



The Ark

The Ark presents

# RIGHT Here *Right!* Now!

**The Right Here Right  
Now Children's Rally  
Friday 14 June 2019**



**Activity Pack to Get You Rally Ready!**



*Right Here Right Now! The Ark's Festival of Children* is a celebration of children's rights - particularly the right to play, to engage in cultural activities and the right to express yourself and be listened to! See [ark.ie](http://ark.ie) for full details.

### **The Right Here Right Now Children's Rally Friday 14 June 2019 @ 11am.**

It's time to get on your soapbox and tell us what's on your mind! Any school, club, group or family can take part, either here at The Ark or in their own school.

Children from all over Ireland will rally together on Meeting House Square in Temple Bar, just behind The Ark. There will be speeches and banners, flags and songs! It will be a colourful celebration of children's rights: the right to play, to engage in cultural activities and the right to express yourself.

If you, your family, group or school would like to take part, then call us on 01 670 7788 to register

### **Can't get to Dublin? Rally Where You Are!**

If you can't get join us in Meeting House Square, then you can still take part. Why not host your own local rally at home, in school or in your area on June 14 to make sure that children get to tell everyone about what's important to them?

We would love you to live stream your rally or share your activity on social media too. The hashtag is #RHRNFest.

### **About this pack.**

To help everyone prepare to rally, we have put this pack together with suggested activities. This pack can be used in school or at home to explore the topic of children's rights and the importance of children's voices being heard by grown-ups.

# Getting ready for the Rally

## 1. Start with getting to know your rights!

### **The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child states:**

Article 1 - Everyone under 18 has these rights.

Article 2 - All children have these rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what their parents do, what language they speak, what their religion is, whether they are a boy or girl, what their culture is, whether they have a disability, whether they are rich or poor. No child should be treated unfairly on any basis.

Article 3 - All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.

Article 4 - The government has a responsibility to make sure your rights are protected. They must help your family to protect your rights and create an environment where you can grow and reach your potential.

Article 5 - Your family has the responsibility to help you learn to exercise your rights, and to ensure that your rights are protected.

Article 6 - You have the right to be alive.

Article 7 - You have the right to a name, and this should be officially recognised by the government. You have the right to a nationality (to belong to a country).

Article 8 - You have the right to an identity – an official record of who you are. No one should take this away from you.

Article 9 - You have the right to live with your parent(s), unless it is bad for you. You have the right to live with a family who cares for you.

Article 10 - If you live in a different country than your parents do, you have the right to be together in the same place.

Article 11 - You have the right to be protected from kidnapping.

Article 12 - You have the right to give your opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously.

Article 13 - You have the right to find out things and share what you think with others, by talking, drawing, writing or in any other way unless it harms or offends other people.

Article 14 - You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs. Your parents should help you decide what is right and wrong, and what is best for you.

Article 15 - You have the right to choose your own friends and join or set up groups, as long as it isn't harmful to others.

Article 16 - You have the right to privacy.

Article 17 - You have the right to get information that is important to your well-being, from radio, newspaper, books, computers and other sources. Adults should make sure that the information you are getting is not harmful, and help you find and understand the information you need.

Article 18 - You have the right to be raised by your parent(s) if possible.

Article 19 - You have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, in body or mind.

Article 20 - You have the right to special care and help if you cannot live with your parents.

Article 21 - You have the right to care and protection if you were adopted or are in foster care.



Article 22 - You have the right to special protection and help if you are a refugee (if you have been forced to leave your home and live in another country), as well as all the rights in this Convention.

Article 23 - You have the right to special education and care if you have a disability, as well as all the rights in this Convention, so that you can live a full life.

Article 24 - You have the right to the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help you stay well.

Article 25 - If you live in care or in other situations away from home, you have the right to have these living arrangements looked at regularly to see if they are the most appropriate.

Article 26 - You have the right to help from the government if you are poor or in need.

