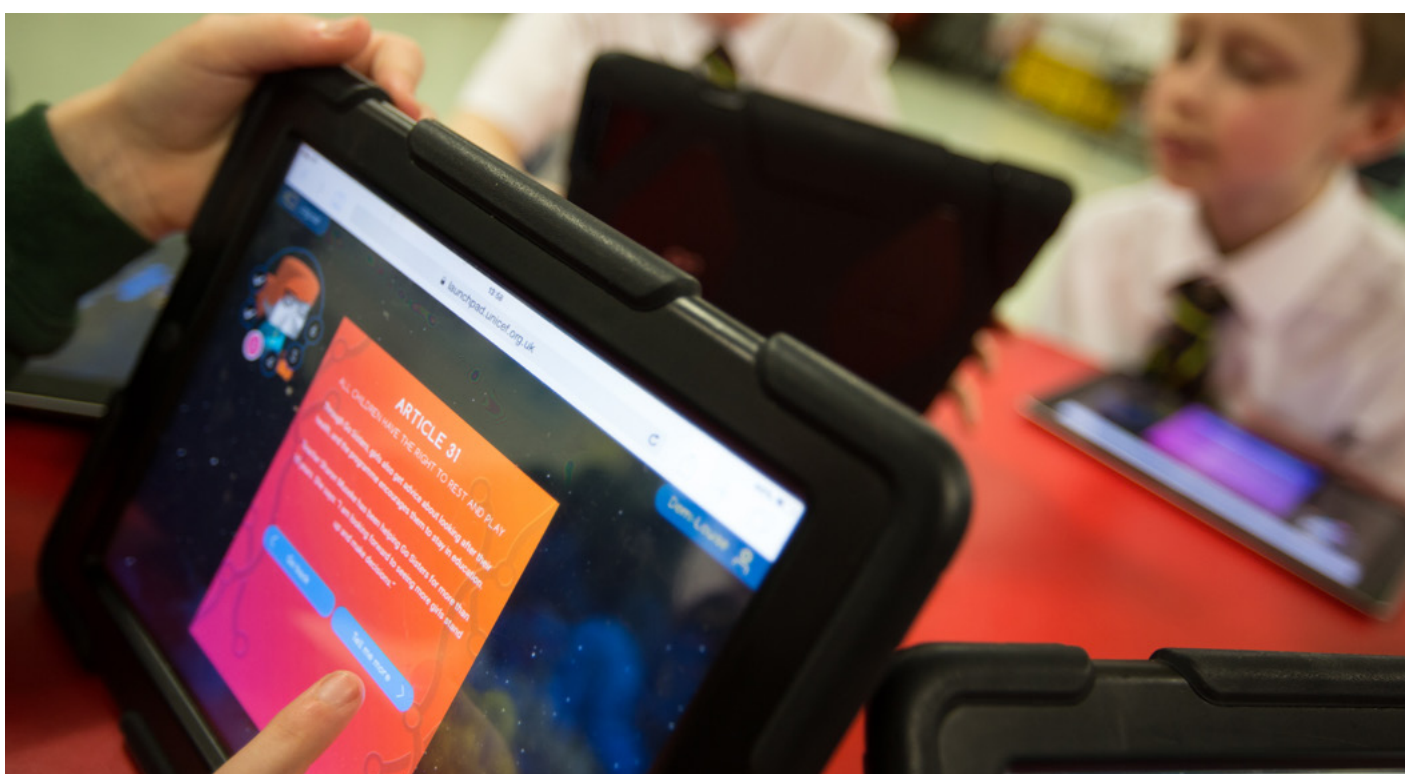
LAUNCHPAD LINGO

- **Level** – the Launchpad has three levels for three age ranges: 3 to 7, 8 to 12, 13 to 18.
- **Mission** – the game is structured in missions, each exploring a right from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Each mission takes place on a 'planet'. The numbers of the planets relate to the numbers of the articles in the UNCRC.
- **Journey** – the child chooses six missions to explore at the start of the game - this is described as a journey. A user can complete more than one journey, if they choose to do so.
- **Activity** – each mission includes two suggested activities, to help children explore and enjoy that right. These should happen away from the computer in small groups, supported by the Adult Guide.

