



**PLAN**  
INTERNATIONAL

# PLAN INTERNATIONAL IRELAND: DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION STUDENT **RESOURCE**

Teaching children about their place in our globalised, interdependent world.



# MODULE ONE

## — GENDER



# GENDER: WHO AM I?

## LESSON 1 What is gender?





**WHAT DOES  
GENDER  
MEAN?**



# EXPLORING OUR LIKES AND DISLIKES...

Do boys and girls like the same things?



# Let's meet children from across the world!



## This is Laura

- She lives in Ireland
- She is seven years old
- She likes to ride her bicycle
- Her favourite food is chocolate
- She loves to sing

**Do you like any of these things too?**  
**Thumbs up or down!**

# Let's meet children from across the world!



## This is Carlos

- He lives in Bolivia
- He is eight years old
- He loves to play violin
- His favourite food is grilled chicken
- He likes to dance traditional dances

**Do you like any of these things too?**

**Thumbs up or down!**



# Let's meet children from across the world!



## This is Nita

- She lives in India
- She is six years old
- She loves school
- Her favourite colour is blue
- Her favourite sport is skipping

**Do you like any of these things too?**

**Thumbs up or down!**

# Let's meet children from across the world!



## This is Paul

- He lives in Canada
- He is five years old
- His favourite sport is swimming
- He likes drawing
- His favourite colour is pink

**Do you like any of these things too?**

**Thumbs up or down!**



# GENDER

## DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE?



# The hula hoop game

**Girls Like:**

**Boys Like:**



# All About Me

My name is:

I think boys are:

Draw a picture of yourself!

My favourite colour is:

I think girls are:

My hobbies are:

I like being a boy/girl because:

When I am happy I like to:

When I grow up I want to be:

# What have you learned?

**Share with your class and help your teacher write the answers on the whiteboard!**

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**REFLECTION  
TIME...**

**GENDER**

# GENDER: WHO AM I?

## LESSON 2 Stereotypes



# WHAT IS IT LIKE? BEING A GIRL





# WHAT IS IT LIKE? BEING A BOY





# Match the likes to the person



A: Julie



B: Joe



C: Andrés



D: Chen



E: Michael



F: Carmen

1. I like animals but I don't like sport
2. I like singing but I don't like football
3. I prefer to plant flowers than do homework
4. I like the colour green, I don't like pink
5. I like to read and I like the colour pink
6. I am the best in my class at football

# Stereotypes

Sometimes we think someone will like something just because of who they are...