Article 27 - You have the right to food, clothing, a safe place to live and to have your basic needs met. You should not be disadvantaged so that you can't do many of the things other kids can do.

Article 28 - You have the right to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.

Article 29 - Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

Article 30 - You have the right to practice your own culture, language and religion – or any you choose. Minority and indigenous groups need special protection of this right.

Article 31 - You have the right to play and rest.

Article 32 - You have the right to protection from work that harms you, and is bad for your health and education. If you work, you have the right to be safe and paid fairly.

Article 33 - You have the right to protection from harmful drugs and from the drug trade.

Article 34 - You have the right to be free from sexual abuse.

Article 35 - No one is allowed to kidnap or sell you.

Article 36 - You have the right to protection from any kind of exploitation (being taken advantage of).

Article 37 - No one is allowed to punish you in a cruel or harmful way.

Article 38 - You have the right to protection and freedom from war. Children under 15 cannot be forced to go into the army or take part in war.

Article 39 - You have the right to help if you've been hurt, neglected or badly treated.

Article 40 - You have the right to legal help and fair treatment in the justice system that respects your rights.

Article 41 - If the laws of your country provide better protection of your rights than the articles in this Convention, those laws should apply.

Article 42 - You have the right to know your rights. Adults should know about these rights and help you learn about them, too.

Articles 43 to 54 - These articles explain how governments and international organisations like UNICEF will work to ensure children are protected with their rights.

**All children have these rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what their parents do, what language they speak, what their religion is, whether they are a boy or girl, what their culture is, whether they have a disability, whether they are rich or poor. No child should be treated unfairly on any basis.**

## The Ombudsman for Children

Did you know that here in Ireland, there is someone whose job it is to make sure that children are treated fairly and to promote children's rights. The Ombudsman for Children and their team have lots of information about children's rights on their website: [www.oco.ie](http://www.oco.ie)



They have a great poster that lists all of these rights.

Before the rally why not get to know your rights by downloading the poster in the following link from the Ombudsman for Children.

[https://www.oco.ie/app/uploads/2017/09/UNCRC\\_Poster\\_English.pdf](https://www.oco.ie/app/uploads/2017/09/UNCRC_Poster_English.pdf)

## 2. Encourage others to take part in the rally on 14 June

- Hang your Children's Rights Poster in your classroom and around your school so other students can learn about their rights.
- Why not make a presentation at your school assembly to explain about children's rights and invite other classes to join the rally.
- Why not write a poem or song about your rights or design a game, such as a board game or quiz to teach other children about their rights.
- If you are organising a community rally in your town or community centre ask local businesses to display the poster in their windows along with details of where and when your rally will take place.

By doing this you are spreading the word about children's rights and encouraging others to join the rally!

### 3. Learn the Rally Song

The Ark asked 2nd & 3rd class from St. Patricks Boys School, Ringsend if they would like to create a rally song about children's rights. They visited the Ombudsman for Children's office to learn more and then they worked with musician Peter Baxter to write and record a wonderful song all about children's rights called *Every Day*. The lyrics to the song on the next page.

The class will perform the song at the Right Here Right Now Children's Rally on June 14. We are encouraging all children who are attending the rally or creating their own rally to learn the song and sing it on the day too.

Peter Baxter has created a teaching version of the song, with him singing the melody to help you learn it.

<https://soundcloud.com/the-ark-music/every-day-teaching-version>

There is also a version without Peter singing it so that you can use it as a backing track.:

<https://soundcloud.com/the-ark-music/every-day-instrumental-backing>

If you or your class have composed your own song or poem The Ark would love to hear it. You can sing it for us at the rally, or share it with us on social media. Remember the hashtag #RHRNFest



# **Every Day**

by children from St Patrick's Boys NS, Ringsend

We're all the same  
We're all different  
We've the right to play  
And to have a name  
We've a right to be safe  
And to have a say  
To have a home  
And food everyday

Every Day x 4 (Chorus)

