



Child Rights in India and The Legal Framework

IDEA NE



Nelson Mandela


**"THERE CAN BE
NO KEENER
REVELATION OF
A SOCIETY'S
SOUL THAN THE
WAY IN WHICH
IT TREATS ITS
CHILDREN."**

Who is a child?

According to United Nations: Anyone who is below the age of 18 years is a child

Indian Act	Age Limit
Child Labor Act	14
Mines Act	18
Factories Act	14
Plantation Labor Act	14
Apprentice Act	14
Right to Education	14
Juvenile Justice Act	18



The background features a light grey base with large, overlapping organic shapes in muted green and brown. Stylized foliage patterns are visible in the top left and bottom left corners. A white line with a wavy, organic path runs across the bottom right area.

What is a
Right?

Rights and Needs

- Your right is what someone else must do for you
- Your right is also what someone must not do to you (discrimination, abuse, violence)
- Rights are entitlements
- Rights emerge from needs and desires. However, the most basic needs are referred to as Rights.
- Without fulfillment of the basic needs, a child's normal development cannot take place.
- Rights are considered as fair and just for a person to have.
- Rights and responsibilities go together. Needs are not linked to responsibilities.
- Rights have a framework of rules and laws, In case of needs, one cannot seek legal action

Why should children have rights?

- Children are human beings and require safety and opportunities for development.
- Personality formation takes place during early childhood. Therefore child friendly services and nurturance are of utmost importance.
- Children need much more care and help, than grown ups do.
- Being young in age, they cannot participate in politics or judicial system despite contributing to the society's progress.
- During early years, they are dependent on adults and therefore need extra protection and appropriate guidance.

Constitution of India and Child Rights

The Constitution of India, which became operational in 1950 refer to certain child rights. For example,

- **Article 21 A**- free and compulsory education to all children of the age of 6 to 14 years
- **Article 23**- right to protection from being trafficked and forced into forced labour
- **Article 24**- right to be protected from hazardous employment till the age of 14 years.
- **Article 39**: Right to be protected from child abuse and child labour, protection against exploitation and abandonment.
- **Article 47** - The state is duty-bound to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living and to improve public health, including that of children.

Specific Articles

- **Article 51 (c):** International laws and treaties shall be respected by the state to every possible extent, including the CRC and its optional protocols, Optional Protocol to CRC on Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography and Optional Protocol to CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.
- **Article 51 A (k):** It shall be the duty of every citizen of India who is a parent or guardian to provide opportunities for education to his child or, as the case may be, ward between the age of six and fourteen years.
- **Article 243G** provides for the institutionalisation of child care by seeking to entrust programs of Women and Child Development to Panchayat (Item 25 of Schedule 11).



LAW S AND SCHEMES

Children have all the rights as equal citizens of the country like any other adult.

Child Rights Related Acts

Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956

aims to prevent 'immoral traffic' in women and girls.

Child Labor (prohibition and regulation act) 1986

prohibits employment of children below 14 years in certain occupations such as automobile, bidi- making, carpet weaving, handloom industry, mines and domestic work.

Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1994

enacted to stop female feticide and arrest the declining sex ratio in India. The act banned prenatal sex determination

Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006

The act forbids child marriage in India. It also protects and provides assistance to the victims of child marriages

Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015

The Act pertains to provisions for children found in conflict with the law in India. It also gives provisions for children in need of care and protection

Child Rights Related Acts

Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2015

it is a law for protection of children from all forms of sexual abuse.

Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016

Government shall ensure that the PwD enjoy the right to equality, life with dignity, and respect for his or her own integrity equally with others

Rights to education Act 2009

this Act made education for every child between 6 and 14 years a fundamental right. It also set the basic norms that must be followed by every elementary school in the country.

National Policy for Children 2013

- Preamble

Recognising that:

- a child is any person below the age of eighteen years;
- childhood is an integral part of life with a value of its own;
- children are not a homogenous group and their different needs need different responses, especially the multi-dimensional vulnerabilities experienced by children in different circumstances;
- a long term, sustainable, multi-sectoral, integrated and inclusive approach is necessary for the overall and harmonious development and protection of children;

Preamble

- Reaffirming that:
 - every child is unique and a supremely important national asset;
 - special measures and affirmative action are required to diminish or eliminate conditions that cause discrimination,
 - all children have the right to grow in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding;
 - families are to be supported by a strong social safety net in caring for and nurturing their children