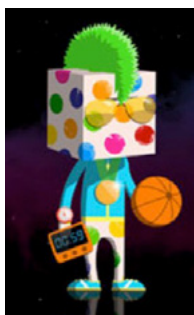
In some missions at Level One and Level Two, children will see an additional Traditional Games feature. This gives them the option to play a traditional game from one of the countries explored in the global example. If the child wants to take part in this physical activity, [PDF instructions](#) for playing the game can be downloaded.

Users will receive a star for each mission that they complete, and a reward for their 'Super You' character when they complete a journey of six missions and have earned their six stars.

Once a child has completed a six-mission journey, you will be able to download and print a personalised certificate to recognise their achievement.



LAUNCHPAD FEATURES



1. Super You' Avatar

When creating their child account, children will be asked to create a customised 'Super You' character. They will be able to choose their clothes, hairstyles and accessories! This avatar stays with them throughout their Launchpad Journey, collecting rewards as they progress through the game.

2. Listen Here

Children from schools across Scotland have contributed their voices to our Listen Here feature: when a user sees a 'Listen Here' button, they can click to hear the content being read aloud.

3. Traditional Games

With Launchpad's development rooted in the Commonwealth Games, we are keen to promote sport and physical activity. For some missions at Levels One and Two, we've included instructions for traditional games linked to countries explored, highlighting the universality of children's rights across the world, including the right to play.

4. Personalised Certificates

Once six missions have been successfully completed, children can be awarded a personalised certificate to mark their achievement. These can be downloaded and printed.

5. Preview the Game

After your registration as an Adult Guide has been approved, you will be able to preview all of the site's content across the three levels by logging into your account and viewing the drop-down menu in the top right hand corner of your homepage screen.

6. Mission-by-Mission Guidance

Detailed guidance is available for each mission, at each level of the resource. These documents are designed to help you to plan your Launchpad sessions.

You can see the Mission-by-Mission guidance here:

- Level 1: ages 3 to 7
- Level 2: ages 8 to 12
- Level 3: ages 13 to 18

See also: the Guide to the Planets. This guide groups planets into themes, such as 'participation and voice' and 'health and development' and can help you with planet selection.

7. Delete or Reset Child Accounts

You can delete or edit a child account by clicking on the edit tab, situated to the right hand side of the child's username, as it appears on your Adult Guide homepage. This feature allows you to delete a child account for a child that is no longer under your supervision or to reset a child's selected missions. You also have the option to unlink a child user from your account if, for example, they are to have a different Adult Guide in the future.



IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

Our ambition is that children across Scotland will experience and enjoy this resource. Fundamental to its success is that children feel motivated to find out about and experience their rights, and that they are in control of their own learning and actions. We therefore ask that you do not introduce Launchpad as a compulsory activity, or mark or grade children's 'work'.

While Launchpad's tone is upbeat and positive, the resource does feature some case studies and stories of children and young people whose rights are not respected and upheld. Many of these illustrate children and young people (and adults) seeking to make changes in their lives. We do not analyse in any depth the reasons behind persistent violations of children's rights.

We have been careful to avoid representing children who suffer infringements of their rights as having identifiable characteristics, or living in only some countries and continents. Children in every part of the world, and in every community, village, town and city, can experience violations of their rights irrespective of their background and circumstance.

Launchpad is a resource for children aged between three to 18 years old. Younger users will require close help from adults. Regardless of age, adult support will maximise all children's learning experience. It is our hope that you will widely promote Launchpad and support the children you work with to get the most out of the resource. You can find promotional materials on our website: <https://launchpad.unicef.org.uk/>





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Launchpad is an interactive learning resource, using a different style and format to more traditional resources. It is intended to be fun and engaging for children and young people of all ages, with meaningful activities that introduce them to the real world of children's rights. Below are some key Frequently Asked Questions. If you have any questions that are not answered here, please contact us at: programmes@unicef.org.uk

WHAT IS CHILD RIGHTS LAUNCHPAD?