We're all the same  
We're all different  
We've a right to be alone  
And to privacy  
We've a right to protection  
To learn and grow  
to get information  
About things we don't know

Every Day x 4 (Chorus)

Right here / Right now x 4 (Bridge)

Every Day x 4 (Chorus)

Every Day x 4 (Chorus)



#### 4. Learn The Ark's rally chant or compose your own one!

A chant is a type of message shouted out during rallies or protests to allow a group of people who are passionate about an issue to be heard over the crowd. Chants sometimes even rhyme. A chant often heard at protests is:

*What do we want? Justice! When do we want it? Now!*

If you would like to make up your own chant as a group, decide on what you really want people to know, what children's right or rights do you think are very important. Which you want to shout about?

You could use a rhyme or rap you already know and change the words or you could keep it short and simple.

If you would like instead to learn The Ark's chant that was written by our Children's Council for the rally it is:

It's a right, not a wrong,  
Listen up to our song!

We are happy, we are proud,  
Listen as we shout out Loud!

Not a wrong, It's a right,  
Listen up our futures bright!

You can see our Children's Council talking about Children's Rights and using this chant in this video: <https://youtu.be/924m70y3G4w>





## 5. Design a Rally Poster, Flag or Banner

Start by deciding which children's rights you feel most strongly about and what message about children rights you feel others should know.

Brainstorm various options you could use to convey your message:

- A slogan- (This is a memorable motto or phrase used as a repetitive expression of an idea, with the goal of persuading members of the public)
- An image
- 3D structure
- Combination of a slogan and an image

Consider material options you could use to display your message:

- Fabric for a flag or banner
- Cardboard, paper, plywood for posters and placards with sticks attached so you can hold them high
- Recycling materials to make a 3D structure

Flags or banners: Examples of flags, banners and signs that you can take inspiration from to display your message or favourite children's right.



Decide what shape and type of banner and flag you want, they can come in many sizes and styles. Here are some materials you may consider using for your flag/banner:

- Recycled fabric such as old sheeting, pillow cases, ribbons
- Sticks, rods or poles to hold your flag or banner
- Glue gun, needle and thread, cable ties, fabric glue, gaffer tape
- Acrylic paint or fabric paint, brushes and sponges

If you want to print on fabric or paper, there are two simple techniques you can use:

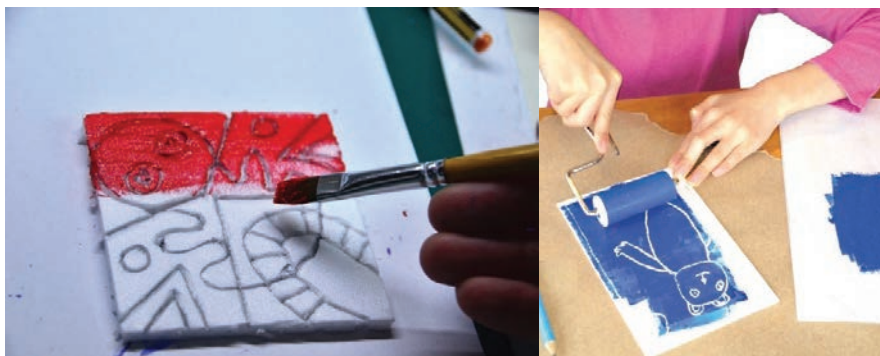
### Block Printing using Funky Foam



Funky foam is easy to use in place of traditional printing techniques and create striking results.

- Draw a simple line image, shape or letter onto the foam.
- Cut out your design.
- Then apply paint to your foam design with a roller or a brush until the foam is completely covered
- Press the funky foam onto the material. Using a dry clean roller, roll this over the foam to make sure the paint is absorbed.
- If you don't have a dry roller, use the heel of your hand to rub the back of the foam to insure your image transfers.
- Peel off the funky foam gently and admire your printed image.

