

Refugee Week 2017

The Activity:

Run awareness activities as part of Refugee Week

Fiontar:

Suas:

- Find out about refugees
- Help organise the activities
- Help plan and carry out a service action

Trasna:

- Lead the research on refugees
- Organise the activities
- Plan and carry out a service action

SPICES:

- Character: Try to help where you see injustice or inequality
- Emotional: Stand up for what you believe in



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: Common Ground

Props: Enough chairs for all participants, minus one.

Group sits in a circle of chairs with one person standing in the middle (no empty chairs). The person in the middle says “I seek common ground with... people who were born in Dublin!” Anyone who was, including the person asking the question, must get up and run across the circle to find a new seat. You can’t take the seat of the person next to you! There will be one person left in the middle who must ask the next question. Possibilities include: people who... wear glasses! Likes vanilla ice cream better than chocolate! You can also guide the questions a little deeper... “I seek common ground with people who have... worked with the homeless.” The facilitator may choose to ask the first few questions to get the game going and set the tone.

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: Lost identity

From the British Red Cross Refugee Week resources 2014

Use the image to explore what lack of identity means in the UK.



Discuss different forms of ID. When visitors come to the school, or to the door, how do you know who they are? How important is that? Discuss ways of identifying people, by uniform or name badges - in shops, at an emergency, at a sporting event... How does the role that people play affect their identity?

Is being known part of being accepted? How easy is it to accept someone if you don't know who they are or where they come from? What are the basics that you would like to know about a friend? Can you still be friends with someone if you don't know where they come from?

Finish the sentence: If my identity wasn't recognised by the country I was in I would feel...

Action:

Find out how to replace different forms of ID. Where would you go and what would you need if you had lost or misplaced your birth certificate or passport?

Find out what the commonly accepted forms of ID are in order to do the following in the UK: open a bank account, sign up for a phone contract, join a public library.



Action 1: 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 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): 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: 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

What was the most important thing you learned?

Did your understanding of refugees change?

Have you an action or service project planned?

What will we do next?



Fiontar Review

SUAS:

Character: Try to help where you see injustice or inequality

- What did you do for refugee week?
- How can you make a difference?

Emotional: Stand up for what you believe in

- Should scouts try to help refugees?
- What can we do?

TRASNA:

Character: Try to help where you see injustice or inequality

- How did your activities explore issues for refugees?
- How can your Crew respond to the refugee crisis?

Emotional: Stand up for what you believe in

- Why is it important for scouts to try and help refugees and others in need?