The Child Rights Launchpad is an innovative online resource to help children and young people in Scotland learn about and be empowered by their rights. Launchpad explores children's rights and how they are experienced in both Scotland-specific and global contexts.

WHO CREATED IT?

Unicef UK created the Child Rights Launchpad. The resource has been developed alongside organisations working for children in Scotland, including the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland.

Visit unicef.org.uk to find out more about Unicef UK's work in the UK and overseas.

HOW OLD DO CHILDREN HAVE TO BE TO USE LAUNCHPAD?

Launchpad is for all children aged between three and 18 years. It has been designed for three different age groups: ages 3 to 7, ages 8 to 12, and ages 13 to 18. When registering, children will be asked to select a corresponding level of one, two or three. You may want to adapt the chosen level depending on a child's stage of development. The content varies significantly in substance and tone at each level - you can review content through your adult account.

WHY SHOULD OUR SCHOOL/ORGANISATION TAKE PART IN LAUNCHPAD?

You probably don't need persuading as to why it's important for children to find out about their rights, but here are three big reasons why we hope that you'll take part:

- Over 25 years ago the United Nations agreed more than 42 rights for children all over the world. One of these rights is that children are given the opportunity to learn about what their rights are.
- The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 requires Scottish Ministers to give due consideration to the UNCRC in policy and legislation. This includes a duty to promote awareness and understanding of children's rights.
- Launchpad brings rights to life! The missions available for completion on the website encourage child participation and engagement with political issues in Scotland as well as in other parts of the world - helping the children you work with to become Global Citizens! Article 12 of the UNCRC (right to participation) is considered a General Principle of the UNCRC, this means it should be considered when thinking about any of the other articles in the Convention.

WHAT WILL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE LEARN?

This resource informs children of their rights under the UNCRC, in a fun and accessible way.

Launchpad enables children to explore at least six articles from the UNCRC in depth. For more information on the rights, content and activities at each level and mission please see the Mission-by-Mission Guidance.

WHAT IS A MISSION, HOW DOES IT WORK?

To use the Launchpad, you must first select six missions to complete online. Each mission corresponds with an article of the UNCRC. Each mission follows this format:

- General information about the right
- Information about how the right is experienced in Scotland
- First activity
- Information about how that right is experienced in one or more different countries, depending on the chosen level
- Second activity
- Quiz
- Optional Traditional Game (Levels One and Two)
- Mission complete

For more information on the missions, and how they relate to one another, please see our [Mission-by-Mission Guidance](#).

WHAT PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OR SKILLS DO CHILDREN NEED TO USE LAUNCHPAD?

It doesn't matter how much the children you are working with already know about their rights. They simply need to be curious about children's rights and how they are experienced in the UK and overseas.

WHAT PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OR SKILLS DO I NEED TO BE AN ADULT GUIDE?

You don't need any prior knowledge about child rights to be an Adult Guide - just a desire to help the children that you work with to learn about and feel empowered by their rights.

HOW MUCH TIME WILL IT TAKE?

While we recommend taking seven weeks to complete a six-mission journey, there's no real time limit. Children can work at their own pace to complete all six missions. Once the first six planets have been explored, children can go on to explore another six planets, and another, until all 42 available planets have been completed.

WHY DO I NEED TO REGISTER AS AN ADULT GUIDE FIRST?

Launchpad requires an Adult Guide to support children on their rights journey. The role of the Adult Guide is to answer questions and to help children with the activities, if they need it. This Adult Guide could be a teacher, coach, youth worker or other adult.

OUR SCHOOL IS INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF UNICEF UK'S RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS PROGRAMME – HOW DO WE GET INVOLVED?

If you'd like to get involved in the Rights Respecting Schools Award and discover how to make the UNCRC a reality in all aspects of your school's life, you can find out more on our website: [unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/](https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/)

HOW CAN I SHOW SUPPORT FOR UNICEF UK'S AIM TO HELP EVERY CHILD LEARN ABOUT THEIR RIGHTS?