Few Schemes

SCHEME NAME	TARGET GROUP	ABOUT SCHEME
Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)	All children of school going age	The scheme was launched with a view to improving the quality of school education.
Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)	Children of 0-6 years age	providing for supplementary nutrition, immunization and pre-school education to the children
Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)	All children	creating a safe and secure environment for children in conflict with law as well as children in need of care and protection
National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)	Rural population, vulnerable groups	To provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population, especially the vulnerable groups.
Mission Indradhanush	Children in 0-2 years of age	Cover all those children who are either unvaccinated, or are partially vaccinated against vaccine preventable diseases.
DISHA Scheme	CwD, 0-10 years age	Early intervention and school readiness scheme.
POSHAN	Students in govt. and govt. aided schools	Providing nutritional meals to schoolchildren and monitoring the nutritional levels of schoolchildren.

Survival Statistics for Meghalaya

1. **SEX RATIO AT BIRTH FOR CHILDREN BORN IN THE LAST 5 YEARS (NFHS-5)** The sex ratio at birth for children born in the last 5 years in Meghalaya **was 989**.
2. **POPULATION BELOW AGE 15 YEARS (NFHS-5)** – **About 37.3%** of the population in Meghalaya is below the age of 15 years, as per NFHS-5 data. This suggests a significant proportion of the population consists of children and young individuals.
3. **INFANT MORTALITY RATE (NFHS-5)** The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in Meghalaya, is **32.3 deaths per 1000 live births**.
4. **UNDER-FIVE MORTALITY RATE (NFHS-5)** The Under-five Mortality Rate (U5MR) in Meghalaya, as is **40 deaths per 1000 live births**.

Survival

1. **INSTITUTIONAL BIRTHS (NFHS-5)** – Around **58.1% of births** in Meghalaya were conducted in Institutional settings, according to NFHS-5 data. This indicates the percentage of births that took place in hospitals, clinics, or other healthcare facilities.
2. **BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL** – NFHS-5 data shows that **64% of births** in Meghalaya were attended by skilled health personnel. Skilled health personnel include doctors, nurses, midwives, or trained healthcare professionals who assist during childbirth.
3. **CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED POSTNATAL CARE FROM A HEALTH PERSONNEL WITHIN 2DAYS OF DELIVERY**
Approximately **44.9% of children** in Meghalaya received postnatal care from a health professional within two days of delivery, as per NFHS-5 data.
4. **CHILDREN AGE 12-23 MONTHS FULLY VACCINATED BASED ON INFORMATION FROM VACCINATION CARD**
About **63.8% of children aged 12-23 months** in Meghalaya were fully vaccinated, according to NFHS-5 data.
5. **CHILDREN AGE 6-59 MONTHS WHO ARE ANAEMIC (NFHS-5)** – NFHS-5 data suggests that **45.1% of children aged 6-59 months** in Meghalaya are anaemic.
6. **TOTAL CHILDREN AGE 6-23 MONTHS RECEIVING AN ADEQUATE DIET (NFHS-5)** – Only **29.8% of children aged 6-23 months in Meghalaya received an adequate diet**, according to NFHS-5 data.

Survival

- 16.9% of women in the age group of 20-24 in Meghalaya were married before the age of 18.
- The data shows that 7.2% of women in the age group of 15-19 years in Meghalaya were already mothers or pregnant at the time of the survey which is even higher than the national average.
- The adolescent fertility rate for women aged 15-19 years in Meghalaya is 49. A higher rate indicates a higher incidence of teenage pregnancies.

Development

1. Children age 5 years who attended pre-primary school stands at 31.2% of children aged 5 years in Meghalaya attended pre-primary school, according to NFHS-5. This indicates a relatively low enrolment rate in early childhood education.
2. Female population age 6 years and above who attended school nfhs-5 data shows that 85.5% of females aged 6 years and above in Meghalaya attended school.
3. Primary standard drop out rate at 9.8%.
4. The female literacy rate in Meghalaya, according to the Census report of 2011 was 72.89%.
5. As per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) data, the percentage of women in Meghalaya with 10 or more years of schooling is 35.1%. This is indicative of low enrolment of women for higher education.
6. As per ASER Test 2022 more than 70 per cent of the eighth-graders in rural areas cannot do division.
7. Schools without electricity and computers.
8. Sports and co curricular facilities for children needs attention

SDG performance

- Meghalaya is ranked at 7th position and only higher than Nagaland.
- Out of the 103 districts considered for ranking, the best performing district from Meghalaya is East Khasi Hills ranked at 57th and the worst performing is North Garo Hills at 98th position
- Meghalaya's ranking so low in health and well-being of infant and maternal mortality which continue to be high in nearly all districts.
- On Quality Education East Khasi Hills was ranked 25th while South West Garo Hills ranked 98/103.
- On Goal 5 - East Khasi Hills is ranked 95/103 with West Garo Hills faring better at 78/103. South West Garo Hills and South West Khasi Hills were both ranked at 100th.