I like playing  
with dolls

I like dressing  
up as a soldier

I love  
playing  
rugby

I like having  
long hair

**Who said it, a boy or a girl?**

My favourite  
colour is pink

I love  
dancing

I like playing  
with cars



**REFLECTION  
TIME...**

**STEREOTYPES**

# GENDER: HOW DO GENDER ROLES WORK

## LESSON 3 Gender Roles



# What do you want to be when you grow up?

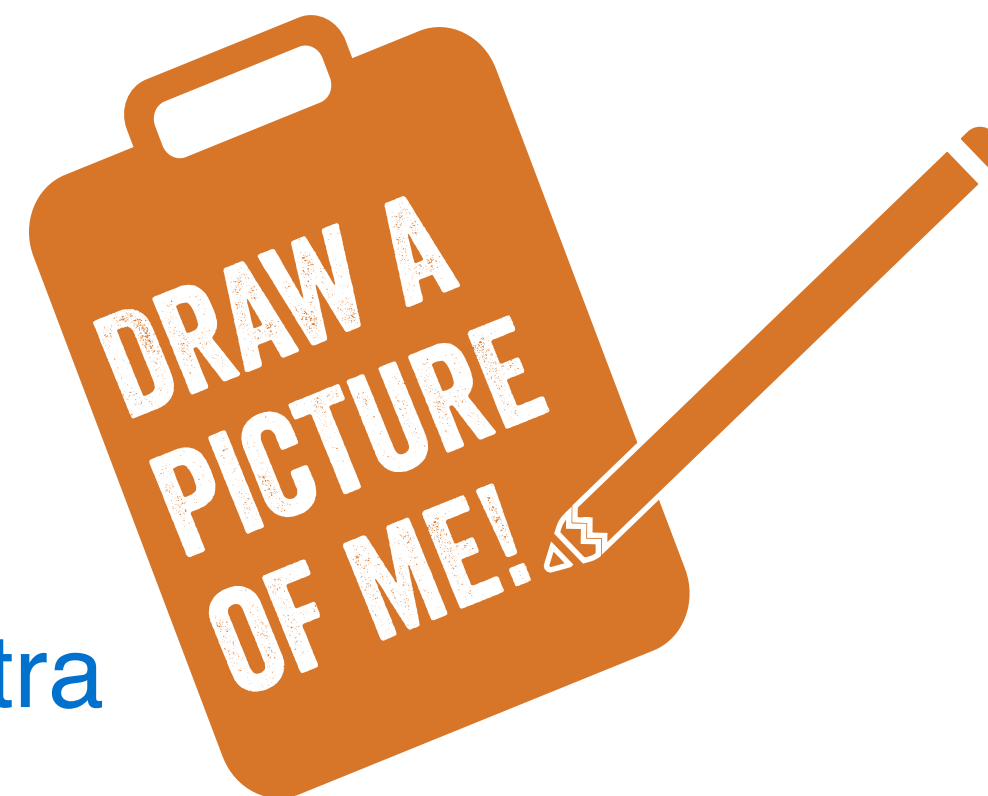






## I am a dancer

- I work in Russia
- I have been dancing since I was 4 years old
- I like all kinds of dance but ballet is my favourite
- I love to dance on a big stage with an orchestra
- I like making people feel happy when I dance







## I am a nurse

- I work in Germany
- When people are sick they come into the hospital where I work
- Once the doctor knows what is wrong, I help the patient
- I give them medicine and change their bandages
- An important part of my job is making sick people feel safe and happy



## I am a helicopter pilot

- I work in Canada
- I fly a special rescue helicopter
- If people are sick and need to get to a hospital far away my job is to fly them there
- Sometimes people are a bit scared in the helicopter
- Flying a helicopter is very exciting







# What have you learned?

**Have you changed your mind about what girls and boys can be when they grow up?**

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**REFLECTION  
TIME...**

**GENDER ROLES**

# GENDER: GENDER INEQUALITY

## LESSON 4 Rights





# Needs or Wants

**Needs:**

**Wants:**



# WHAT RIGHTS DO YOU HAVE?

What does it mean to have a right?



# LEARN ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS!

The UN Convention on  
the Rights of the Child

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
This Convention applies to  
almost every single country in  
the world!



**1** Until you are eighteen, you are considered a child and have all the rights in this Convention.

**2** You should not be discriminated against for any reason, including your race, colour, sex, language, religion, opinion, origin, social or economic status, disability, birth, or any other quality of your parents or guardians.

**3** All actions and decisions that affect you should be based on what is best for you or any child.

**4** The Government should make these rights available to you and all children.

**5** Your family has the main responsibility for guiding you so that, as you grow, you learn to use your rights properly. Governments should respect this right.

**6** You have the right to live and grow well. Governments should ensure that you survive and develop healthily.

**7** You have the right to have your birth legally registered, to have a name and nationality and to know and to be cared for by your parents.

**8** Governments should respect your right to a name, a nationality and family ties.

**9** You should not be separated from your parents unless it is for your own good (for example, if a parent mistreats or neglects you). If your parents have separated, you have the right to stay in contact with both of them unless this might hurt you.

**10** If your parents live in different countries, you should be allowed to move between those countries so that you can stay in contact with your parents or get back together as a family.

**11** Governments must take steps to stop you being taken out of your country illegally.

**21** If you are adopted, the first concern must be what is best for you, whether you are adopted in your birth country or if you are taken to live in another country.

**12** When adults are making decisions that affect you, you have the right to say freely what you think should happen and to have your opinion taken into account.

**13** You have the right to look for, get and share information in all forms (i.e. through writing, art, television, radio and internet), as long as the information is not damaging to you or to others.

**14** You have the right to think and believe what you want and to practice your religion, as long as you do not stop other people from enjoying their rights. Your parents should guide you on these matters.

**15** You have the right to meet and to join groups and organisations with other children, as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights.

**16** You have the right to protection from interference with privacy, family, home, mail, and from attacks on your character or reputation.

**17** You have the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, including books, newspapers and magazines, television, radio and internet. Information should be beneficial and understandable to you.

**18** Both your parents share responsibility for bringing you up and should always consider what is best for you. Governments should provide services to help parents, especially if both parents work.