There are a number of ways your school/organisation could support Launchpad. For example you could:

- Encourage all staff in your school/organisation to sign up to Launchpad and integrate the resource into their routine work with children and young people.
- Nominate an individual staff member to co-ordinate and/or lead the delivery of the resource across your school/organisation. If you are an RRSA school, this might be your School's RRSA Lead.
- Promote the [resource in communications](#) with children, young people and families.
- Make computers and Internet access available to children's groups in your area who want to use Launchpad but do not have their own facilities.
- Consider including learning about the UNCRC as a feature in your school/organisation's staff training and development.



As an Adult Guide it's up to you how and when you introduce the children that you work with to Launchpad, and how you decide to deliver the resource. This section includes information on:

**MODELS
OF USE**

**ADVICE ON
DIFFICULT
CONVERSATIONS**

Don't forget, you can download [Mission-by-Mission guidance documents](#) for each level of the resource, from the 'Information for Adult Guides' section of Launchpad. This guidance contains descriptions of the content for each mission at each level. These notes also include preparation hints and tips and suggestions for extension activities, as well as highlighting relevant links to Curriculum for Excellence and GIRFEC.

MODELS OF USE

As an online resource, Launchpad requires access to a computer, tablet or smartphone, as well as connection to the Internet. It is suited to both individual and group learning, with adult support.

We anticipate that children will benefit from practical support from an adult, particularly when the activities involve communication with decision-makers and others, although some children will complete all the missions without significant input from an adult.

The activities have been designed to reflect, where possible, authentic processes and activities undertaken by children's rights advocates. They encompass situational analysis, information collection, agreeing goals and solutions as well as presenting views and ideas. These are adapted at each level, for each age group.

Below we suggest four models of use for Launchpad. In making these suggestions, we hope not to discourage creativity in making the resource work for you in your individual setting. We also recognise that many children will complete the Launchpad in a different way to their peers.

The models for use that we propose are:

- 1. SEVEN-WEEK COURSE**
- 2. WHOLE CLASS OR GROUP USE**
- 3. HOLIDAY PROJECT**
- 4. RIGHT OF THE MONTH**

1. SEVEN-WEEK COURSE

This model prescribes that children explore a different mission on Launchpad, completing the associated activities, over a seven-week period. Individual missions should take approximately 60 minutes to complete, making the resource well-suited for delivery in a one-hour weekly class.

Ideally, the first of the seven sessions should introduce the concept of child rights to the children you are working with. This initial session should be used to engage the class in a discussion about which six articles of the UNCRC you will be exploring. It should also allow for some time for the children to create their own individual child account (approximately 15 minutes should be allocated to this task). The remaining six weeks should enable the children to explore one mission per week.

Spacing the learning experience over seven weeks gives children time to reflect on what they have learned. It also enables parents and carers to assist in the activities, and for any queries and concerns to be addressed.

A seven-week course requires a regular investment of time and commitment to the journey, and at least weekly access to computers. At the end of the seven weeks, you may choose to celebrate the completion of the journey through a ceremony with the children in your class receiving their personalised Launchpad certificates.

2. WHOLE CLASS OR GROUP USE

Launchpad is designed to 'launch' children into rights exploration. This makes Launchpad an ideal resource for group discussion and debate, on children's rights and rights more broadly. For example, if you are interested in helping the children that you work with learn about religious acceptance and diversity, you may be interested in exploring Article 14.

If you have access, we suggest using Launchpad through an interactive whiteboard to allow for optimum class engagement and discussion. To facilitate this, it is advised that the Adult Guide creates one purpose-made child account for the whole class. Next, choose the six planets that you feel most pertain to your chosen topic for debate and discussion. For example, you might want to explore child wellbeing with: Article 3 (Best interests of the child); Article 6 (Survival and development); Article 12 (Respect for the views of the child); Article 24 (Health services); Article 27 (Adequate standard of living) and Article 28 (Right to education).

When it comes to doing the activities on the mission, we suggest splitting the group that you are working with into small teams of four to six, so that children can work together to complete the activities.

3. HOLIDAY PROJECT

Individual missions can take up to 60 minutes to complete, with additional time sometimes being required for the activities. This means Launchpad can be well-adapted to a school holiday project.

This model allows a valuable opportunity for parents and care-givers to support their child's Launchpad journey.

