

# Rights Sparks

## Human Rights Education Workshops



@rightssparks

# Rights Sparks

- Global justice, development and human rights issues are important for children to learn about.
- However, such issues can sometimes be difficult to explain to children and even more difficult to fit into an already over-crowded curriculum.
- In response to this, Amnesty International Ireland offers primary school teachers a new way to learn skills and methodologies for teaching human rights education (HRE) and development education (DE) through their Rights Sparks project.

# Rights Sparks

- Rights Sparks is a teacher to teacher skills share project which offers free CPD workshops in human rights education (HRE) and development education (DE).
- The workshops aim to introduce teachers to a range of HRE and DE methodologies and resources, which can be integrated across the curriculum.

# Why teach about Human Rights?

- Incorporating human rights education into the classroom encourages communication, conflict resolution and empathy.
- It can help create a positive school atmosphere and learning environment for the children.
- Human rights education can be integrated across all curricular areas and it can encourage the development of literacy and social skills.

# An Introduction to HRE in the classroom

- Discuss the context of HRE and examine the UDHR and CRC.
- Discuss Ireland's international obligation to teach children about human rights.
- Examine a variety of practical, ready to use lesson ideas and resources to introduce HRE into the classroom.
- Explore how HRE can be integrated across the curriculum.
- Examine the role of images and media in the classroom to challenge stereotypes.
- Teachers receive ready to use resources as well as a disc containing additional information and resources.

# What do teachers think?

- Video <http://www.amnesty.ie/rightssparks>

“This way of approaching HRE makes the human rights topic the broad theme for the module of learning. This theme is then taught using an integrated cross-curricular approach, making the learning experience much more holistic, meaningful and relevant for the children.”

# What next?

- Rights Sparks workshops can be organised in your own school, college, education centres or local area.
- See Amnesty website for a list of available workshops  
<http://www.amnesty.ie/rightssparksworkshops>
- A Rights Sparks workshop will be held in Blackrock Education Centre next Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March.
- A skills share session will be held in Amnesty on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April.