

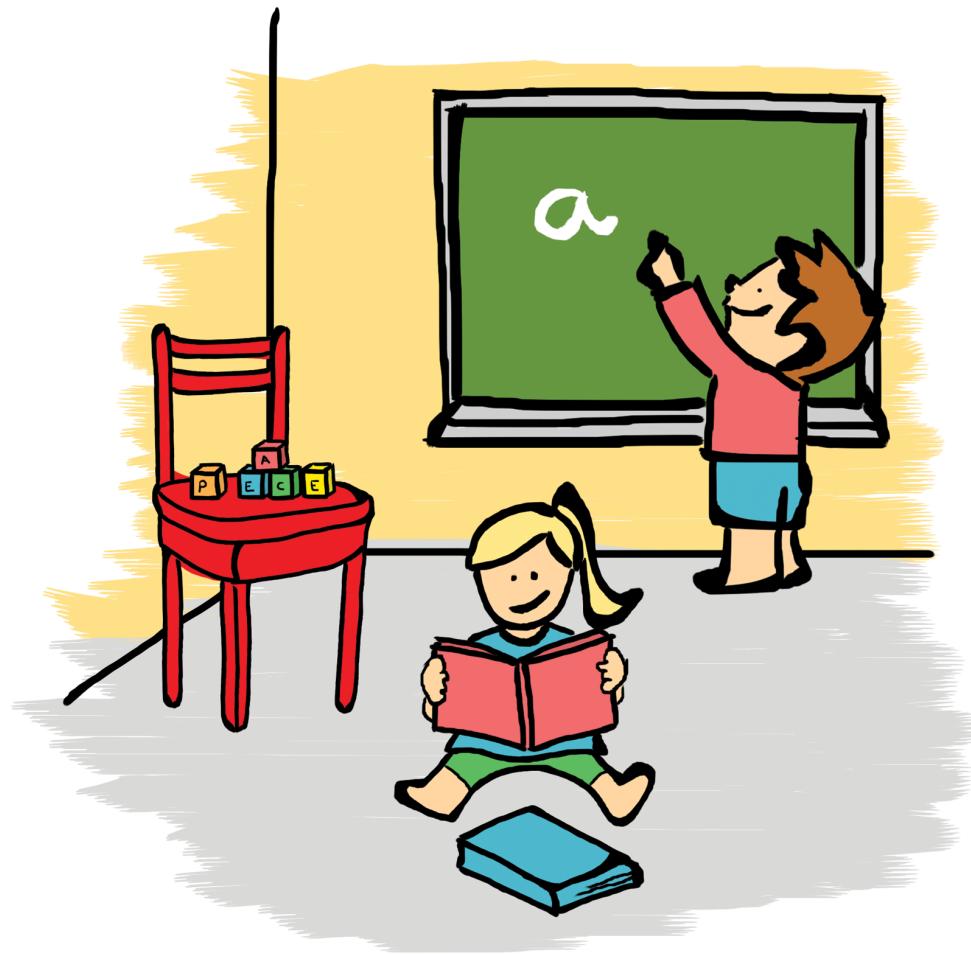


LA SILLA ROJA

A journey toward justice



Friends of
Fe y Alegría
in the United States



HIGH SCHOOL

Lesson 6:
Universal Children's Day

ACTIVITY

La Silla Roja campaign calls us to stand for the rights of children and ask ourselves what we can do to inspire change in the defense of the right to education. This unit offers an activity to help students celebrate Universal Children's Day (November 20th), and highlights the power of youth to take a stand for human rights through exploring the example of Pakistani activist, Malala Yousafzai.



Goals

- 1) Learn about the Celebration of Universal Children's Day
- 2) Inspire students to reflect on the fact that education is a human right and must be ensured for all.
- 3) Act by increasing personal engagement to promote the rights of children and youth.



Time required

60 minutes



Instructions

Let's take a look at the photo above. What do we see?

Let's start by explaining that today we celebrate Universal Children's Day and the rights that all children and youth have, such as having a family, an identity, a dignified life and, of course, the right to education.

However, not all people can exercise this right. This is why governments, public and private institutions, members of society, you and I, must work toward achieving [Sustainable Development Goal 4 by 2030: Ensure inclusive, equitable and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning](#). What do the following words mean? Inclusive, equitable, quality.

Sometimes, it doesn't take much time, only a powerful message to call attention to the need to stand up for this and other human rights. This is the case of Malala Yousafzai, a Pakistani student and activist known worldwide thanks to her defense of the right to education all over the world.

It only took her seven seconds to pronounce this message in front of the UN General Assembly:

["One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world. Education is the only solution."](#)

Education is the driving force of other rights; however, not all of humanity has access to this right. For this reason, many men and women are dedicating their lives to its defense.

At this point, students will be encouraged to become activists. They will have a couple of minutes to think and write a message demanding education for everyone. It has to be a message of less than 7 seconds and less than 140 characters.

A WORLD OF ALTERNATIVES TO CHANGE THE WORLD, WHERE DO WE START?

Students will [read out loud their messages](#) to the class. We will start a debate talking about the different messages. We also propose creating an [awareness-raising](#) campaign to share their messages with the rest of the students in your school community. To do so, they can implement collective actions, like putting key words and sentences in strategic places around their school (with permission of course). They can also use other tools, such as social media, etc.

At the same age, Malala became the youngest person awarded with the Nobel Peace Prize. Students will be encouraged to reflect on their capacity for action in the defense of the right to education and other civil rights.

[Do you imagine your words becoming an inspiration for change? How far can you go?](#)



"Mini Me"



Take some time at the end of the activity to fill out the "Mini me" handout found in the introduction. Write down what you have learned, feelings that you experienced, and an individual or group action that you will commit to once the activity has been completed.



Resources

- Universal Children's Day, 20 November (www.un.org/en/events/childrenday)
- Malala's Story (www.malala.org/malalas-story)

Thank you for taking the time to use this resource with your students. You are contributing to shaping holistic and committed citizens of tomorrow's global world. For more information, please visit www.feyalegria.us/our-work/global-education