If you are working with children in a school environment, we advise that you set six related missions to explore as part of their holiday task. If you think it would be appropriate, you could ask the children in your class/group to bring in photos, write a short journal, or engage in another creative activity to showcase their achievement.

You may want to choose the planets based on a particular theme, for example exploring six UNCRC articles relating to refugee children: Article 22 (Refugee children); Article 3 (Best interests of the child); Article 2 (Non-discrimination); Article 9 (Separation from parents); Article 19 (Protection from all forms of violence) and Article 29 (Goals of education). You can use our [guide to the planets](#) and the [UNCRC summary document](#) for further help with choosing missions.

This approach requires that the children have access to a computer, tablet or smartphone device and an Internet connection at home.

4. RIGHT OF THE MONTH

In order for children to have the most meaningful engagement with their rights, we suggest exploring a full six-mission journey on Launchpad. However, we do acknowledge that completing six missions may not be possible if time pressures and securing access to the appropriate facilities are a problem. In this instance, you may want to use Launchpad to explore a particular article of the UNCRC in relation to a current news topic or curriculum subject area. Feedback from teachers already using Launchpad has shown that choosing a 'Right of the Month' can offer a very positive way to engage children in discussion about their rights, as well as helping them to think about rights more generally in a global context.

To use the resource in this way you can select the appropriate level and choose which of the planets you wish to explore through your Adult Guide account, by using the preview function available in the top right hand corner of your adult account homepage. This method allows you to dip in and out of the game without committing to a full Launchpad journey, however, the avatar and reward features will not be available when using the site in this way. The method works well with a class/group through an interactive whiteboard.

We've identified some examples of different rights of the month that you may wish to explore with the children you work with. Please be aware that the specific dates provided may be subject to change, but the month in which the specific day takes place will not change.

For more information on selecting a right of the month you can see [Unicef UK's 'Linking Events to Rights' information](#) on the Rights Respecting Schools website.

MONTH	RIGHTS DAY	RELATED UNCRC ARTICLE
JANUARY	World Religion Day 15 January	Article 14 Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
FEBRUARY	International Mother Language Day 21 February	Article 30 Rights of children in minorities and indigenous groups
MARCH	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination 21 March	Article 2 Right not to be discriminated against
APRIL	World Health Day 7 April	Article 24 Right to healthcare
MAY	International Day for Biodiversity 22 May	Article 6 Right to survival and development
JUNE	World Refugee Day 20 June	Article 22 Right of special protection for refugee children
JULY	International Day of Friendship 30 July	Article 31 Right to play and leisure
AUGUST	International Youth Day 12 August	Article 4 Protection of rights
SEPTEMBER	International Right to Know Day 28 September	Article 17 Right to access information
OCTOBER	National Children's Book Week 31 October – 4 September	Article 29 Right to education
NOVEMBER	Universal Children's Day 20 November	Article 3 Best interests of the child
DECEMBER	International Day of Persons with Disabilities 3 December	Article 23 Rights of children with disabilities

GET INVOLVED IN OUR WORK

We are interested in collecting examples and case studies of how Launchpad is introduced and delivered in different ways and settings. If you would like to work with us to develop new case studies for our models of use, please contact us: programmes@unicef.org.uk

ADVICE ON DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS

Human rights have implications for all of us. They affect individuals, groups and our societal structures. Thinking about the ways in which rights are implemented, protected or violated, in their own or other people's lives, can evoke strong feelings in both adults and children. It is our experience that children are invigorated and empowered by learning about their rights, but this is not a passive journey. Learning about rights invites children to consider the extent to which their own rights, and the rights of people they care about, are respected.

Every child will not enjoy all of their rights, all of the time. The personal circumstances of the Launchpad users will vary widely and whilst the material has been designed to be fun, we recognise some of the material could stir up difficult feelings for some children. In some instances this may be the first time a child has received the strong message that they have rights and can expect to be treated well in all settings.

Parts of Launchpad deal with sensitive topics, like the right to protection from all forms of violence, abuse and neglect. These topics obviously have the potential for children to question their own situations but, equally, every child will respond to the material in their own way and there may be other elements of the resource that evoke a powerful response. For example, family separation may be particularly poignant for children who have experienced a family break up; a child who is disabled or has a disabled sibling may recall painful experiences of exclusion; and content relating to the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion may raise difficult dilemmas for children and young people who have contrasting beliefs to parents or peers.

