

Lesson 10A - I Get to Go to School

Right to a Quality Education

You have the right to go to school. You should be able to learn a profession or continue your studies as far as you can.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 26

Education should prepare you for life. You have a right to learn about your rights.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 29



Learning Points

1. Children have a right to a quality education.
2. Education should prepare you for life.
3. Education can help young people like William Kamkwamba make a difference (page 59).

1. WELCOME (5 minutes)

Sing the song, "This Little Light of Mine" (page 58)

2. REVIEW (5 minutes)

- What job did you think of that you would like to have when you grow up?
- And what kind of training would you need to be able to do it?

Accept a response from 2 students.

3. INTRODUCTION (5 minutes)

Have a student read UDHR Article 26 (page 58).

- What is this article telling us? (You have a right to a quality education and to go to school. You should be able to learn a profession.)

Have another student read CRC 29 (page 58).

- What is this article telling us?
(Education should prepare us for life.)

Show the Right to Education mini poster (page 61).

Questions

- What do you see in this photo?
(Children attending school)
- What might be some challenges they face with their education or that you have faced with yours?
- Who would like to tell us about a time when you learned something that has been very important or helpful to you?

4. DEVELOPMENT (10 minutes)

Activity: The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (pages 59, 60)

This is a true story about a young man who learned useful information that helped him build something extremely important. Show the picture of the windmill and tell the story.

After reading the story ask the questions found on page 59.

5. CONCLUSION (5 minutes)

- In what ways might your education help your family, friends or community?
- What do you need to learn?
- Who can help you learn it?

6. CHALLENGE

- Tell your family and friends about William and how he saved his village from the drought.
- Ask yourself what you would like to share with your family or friends about the importance of getting an education.
- Share it with them.



Remember **Facilitator Notes and Reflections** (page 69).

This Little Light Of Mine

To hear the music go to: www.go-hre.org/music

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

2. Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

(Repeat verse 1)

Sing through the song once or twice to familiarize the students with the music and the words.
Have the students make up their own motions.

Article 26

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The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Article 29

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The Convention on the Rights of the Child

Activity: The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind

The Story of William Kamkwamba

William Kamkwamba was a young schoolboy from Malawi, who had a talent for fixing radios. He spent his free time looking through the local junkyard for electronic components that he could use to make or fix things for his friends and neighbors. However, his family were farmers who struggled against poverty and poor farming conditions, and could not afford to pay his tuition fees, so he was forced to drop out of school. Fortunately, William persuaded his science teacher to let him continue attending his class, and to give him access to the school's library where he learned about electrical engineering and energy production.

But while William was learning all he could, the country began to experience a terrible drought. There was no way to bring water to the village. Plants and animals were dying, including his family's crops. Then they were robbed of their meager grain stores, and there were riots and thieving as the people fought desperately against starvation. Seeking to save his village from the drought, William used the information he'd been studying and the materials he had scavenged earlier, and he created a small prototype of a windmill that could power an electric water pump.

However, to build a larger windmill for the village, William needed his father's permission to dismantle the family bicycle for parts. But it was the only bicycle in the village and the family's last major asset, so his father refused to take the risk. It wasn't until William's dog died of starvation that his mother intervened and convinced his father to reconsider and allow William to use the bicycle. With the help of his friends and the few remaining members of the village, they built a full-size wind turbine which allowed the villagers to bring water to the village, saving the people from starvation. Today William is busy helping other villages do the same thing, making life better for everyone.

(Adapted, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Kamkwamba)

Questions

- What challenges did William and his family face?
- How did the villagers feel about their challenges?
- Can you find the bicycle in the picture?
- How did education help William save his village even though he was quite young?
- What are some difficulties William faced getting an education when he was growing up?
- Why was the windmill so important to the village?
- What was unique about the windmill?
- What did William do before he began to build the windmill?

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William Kamkwamba's First Bicycle Windmill



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The Right to a Quality Education

UDHR 26 and CRC 29