**19** Governments should ensure that you are properly cared for and protect you from violence, abuse and neglect by your parents or anyone else who looks after you.

**20** If parents and family cannot care for you properly, then you must be looked after by people who respect your religion, traditions and language.



# LEARN ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS!

The UN Convention on  
the Rights of the Child



**22** If you have come to a new country because your home country was unsafe, you have the right to protection and support. You have the same rights as children born in that country.

**23** If you have any kind of disability, you should have special care, support and education so that you can lead a full and independent life and participate in the community to the best of your ability.

**24** You have the right to good quality healthcare (i.e. medicine, hospitals, health professionals). You have the right to clean water, nutritious food, a clean environment and health education so that you can stay healthy. Rich countries should help poorer countries achieve this.

**25** If you are looked after by local authorities or institutions rather than by your parents, you should have your situation reviewed regularly to make sure you have good care and treatment.

**26** The society in which you live should provide you with benefits of social security that help you develop and live in good conditions (i.e. education, culture, nutrition, health, social welfare). The Government should provide extra money for the children of families in need.

**27** You should live in good conditions that help you develop physically, mentally, spiritually, morally and socially. The Government should help families who cannot afford to provide this.



**28** You have the right to education. Primary education should be free and required. Secondary education should be accessible to every child. Higher education should be available to everyone on the basis of capacity. School discipline should respect your rights and dignity.

**29** Education should develop your personality, talents, mental and physical abilities. It should prepare you for active participation in a free society, and encourage you to respect your own culture and other people's culture.

**30** You have a right to learn and use the traditions, religion and language of your family, whether or not these are shared by most people in your country.

**31** You have the right to rest, have leisure, play and participate in cultural and artistic activities.

**32** 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.

**33** The Government should provide ways of protecting you from using, producing or distributing dangerous drugs.

**34** You should be protected from sexual exploitation and abuse, including prostitution and involvement in pornography.

**35** The Government should take steps to make sure that you are not kidnapped, sold or taken to other countries to be exploited.

**36** You should be protected from any activities that could harm your development and wellbeing.

**37** If you break the law, you should not be treated cruelly. You should not be put in prison with adults and should be able to stay in contact with your family. The death penalty and life sentences in prison are not allowed for children.

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
Most governments have agreed in an Optional Protocol to the CRC that children under 18 should not be allowed to join the army.

**38** If you are under 15, governments should not allow you to join the army or take any direct part in war. Children in war zones should receive special protection.

**39** You should receive special care if you were neglected or abused, were a victim of exploitation or war, or were put in prison.

**40** If you are accused of breaking the law, you must be treated in a way that respects your dignity. You should receive legal help and only be given a prison sentence for most serious crimes.

**41** If the laws in your country are better for children than the articles of the Convention, then those laws should be followed.

**42** The Government should make the Convention known to all parents, institutions and children.



\*Disclaimer: This text constitutes a simplified version of the CRC, not the official text.





# ACTIVITY TIME!

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## Make A Poster!

- Pick one right
- How can this right be protected around the world?
- Use words and pictures

**REFLECTION  
TIME...**

**RIGHTS**



# GENDER: GENDER INEQUALITY

## LESSON 5 Women and Girls



# Choose





# Choose





# Choose





# Choose





# Choose





# IS THIS FAIR?

How did you feel when you weren't allowed to choose?





# IS THIS FAIR?

How would you feel if you had to look after your family or go to work instead of going to school?

**REFLECTION  
TIME...**

**WOMEN &  
GIRLS**



# LET'S TAKE ACTION!

**SCHOOL  
ASSEMBLY?**

**LETTER TO  
PRINCIPAL?**

**POSTERS?**

# REVIEW THE MODULE

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1. What did you learn about the subject?
2. Did you learn a new skill, like a new word or a new game?
3. Did you change your mind about anything, for example did you think one thing at the start and another thing at the end of the module?
4. Did you or will you take action on the issue, like make a poster, write a letter, talk with your family or hold an assembly?



...END OF  
GENDER MODULE



**THANK YOU FOR USING PLAN INTERNATIONAL IRELAND'S  
RESOURCES, WE HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED LEARNING  
ABOUT GENDER, GLOBAL INEQUALITY, MIGRATION AND  
REFUGEES AND CLIMATE CHANGE!**

Please share your feedback with us at: [info@plan.ie](mailto:info@plan.ie)