Given the range of topics covered on Launchpad, and the individual responses of children, we do not believe it will be possible to anticipate with accuracy which individual children may need additional support and when. We therefore ask that you regularly remind all children that there are people and organisations who they can talk to about any worries or questions they may have about their own rights and the rights of others. It is also helpful to have information about ChildLine and other key agencies in the room/area in which children and young people complete their Launchpad journey.

If you review the material yourself and have good knowledge of the personalities and circumstances of children and young people using Launchpad, you may decide to proactively offer particular individuals reassurance and space to talk. Sharing how you found some of the information – for example, that it made you feel sad or surprised – might be all that is needed to initiate a supportive conversation.

Before using Launchpad you should ensure that you are familiar with your school/ organisation's child protection policies, so that you are clear about how any specific concerns should be reported and where you will get your support from should this situation arise.

There are many other organisations besides Unicef UK promoting and protecting the rights of children and young people in Scotland. Below are some key programmes and organisations – visit their websites by clicking on the organisation's name or through a quick online search.



USEFUL RESOURCES AND ORGANISATIONS

[Article 12 in Scotland](#)

An organisation committed to human rights and equality for all young people; it takes its name from article 12 of the UNCRC (children and young people's right to have their views treated with importance).

[Children's Parliament](#)

An organisation implementing children's rights through supporting children to be heard and helping adults to listen better.

[Curriculum for Excellence](#)

Scotland's approach to education for all children and young people aged 3-18 years. The UNCRC's aims for education are reflected in Scottish education law and therefore this curriculum.

[Education Scotland](#)

The public body set up by government to support the best education for Scotland's learners.

[Recognising and Realising Children's Rights](#)

A professional development resource for all adults working with children and young people in Scotland.

[Children and Young People's Commissioner in Scotland](#)

The legal body set up by Parliament to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Scotland.

[Scottish Youth Parliament](#)

Up to 200 Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (aged between 14 and 25 years) are elected to campaign on behalf of young people.

[Speakers Trust in Scotland](#)

Provides public speaking courses for young people and adults.

[Together \(Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights\)](#)

The umbrella organisation for children's rights in Scotland.

[Who Cares? Scotland](#)

Promotes the rights of children and young people in care in Scotland.

[Young Scot](#)

The national youth information and citizenship charity. They provide young people, aged 11–26, with a mixture of information, ideas and incentives to help them become confident, informed and active citizens.

[5 Rights](#)

5 Rights takes the existing rights of children and articulates them for the digital world.

HANDY DOCUMENTS



Dear Families,

We are writing to inform you that our school will be using **Unicef UK's Child Rights Launchpad** this school year. Child Rights Launchpad is an interactive educational resource from Unicef UK, which has been designed to help children and young people learn about their rights under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

Child Rights Launchpad started out of Unicef UK's official partnership with the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. The resource has been exclusively designed for children in Scotland, using examples of how children enjoy their rights within the context of Scottish law and policy. It also looks at ways in which children's rights are, and are not, respected, both in the UK and globally.

To represent the universality of children's rights, Child Rights Launchpad covers all of the UNCRC's 42 rights that relate directly to children. Some of these rights include sensitive topics, such as the right to be protected from violence, neglect and exploitation. Your child's class teacher will decide, taking into account the age and maturity of the pupils, as to how best to explore the more sensitive articles of the UNCRC in class.

HOW DOES CHILD RIGHTS LAUNCHPAD WORK?

Your child's teacher will register as an Adult Guide on the Child Rights Launchpad website. Once their account has been approved by Unicef UK, they will receive a code via email. This code will then be passed on to your child enabling them to create their own account, at one of three appropriate age levels.

On creating their account, your child will only be required to enter their first name, username and password. Unicef UK does not hold any personal data on children and young people. Once your child has created their account they will be able to create a personalised avatar and start exploring their rights on Child Rights Launchpad's fun, space-themed interface.

