

Refugee Week 2017

The Activity:

Run awareness activities as part of Refugee Week

The Rover Challenge

Participation – Find out about the challenges faced by refugees and help run the activities.

Leadership – Organise the activities and plan an small project to help refugees.

ASSES

Social

Service

SPICES

Social

Character

I recognise my roles in society

Be able to identify injustice/inequality and explore ways of resolving it, and where appropriate play my part in its resolution.

Emotional

Stand up for my personal beliefs and values

Plan

Refugee Week is an annual event to raise awareness of the contribution of refugees to Irish life and promoting understanding of why people seek sanctuary. Outlined below are some simple activities and actions your Crew can organise to participate in refugee week.

Do

Activity 1: Mutual respect and understanding

From the British Red Cross

Introduce learners to the idea of “mutual respect and understanding” by asking them to describe what they think the terms mean. Capture learners’ ideas on the board, using the following prompts if needed:

- recognising that other people may have different views and beliefs;
- treating people equally;
- accepting that it may not always be possible reach agreement, but we can still have respect for one another.

Discuss how mutual respect and understanding is important for creating communities. Ask learners to form small groups and hand each group a large piece of paper and marker pens. Ask them to draw three large concentric circles so they end up with a “ripple” on their sheet of paper. Ask the groups to do the following:

- in the inner circle, write why mutual respect and understanding could be useful for building communities. Learners can use the prompts from the board if needed;
- in the middle circle, write what the consequences might be of not having mutual respect and understanding;
- in the outer circle, write the ways in which we as individuals can contribute to building mutual respect and understanding in communities.

Hand out post-its to the groups and show them the universal human values list (below). As you are handing them out, explain that values are what motivate us, and the list shows values that are important to everyone.

Ask learners to agree on the five values they think are most important for building mutual respect and understanding. They could then write their choices on the sticky notes, one value on each note.

Bring the ideas from each group together in a way that everyone can see, for example by putting the sticky notes on a board/wall. Group the values so that it is possible to see those that were selected by more than one group.

As a whole group, ask learners to identify the most common values that came out across all the groups. Then, see if they can agree on the top five values that contribute to developing mutual respect and understanding. Discuss why they have chosen each value, helping learners make decisions based on how the values might strengthen mutual respect and understanding in a community.

Universal human values

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------|
| Equality | Social justice | A world at peace | | Pleasure | |
| Protecting the environment | | Wisdom | Broadminded | | |
| Responsible | Self-discipline | | True friendship | | |
| Honest | Forgiving | Helpful | Politeness | Obedient | Wealth |
| Family security | | Humble | Respect for tradition | Self-respect | |
| National security | | Moderate | Clean | Healthy | Daring |
| Sense of belonging | | Social recognition | | Ambitious | |
| Preserving my public image | | | Social power | Influential | |
| Capable | Enjoying life | | Choosing own goals | Independent | |
| Curious | Freedom | Intelligent | Excitement in life | | |

Activity 2: One Thing

If you had to flee your home, what is the one thing you would bring with you?

Millions of people are currently displaced around the globe — refugee life is their new reality, filled with heartbreak and challenges. Some end up in refugee camps, waiting for an opportunity to find safety. Others now live in host communities throughout the world. Many had to run from their houses with only the few personal items they could carry.

We are asking people to contribute pictures, ideas, words that describe the 'one thing' that you would bring with you if you were forced to flee due to violence or persecution. We will be displaying the images as part of our week of events to mark World Refugee Week 2017 (19th – 23rd June).

If you would like to contribute, please send images/words/ideas to events@nascireland.org or post them to Nasc's [Facebook page](#).

More details about the project – and about our events to mark World Refugee Week – [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)!

Activity 3: Research

Check out the following pages from the UN

[Global Focus](#) - UNHCR's main operational reporting portal

[Refworld](#) - A leading research tool, this site is updated daily and includes special features on topics of importance to UNHCR

[UNHCR Map Portal](#) - Transforming raw data into visual information

[UNHCR Statistics Database](#) - The database currently contains data about UNHCR's populations of concern from the year 1951 up to 2014

Discuss what you find:

- What new things did you learn?
- How does this make you feel?
- Should we as a country be doing more to help?
- What can we as scouts do?

Action 1: Stand up

If you had to flee your home, what is the

Stand up for the rights of refugees & asylum seekers

[Irish Refugee Council](#) prepared three great toolkits explaining some of the key issues for those who support asylum seekers and refugees to raise with TDs. They contain questions for politicians intended to open up the discussion, basic facts and the commitments needed if Ireland is serious about providing a safe haven for refugees:

[Safe and legal access](#)

[Protection & reception](#)

[Refugee rights](#)

Action 2: Use your social media

From refugeeweek.org.uk

Social media is a great way of raising awareness. The key to success is keeping it personal and keeping it visual – think photos of people!

- Make a meme (photo + text): Search ‘meme generator’ on your smartphone, tablet or PC – there are lots of easy meme-making websites and apps available, check out the White Helmet Memes by the [Syria Campaign](#)
- Record a video message: Shoot using your camera, camera phone or tablet and share on [Youtube](#) or [Vimeo](#) INSPIRATION: Positive voices on migration from [Open Generation](#)
- Make and share micro-videos: [Instagram](#) records up to 15 seconds INSPIRATION: [5 NGOs That Use Vine for Creative Storytelling](#)

Action 3: Fundraise & Donate

Organise a local fundraiser and donate the funds to an NGO who works with refugees

Irish Red Cross provides support for asylum seekers. Their page is [here](#).

Concern – you can donate to the Syria Emergency Appeal [here](#).

Trócaire – donate for their Refuge Crisis Appeal [here](#).

The UNHCR can be donated to directly [here](#).

Action 4: Stand up for the rights of refugees & asylum seekers

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[Safe and legal access](#); [Protection & reception](#); [Refugee rights](#)

Action 5: Report racist content in relation to the refugee crisis in media and online

As the refugee crisis unfolds across the EU, we've seen an increasing number of racist comments online, social and traditional media as well a raise of racist violence. If you come across any racist incident or content, please take a screen shot (if applicable) and report it to our racist incident monitoring tool www.iReport.ie so we can monitor and keep a record.

Review

After your exploration and actions, sit down as a Crew and do a review.

Group Review

- What do we know now that we didn't before?
- How did we go about informing yourselves?
- What did we do to make a difference?

Individual

- What did I learn? How did it affect me?
- What did I do to help make a difference?
- What else can I do?

SPICES

- How did the activity help you advance in the social, character, and emotional areas?

Review SPICES

Social

- I value the people and relationships in my daily life.
- Develop the skills and attitudes needed to build and maintain meaningful and appropriate relationships and friendships.
- I respect the social integration of other cultures.
- I use my communication skills effectively.
- I recognise my roles within society.
- I make a positive contribution to society.

Character

- I have the confidence to live by the Promise and Law.
- Show your awareness and understanding of the true value of all things.
- I believe in myself.
- Accept my abilities and be content with them while striving to be the best that I can be.
- I can take a stand and be strong in the face of adversity.
- Be able to identify injustice, inequality or conflict and explore ways of resolving it, and where appropriate play my part in its resolution.
- I have the courage to live out my dreams and aspirations.

Emotional

- I can recognise, interpret and accept my emotions, their changing nature, and the effects they have on all aspects of my life
- I know how others can support me in understanding my emotions
- I am tolerant of the emotional needs of others
- I strive to express my emotions constructively
- Demonstrate the confidence and ability to deal with life's challenges
- I stand up for my personal beliefs and values
- Develop my potential and recognise the possibilities for my future