



## YOU HAVE RIGHTS!

Human rights are for everyone, no matter what. Human rights are meant to make sure that everyone is treated fairly. Did you know that kids have a special set of rights that are meant to protect them? These rights are protected under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, here they are:

### ARTICLE 1

If you are under the age of 18, you have these rights.

### ARTICLE 2

You have rights no matter who you are, where you come from, your gender, religion, culture or language, if you have a disability or how much money you have. You deserve to be treated fairly.

### ARTICLE 3

All grown-ups should act in your best interest. This means they always do what is best for you, and make sure you are always well taken care of.

### ARTICLE 4

Your rights are protected by the government and they are responsible for making sure your family can protect your rights too.

### ARTICLE 5

Your family is responsible for teaching you about your rights and how to use them.

### ARTICLE 6

Every child has the right to be alive and it's every grown-up's responsibility to make sure you can grow up safely and happy.

### ARTICLE 7

Every child has the right to a name, nationality and to know and be cared for by their parents.

### ARTICLE 9

You have the right to live with your own family; if it isn't a safe place, you have the right to have a family take care of you. If you don't live with your parents, you have the right to see them unless it isn't safe.

### ARTICLE 10

If you don't live in the same country as your parents, you have the right to live in the same place. If your parents live in different places, you have the right to see them both, unless it isn't safe.

### ARTICLE 11

You have the right to be protected from kidnapping.

### ARTICLE 12

You have the right to voice your opinion and to be listened to.

### ARTICLE 8

You have the right to an identity; that must always be respected, and can't be taken away.

ME AND MY MOM,  
MARY THE BEAR!



### ARTICLE 17

You have the right to see news and information that affects your well-being. It is the responsibility of grown-ups to help you understand this information, and make sure it isn't harmful to you, whether it is on social media, in books, the internet or anywhere else.

### ARTICLE 13

You have the right to freely express your thoughts and learn things unless it causes harm to others.

### ARTICLE 14

You have the right to choose whatever religion you'd like and it is your parents' responsibility to guide you and help you think for yourself.

### ARTICLE 15

You have the right to make friends with whoever you'd like, unless it may cause harm to yourself or others.

### ARTICLE 16

You have the right to have your privacy protected by the law.

### ARTICLE 18

You have the right to grow up with you parents, unless it isn't safe.

### ARTICLE 19

You have the right to be protected from all violence and to be safe at all times.

### ARTICLE 20

If living with your family isn't in your best interest, you have the right to be specially taken care of.

MY SISTERS! MEMENGWE,  
CEDAR BEAR & ERA BEAR



### ARTICLE 21

If you are adopted or in foster care, you have the right to be taken care of to make sure you are healthy and happy.

### ARTICLE 22

If you are forced to leave your country (refugee status), you have the right to be protected and to be taken care of.

### ARTICLE 23

If you have learning difficulties or have a disability, you have the right to special help so that you can have a good quality of life.

### ARTICLE 24

You have the right to the best health care possible: places to help you if you're sick, medication if you need it, things like safe drinking water and food that is good for you so you don't get sick, and all the information you need to stay healthy.

### ARTICLE 25

If you are in foster care or adopted, you have the right to be checked on frequently enough to make sure you are being taken care of properly.

### ARTICLE 26

The government has the responsibility to make sure that if you are poor or in need of help that you get the help you need.

### ARTICLE 28

You have the right to a good education, and to be encouraged by grown ups to keep learning for as long as you can.

### ARTICLE 27

You have the right to have your basic needs met, which means having access to food, clothing, and a safe place to live.

### ARTICLE 29

You have the right to an education that helps you reach your full potential. It should help you learn to respect others, the environment, and help you develop strong life values.

### ARTICLE 30

You have the right to practice your own culture, language and religion. If you belong to a minority or Indigenous group you have special protection of this right.

### ARTICLE 31

You have the right to play and rest, and it is the responsibility of the grown-ups in your life to encourage and respect that.

All children have the right to be protected from dangerous drugs, and the drug trade. It is the job of the government and other grown-up's responsibility to make this right safe.

### ARTICLE 33

### ARTICLE 32

You have the right to be protected from work that could hurt you, your health or your education. If you are of age to work, you have the right to be safe and paid fairly for your time.

### ARTICLE 34

You have the right to be protected from sexual abuse.

### ARTICLE 35

Every child has the right to be protected from being taken, or being sold (trafficking).

### ARTICLE 36

You have the right to be protected from being taken advantage of in any form.

### ARTICLE 37

You have the right to protection from harm. This means no one is allowed to hurt you.

### ARTICLE 38

If you are under 15, you can't be forced to join an army, or go to war. You also have the right to be protected from war.

### ARTICLE 39

You have the right to special help if you have been harmed in any way.

### ARTICLE 40

You have the right to fair treatment and legal help in the justice system.

ME IN MY  
BEARISTER  
CLOTHES!



### ARTICLE 41

If there are child rights laws that better protect you where you live, those laws come first.

### ARTICLE 42

You have the right to know your rights as a child. It is the responsibility of grown-ups to know your rights and make sure that you know them too.

### ARTICLE 43-54

In these sections it explains how governments, and international organizations make sure that your rights are protected.

Adapted from UNICEF Canada's child friendly version, this text is not an official version of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Access the official text at [unicef.org/crc](http://unicef.org/crc)



First Nations Child & Family  
Caring Society of Canada