Your child's teacher may choose to use Child Rights Launchpad in a group setting which will not require your child to create their own account.

WHY SHOULD MY CHILD TAKE PART?

There are many reasons for your child to use Child Rights Launchpad. Studies have shown that learning about children's rights can lead to children having increased tolerance, better behaviour in class, higher self-esteem, improved well-being, and an increased understanding of democratic principles and citizenship.

Child Rights Launchpad is an excellent tool to help your child to become a global citizen, actively participating in projects that address global issues of a social, political, economic and environmental nature.

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD IN THEIR CHILD RIGHTS LAUNCHPAD JOURNEY?

- Encourage conversations about rights in your home, such as the right to play, the right to the best possible health, the right to freedom of expression, etc.
- Think about which rights apply to different issues in the news.
- If possible, support access to a computer, laptop or tablet at home.
- Help your child to think about how they can enjoy their rights, and help other children enjoy their rights.
- If your child has been set Child Rights Launchpad work as holiday work, you can help to support them through their journey.

If you'd like to find out more about the resource and/or the rights held under the UNCRC please see the following links:

- Resource web address: launchpad.unicef.org.uk
- UNCRC summary: unicef.org.uk/what-we-do/un-convention-child-rights

Thank you.



UNICEF CHILD RIGHTS LAUNCHPAD OPT-OUT FORM

If for whatever reason you would not like your child to participate in using the **Child Rights Launchpad** resource at school, please sign and submit this form to your child's class teacher. If you choose for your child to opt-out of participating in **Unicef UK's Child Rights Launchpad** there will be no implication for your child's learning.

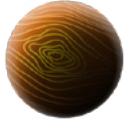







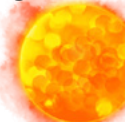







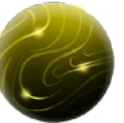

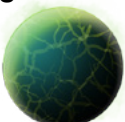


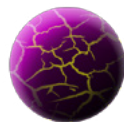

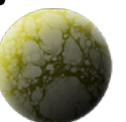




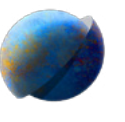
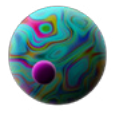

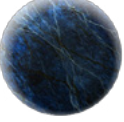

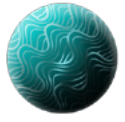








Parent or Guardian Name

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

Each planet covers one Article of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The numbers of the planets correspond to the Article numbers.

It is our experience that children and young people are invigorated and empowered by learning about their rights. But learning about children's rights is not a passive activity: it necessarily invites children and young people to consider the extent to which their own rights, and the rights of people they care about, are respected. Missions marked with a star (*) cover particularly sensitive topics, and require careful planning before exploring them with children and young people. Guidance on difficult conversations can be found in this guidance. Full [mission-by-mission guidance](#) for each level is available.

<p>These planets explore participation and voice</p> <p>12  13  14  15  17 </p>	<p>This planet explores the definition of a child</p> <p>1 </p>	
<p>This planet explores best interests</p> <p>3 </p>	<p>These planets explore inclusion</p> <p>2  23  30 </p>	<p>This planet explores the right to be safe</p> <p>19 </p>
<p>These planets explore health and development</p> <p>6  24  27  39* </p>	<p>These planets explore identity</p> <p>7  8 </p>	
<p>These planets explore education</p> <p>28  29 </p>	<p>This planet explores the right to privacy</p> <p>16 </p>	<p>This planet explores the right to play</p> <p>31 </p>
<p>These planets explore the role of parents, the rights of looked after children and adoption</p> <p>5  9*  18  20*  21*  25 </p>		
<p>These planets explore the implementation of the convention</p> <p>4  26  41 </p>	<p>This planet explores telling people about rights</p> <p>42 </p>	
<p>These planets explore detention and punishment</p> <p>37*  40* </p>	<p>These planets explore war, the rights of refugee children and family reunification</p> <p>10*  22*  38* </p>	
<p>These planets explore exploitation</p> <p>11*  32*  33*  34*  35*  36* </p>		

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[unicef.org.uk/rights-launchpad](https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-launchpad)

**FOR EVERY
CHILD**

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UNITED KINGDOM