

# CHILD LABOR IS JUST NOT FAIR!

The Government should protect you from work that is dangerous to your health or development, that interferes with your education or that might lead people to take advantage of you.

*The Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 32*

## ★ LEARNING POINTS

1. You have a right NOT to work if the working hours interfere with your school and study times.
2. You have a right NOT to work if that work is dangerous or harmful to your health.
3. Child Labor is not the same as helping with chores at home.

*Teacher preparation: Display Class Rules and the mini-posters. Remember the Talking Stick.*

## WELCOME

**Song, “Be Our Best”** (See Lesson 6A)

## REVIEW (5 minutes)

*Show a photo from last week’s lesson.*

- Last week we talked about children who sometimes have to work too hard. Who remembers what we call that kind of work?
- Why is Child Labor bad?

## INTRODUCTION (10 minutes)

### Activity: Rupinder’s Story, Parts 1 and 2

- Rupinder was only 10 years old when he had to start working on a coffee plantation.
- Read Rupinder’s story to the children in his own words. Ask questions after each Part.

### Part 1, Questions

- Why did Rupinder’s parents take him out of school? Why did Rupinder go to the city?
- What do you think is going to happen to Rupinder? What was wrong with the kind of work that Rupinder was doing?

### Part 2, Question

- Why does Rupinder think education is so important?

## DISCUSSION (5 minutes)

- Does this mean that children should not do any kind of work, or that you shouldn’t help with chores at home?

- What is the difference between the kinds of work or chores you do at home and the kinds that are called “Child Labor”?
- Is some work too dangerous for children?

### Activity: Thumbs Up! (5 minutes)

Tell the children to show you a “thumbs up” for the kinds of work that are NOT Child Labor.

- Weed the family garden
- Crush rocks all day to find gold
- Wash the dishes after dinner
- Hoe the fields all day with no shoes on your feet
- Look after your little brothers and sisters while your mom cooks dinner
- Look after your little brothers and sisters all day, every day

Point to the **Child Labor mini-poster**.

- What are the problems that you see with the jobs that are too long and dangerous?

### Read CRC Article 32 together.

- Who is supposed to protect children?
- What are at least 2 kinds of work that are bad for children?

## CONCLUSION (5 minutes)

Explain that if children are able to go to school, they also have some responsibilities.

### Questions

- What kind of work would you like to do when you grow up?
- What should you be doing now so that you can be ready to do that kind of work?
- What is your responsibility if you get to go to school?

## CHALLENGE

1. Tell your family about Rupinder.
2. Tell them about the difference between Child Labor and helping with family chores

Remember to fill in your *Facilitator Notes & Reflections*. Found following Lesson 10B.



## RUPINDER'S STORY

**Part 1:** My name is Rupinder and I am 13 years old. My parents work on a coffee plantation. When I was young, I went to school for two years. But when I was 8, my parents told me I had to stay home and look after my younger sisters and brothers. When I was 10, I started working on the coffee plantation too, during picking seasons. I worked from 6 in the morning until 10 at night. One day while I was working, I hurt my arm. Now I can't work on the plantation anymore. My parents can't afford to keep me at home if I don't work, so I came to the city. I thought I could find work here. But I cannot read and write, so it is hard. What I really want is to go to school and learn to be an engineer or a builder.

**Part 2:** I know it's hard for parents who don't have enough money, or who have lots of children. I understand that there are families in villages that need their children to work on the farm. I understand that if the children didn't work, the family might not eat very well. But the important thing is: How are the children being treated? Are they being asked to do things that are hurting them? Are they going to school even part-time? If a working child doesn't get an education, that child will grow up to be uneducated and poor. And his children will remain poor. It will never change.



Remember to fill in your *Facilitator Notes & Reflections*. Found following Lesson 10B.