### Line printing using Styrofoam



- Use sheet Styrofoam and a pencil
- Draw your image or words onto the Styrofoam with your pencil adding pressure to make an indentation into the foam.



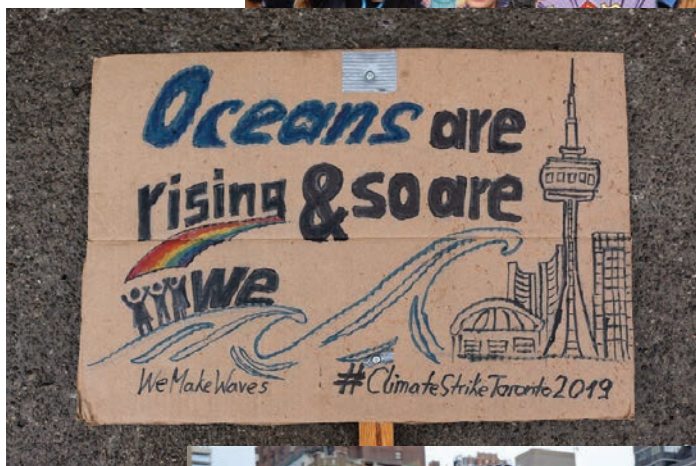
- Apply paint to the Styrofoam sheet with a brush or roll
- Press onto the fabric using a clean roller or your hand to ensure the paint is absorbed
- Gently remove the Styrofoam to reveal your print.

## Posters

When designing your poster remember:

- Make an impact, big poster and bright colours catch people's attention
- Make your image and slogan large and clear so people can easily understand your message from afar.
- Use marker, paint, printing, collage and mixed media to make your poster stand out

Examples of posters and slogans you can take inspiration from to display your message or favourite children's right:





## 6. Prepare a speech, poem or song

The rally is your opportunity to have your say about what's important to you as a child in Ireland. It is your chance to be heard by our politicians and policy makers that make decisions on your behalf that affect you.

At our rally, a number of children will be making short 1-2 minute speeches during the rally in small groups, or on their own. If you would like to compose a speech or a poem and read it on the day please do let us know when you arrive, we would love to have you involved and give you a slot on our stage for you to speak about what matters to you.

When you are writing your piece, just remember to ensure that you are really clear about the issue you want to talk about, don't try to talk about more than one issue in each speech as that can confuse or dilute your message.

Keep it clear, keep it short and keep it loud!

## **Attending The Ark's 'Right Here Right Now' Children's Rights Rally!**

Now you have learned all about your rights, learned the rally song, perhaps even created a chant and completed your flag and banner you are ready to attend Right Here Right Now Children's Rally or create a rally near you.

Coming along to The Ark? Things to remember:

- Remember to prepare for the weather! It may rain so bring a raincoat just in case.
- Bring a snack
- Let us know your plan to attend the rally by emailing us at [boxoffice@ark.ie](mailto:boxoffice@ark.ie) or calling 016707788
- Let us know if you would like to make a soapbox speech!
- Plan your route to the rally by bus, Luas, Dart or car. There is no parking at The Ark.
- Join the rally event on social media @The Ark Dublin and #RHRNFest

We look forward to seeing you on the June 14th at 11am and hearing you rally for your rights! You can see full details and how to get here at [ark.ie](http://ark.ie).

## **Hosting your own Rally in your School, Community Centre or Town.**

If you can't join us at the Ark on 14 June, why not host your own rally where you are and encourage people all over Ireland to learn about Children's Rights. Your rally could take place in your school hall or playground, in the local park or community centre.

Please make sure that you ask permission from your grown-ups (teachers, parents etc) if you wish to hold the rally in a communal space.

Please tell us about your planned rally by calling us on 01670 7788 or emailing [boxoffice@ark.ie](mailto:boxoffice@ark.ie) so that we can give a big shout out to you at the Dublin rally and on social media! Grown-ups can share the event using #RHRNFest