Work of the ant with children

Elementary Education



Education of mothers up to middle schools affects Infant Mortality Rate the most, more than nutrition or immunization or closeness of medical facility!

Education: shifting the focus to LEARNING

Focus on elementary education for girls

Focus on learning, not teaching

Government School teachers training

Supplementing teachers: 200 schools;

15,000 students

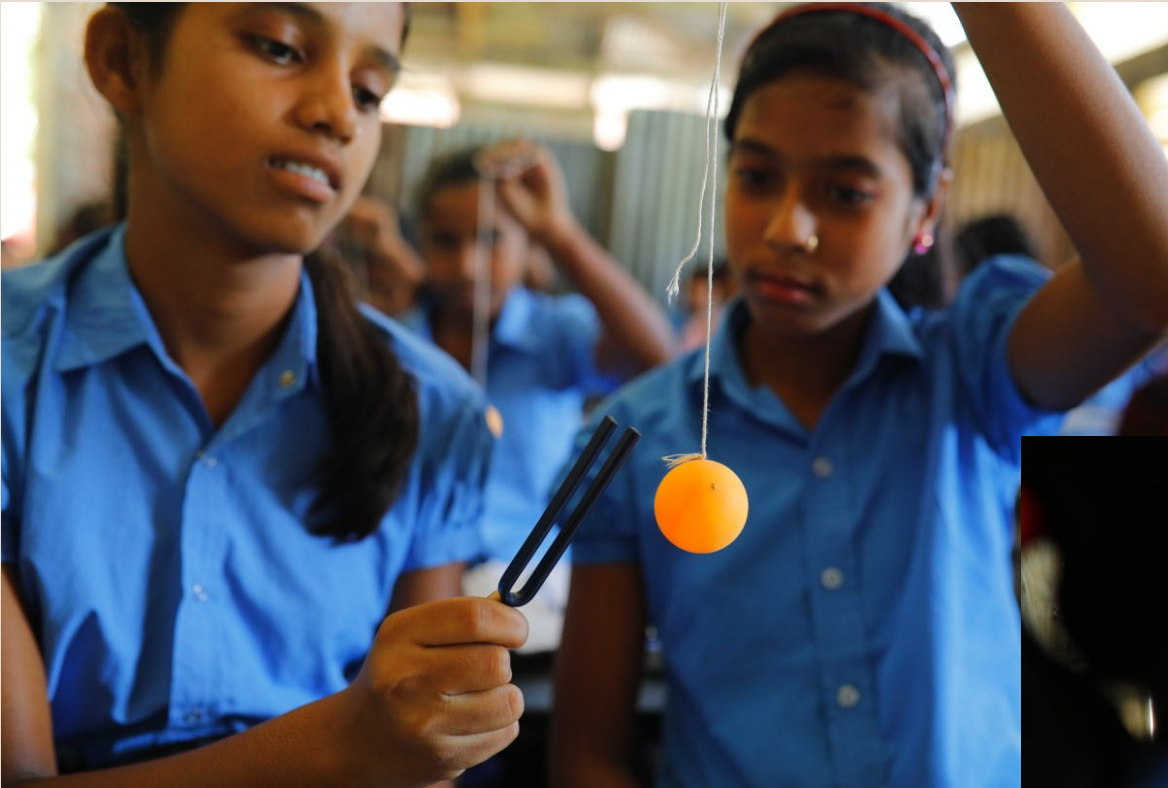
Science & Math: Practical hands-on science

Second Language usage

Remedial Evening Schools

Forest Schools/ Model School

Sports for Development/ Peace - ULTIMATE



LEARNING SCIENCE
PRACTICALLY – MIDDLE
SCHOOLS

Building scientific temperament





Polling booths, latrines, but no schools in forests!



