



EuropePlus

R2

BOX OF VALUES

POLITICAL RIGHTS

VALUE	POLITICAL RIGHTS
PARTNER	De La Salle College, Ireland

Value introduction

Political rights are the privileges and freedoms that allow individuals to participate in the governance and decision-making processes of a society.

These rights form the basis of democratic societies, enabling citizens to have a say in how they are governed and to hold their governments accountable.

LEARNING TOOLS

<p>GAME</p>	<p>Title: Know Your Rights Charades</p> <p>Activity 1: Rights Charades (10 minutes): Play a game of charades to introduce different types of rights. Write down various rights on pieces of paper (e.g., freedom of speech, right to vote, right to assemble). Have the children take turns picking a piece of paper and acting out the right without using any words. The other children should guess what right is being portrayed.</p> <p>Discussion: What Are Political Rights? (5 minutes): Engage in a discussion about political rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Explain that political rights are the rights that allow people to participate in making decisions for their country. ● Mention that these rights include things like voting, expressing opinions, and Explain that political rights give people a voice in how their country is run. ● Discuss how people working together can bring about positive changes in society by using their political rights. ● joining peaceful protests.
<p>CASE STUDY</p>	<p>Case Study: "Ruby Bridges and School Integration"</p> <p>Back in the 1960s in the United States, there were laws that said Black and white children couldn't go to the same schools. But one brave little girl named Ruby Bridges changed that.</p> <p>Ruby was just six years old when she became the first Black child to go to an all-white school in New Orleans. When she went to school, there were people who didn't want her there because of the color of her skin. They said mean things and even did scary things to try to make her stop going to school.</p>

But Ruby was really brave. Every day, she walked to school with federal marshals to protect her. She showed everyone that she had the right to go to that school, just like any other child. She didn't let the people being mean stop her from learning and being with other kids.

Her courage and determination helped change the rules so that all kids, no matter their skin color, could go to school together. Ruby's bravery and the support she got helped make schools fair and equal for everyone.

Ruby Bridges showed us that standing up for what is right, even when it's hard, can make a big difference for everyone. She taught us about the importance of everyone having the same rights, especially when it comes to going to school and learning together.

THEATRE PLAY

Title: "The Rights Brigade"

Setting: A vibrant, imaginary town called
Equalityville. [Characters:

Sam - a curious and enthusiastic child

Mayor Grace - the mayor of Equalityville

Professor Wise - a knowledgeable and
friendly teacher

Citizens of Equalityville - diverse group of
townspeople]

[Act 1]

(Scene opens with Sam playing in the neighborhood,
noticing posters about rights and democracy.)

Sam: (Excitedly) Wow, what are all these posters
about? "Rights for Everyone"? "Vote for Change"?
What does this mean?

(Enter Professor Wise)

Professor Wise: Hello, Sam! Those posters are about
something very important—political rights! They're
like the rules that make sure everyone is treated
fairly and has a say in how things are done.

Sam: Oh, that sounds interesting! But how does it work?

Professor Wise: Let me show you! Come with me to the Town Hall. Mayor Grace is about to speak about the importance of political rights.

(Scene transitions to the Town Hall. Mayor Grace is addressing the citizens.)

Mayor Grace: (Addressing the citizens) Good citizens of Equalityville, political rights are crucial! They give us the power to vote for our leaders, speak our minds, and ensure that everyone is treated fairly. It's our responsibility to understand and protect these rights.

Sam: (Curiously) How do we do that, Mayor Grace?

Mayor Grace: We learn about our rights, respect each other's opinions, and actively participate in our community. It's what makes our town strong and fair.

(Citizens nod in agreement.)

[Act 2]

(Scene shifts back to the neighborhood where Sam is talking to Professor Wise.)

Sam: I want to learn more! Can we do something to help everyone understand their rights better?

Professor Wise: Of course! How about we put on a play about political rights? We'll involve everyone in Equalityville.

Sam: That's a fantastic idea!

(The citizens gather to prepare for the play. They create colorful posters, rehearse their lines, and set up the stage.)

(Scene transitions to the play's performance. The citizens act out scenes demonstrating different political rights—voting, freedom of speech, and equal treatment for all.)

Sam: (Addressing the audience) Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, political rights are for everyone! They help us live in a fair and just society. Let's all work together to protect and cherish these rights!

(Citizens and audience applaud.)

[Act 3]

(After the play, Sam and Professor Wise talk as they clean up.)

Sam: That was amazing! I understand political rights much better now.

Professor Wise: Remember, Sam, it's not just about knowing our rights; it's about using them wisely and responsibly. Everyone plays a role in making sure these rights are respected.

(They finish cleaning up as the townspeople gather around.)

Citizens: (In unison) Together, we stand for our rights!

(The curtain closes as the citizens cheer, displaying unity and determination.)

[End Scene]

The play aims to simplify complex concepts about political rights for children while emphasizing the importance of understanding, respecting, and

	exercising these rights to build a fair and inclusive society.
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