

Children and Teachers

Approach: One to one

Level: Year 8

Focus: The rights and responsibilities of students and teachers.

Resources: Photo of classroom, recording book.

Questions/instructions:

Show photo to student.

If you were one of the children in this classroom you would have some rights as well as some responsibilities.



1. Think of three important **rights** you would have and tell them to me. Rights are things you can expect of others. I will write them down to help you remember the things you said.

As the student says each idea, write it on the recording sheet (abbreviated as appropriate) and read it aloud. Where two or more ideas are given as one, suggest they be written separately.

	% responses
	y8
to have health and safety protected	21
to have personal property respected	13
to have culture and heritage respected	5
to be treated kindly, fairly, with respect	55
to be allowed to express interests, feelings, opinions, reasons	35
to have a well-designed educational programme	15
to have teaching adapted to personal needs/capabilities	5
to be given help when needed	10
to be encouraged/stimulated as a learner	9

2. Now think of three important responsibilities you would have and tell them to me. Responsibilities are things that could be expected of you.	% responses
Record answers and read back (as above).	y8
not to hurt other people or endanger their health	11
to care for own property and respect other people's property	21
to respect other people's culture and heritage	1
to be fair, kind and respectful to other students	42
to listen to other people's thoughts with care and respect	23
to try hard as a learner	42
to help other students to learn	10
to be respectful and helpful to the teacher	44
to follow class rules	28
A teacher also has some rights and responsibilities.	
3. Think of three important rights a teacher would have and tell them to me. Rights are things they could expect of others.	
Record answers and read back (as above).	
to have a pleasant well equipped classroom and school	4
to have some freedom in planning what to teach	5
to have support/encouragement from the principal and other staff	4
to have opportunities for professional development/enrichment	1
to have students who are enthusiastic learners	17
to have students who pay attention, are not disruptive and show respect for teachers	71

	% responses
	y8
to have students who are friendly and not rude, threatening or destructive to each other	12
to have students who help each other	1
to have parents who support their children's learning	1
4. Now think of three important responsibilities a teacher would have and tell them to me. Responsibilities are things that could be expected of them.	
Record answers and read back (as above).	
to like working with students and helping them learn	16
to listen carefully to students and respect their views	17
to plan and prepare the teaching programme well and thoroughly, try hard as a teacher	55
to be good at motivating students, stimulating and supporting learning	25
to recognise and provide for individual needs	14
to treat children kindly and fairly without favouritism	33
to try hard to make school safe for students	37
to work constructively with parents	0
to work constructively with other staff	2

Commentary:

Students believed that they should be treated kindly, fairly and openly; that they had a responsibility to try hard and to be fair, kind and respectful to their teacher and other students; that teachers had a right to have students who paid attention and were respectful; and that teachers had a responsibility to be well prepared, kind and caring. Students were not aware of some other rights and responsibilities of teachers.