A community – owned partnership; “Goats as payment” to build sustainability





TEACHER TRAINING to
EVALUATE LEARNING, NOT
TEACHING;



Students help
teachers in teaching

Participatory
learning





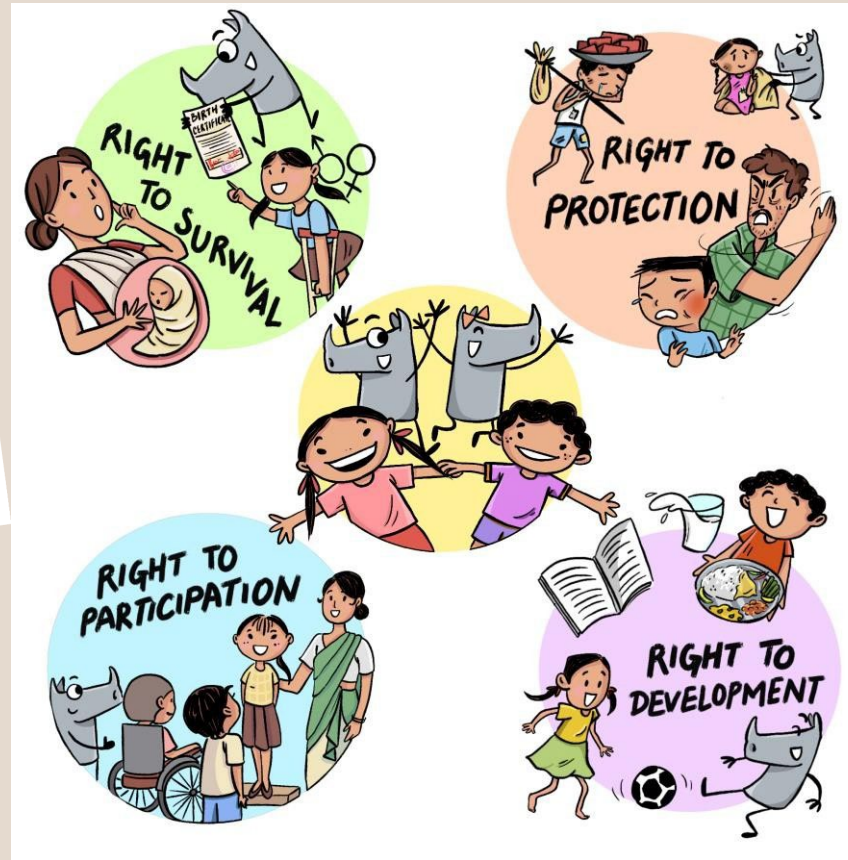
ULTIMATE - FRISBEE TEAM GAME

- No Referee
- No aggression/ tackle
- Sorry/ Well done – Spirit Score
- **Rainbow Frisbee – 3 religions, 3 mother tongues per team**
- Spirit Captain

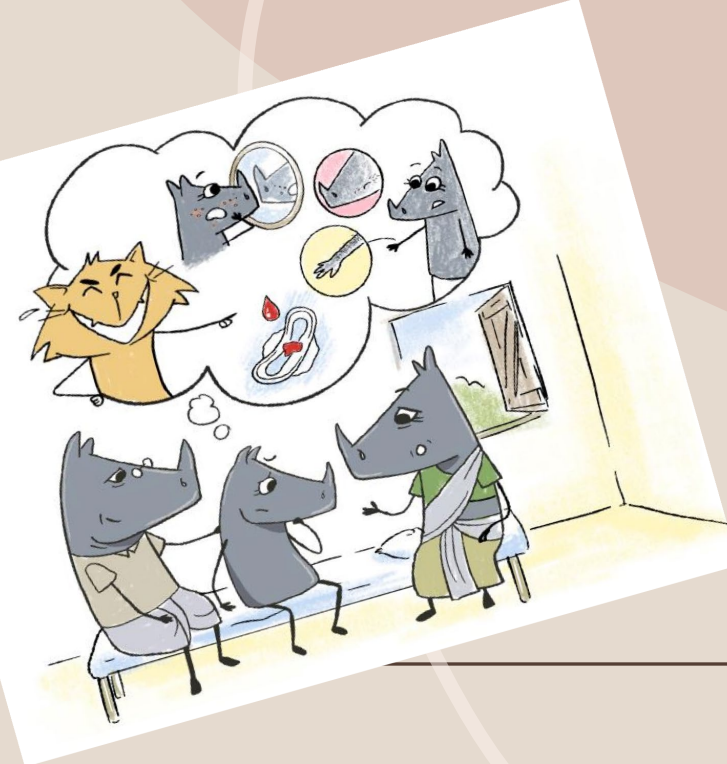


**Bodo Traditional Music cum Dance by
Bodo Girls | SIFUNG HARIMU AFAD ...**

Project Enrich – Examples of Curriculum & Materials



Some Key Modules include *Self & Identity; Health including mental health; Career planning, Rights & responsibilities, Environment, Quality education etc.*



Sample of Workbooks called *FunBook* for Children & *Journal* for Youth

Journal Exercise 5

Moving towards Success in my Future

Play the Snakes & Ladders Game to find out how prepared you are for your career.

