

UNICEF High School Clubs: Plan a Child Protection and Emergencies Week!

When an emergency strikes, whether a sudden onset natural disaster or an armed conflict, children require special protection to ensure their safety and well-being. UNICEF specifically focuses on protecting mothers and children from the immediate and long-term effects of emergencies. UNICEF is currently dealing with several emergencies, including Syria, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, Nepal, and more.

In all emergent situations, UNICEF's objectives are to actively prevent children from being harmed; to monitor violations committed against them; and to develop programs to respond to instances where children are at risk of or have been subjected to violence, exploitation, or abuse.

Though devastating, emergencies can provide opportunities to work with governments to 'build back better' and strengthen systems, including through legal reform, policies and capacity building.

Mental Health Monday

- Learn about the <u>5 ways UNICEF</u> is responding to the earthquakes in Nepal and the <u>5</u> ways you and your club can help the victims of the earthquake
- Write facts about Child Protection and Emergencies and post them up around school in order to promote awareness about the importance of child protection and emergencies. e.g. "Up to 6,000 children have been recruited by armed groups in the Central African Republic. Found out how you can save these children at UNICEF's meeting this Friday."
- Read about UNICEF's strive to provide mental health and psychosocial support for conflict-related sexual violence in developing countries

Child Protection Tuesday

- Watch this <u>TeachUNICEF video</u> about children recruited into armed conflict and how UNICEF helps to release and rehabilitate children affected by conflict.
- Take this course on <u>Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action</u> and earn a certificate at the end! Have your club leaders do the same.
- Watch this <u>video on the Voices of Children in Emergencies Campaign</u> and <u>lend your voice</u> to children in emergencies



Well-being Wednesday

- Take part in this <u>simulation of the journey for Syrian refugee children</u> and encourage your peers and members of your community to do the same. Host a discussion after you take part in the simulation.
- Have your peers and members of your community <u>take this quiz</u> to see how much they know about UNICEF! Every person who takes the quiz earns 50 cents to support UNICEF's lifesaving work around the world.
- Write an article in your school's newspaper or community blog about Nepal's children and UNICEF's work in protection and emergencies using <u>UNICEF</u> and <u>UNICEF USA</u> sources. Don't feel comfortable writing it yourself? Write to the editors of the paper and ask them to do a piece on it!

Together Thursday

- Share UNICEF and UNICEF USA posts on social media about the current emergencies affecting children around the world. Some hashtags to use are #ChildrenofSyria #NepalEarthquake #ChildrenFirst #childrennotsoldiers
- <u>Plan a movie night</u> with your club members and watch "The Good Lie" In The Good Lie, members learn about the children who suffered in Sudan in the 1980s. Some of the cast member were part of the original Lost Boys of Sudan.
- Sign the petition to wipe out preventable deaths of children within a generation

Fundraising Friday

- 2.6 million Syrian refugee children are currently out of school. <u>Host an event</u> to raise funds for <u>UNICEF's School in a Box program</u>-each box can provide 40 children with educational supplies and instruction in displacement camps.
- Plan a <u>summer picnic</u> with your club members and accept donations for food/drinks.

 <u>Donate</u> to <u>South Sudan</u>, where thousands of children have been affected by malnutrition.
- Have a "Nibbles for Nepal" fundraiser where your club bakes sweets and gives them for
 donations at school. The funds will then go to saving families affected by the Nepal
 earthquake.