Your Career Snakes & ladders

41. You are not honest

42. You do not have any career plan

43. You do not have any career plan

44. **FINISH**

40. You are confused most of the time

39. You research various career options

38. You connect with others and take their help

37. You discuss your career plans with your family & others.

36. You get lazy about doing things on time.

35. You are sincere and keep your word to others.

34. You develop skills needed for your career

33. You have a negative attitude

32. You are self-aware and know your likes & dislikes

31. You have a plan for your career

30. You Know Your Values - i.e. what is most important for you

29. You are self-aware and know your likes & dislikes

28. You have a negative attitude

27. You develop skills needed for your career

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21. You have a negative attitude

20. You develop skills needed for your career

19. You are self-aware and know your likes & dislikes

18. You have a plan for your career

17. You Know Your Values - i.e. what is most important for you

16. You are self-aware and know your likes & dislikes

15. You have a negative attitude

14. You develop skills needed for your career

13. You are self-aware and know your likes & dislikes

12. You have a plan for your career

11. You Know Your Values - i.e. what is most important for you

10. You are self-aware and know your likes & dislikes

9. You have a negative attitude

8. You develop skills needed for your career

7. You are self-aware and know your likes & dislikes

6. You have a plan for your career

5. You Know Your Values - i.e. what is most important for you

4. You are self-aware and know your likes & dislikes

3. You have a negative attitude

2. You develop skills needed for your career

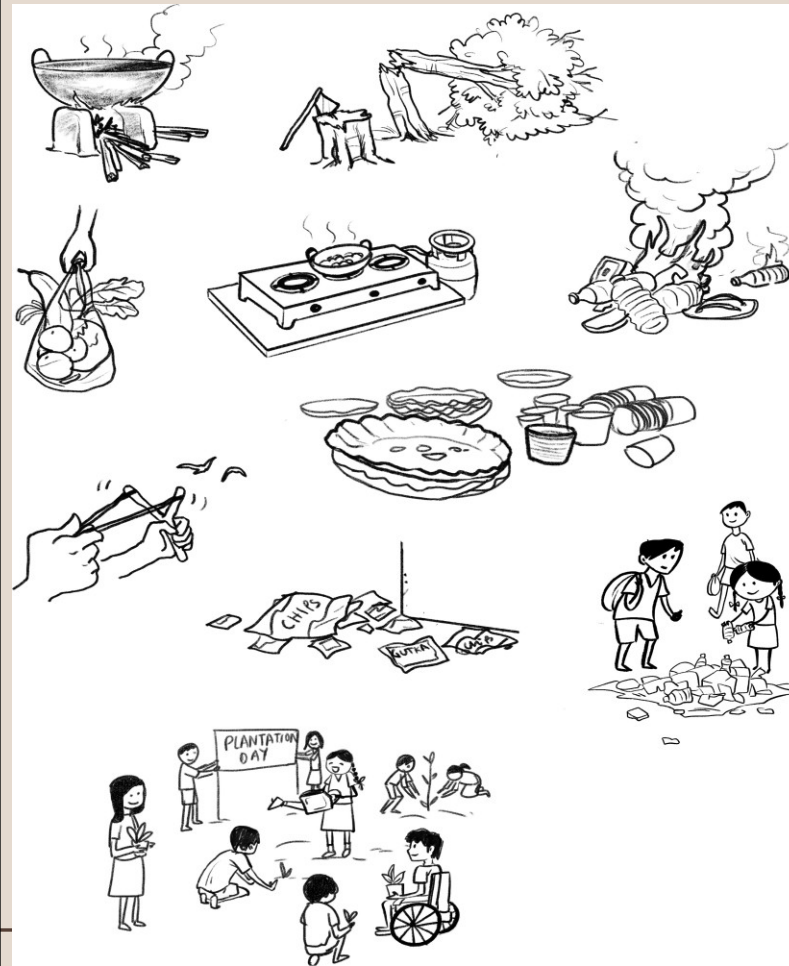
1. **START**

Designed for Project Enrich (IDeA-the ant - 2021)

Journal Exercise 20

Our Habits which Help and Harm Nature

Can you circle the good habits with green and bad habits with red? Write about what you will do to turn the habits from red to green.



Part 1 Facilitator's Manual (Rhino Club Formation)



Project Enrich (2021)





(Friends Across Barriers)





thank you

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