

Education for Development

UPDATE

WINTER 2007, BC AND YUKON

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character'

Martin Luther King 1929-1968

Upcoming Dates

NOVEMBER 20 – National Child Day

National Child Day is held November 20th each year. On November 20, 2007, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) turns eighteen. Young people celebrating their eighteenth birthday this year are the first generation born with universal rights of their own. Have their childhood experiences with rights been something to celebrate? This issue of the EDEV newsletter looks at the issue of children's rights.

DECEMBER 1 – World AIDS Day

A child under 15 dies of an AIDS-related illness every minute of every day, and a young person aged 15–24 contracts HIV every 15 seconds. UNICEF Canada staff in conjunction with teachers across the country have produced myriad curriculum resources to help teachers explore the issue of HIV and AIDS in the classroom. Visit www.unicef.ca/globaleducation to learn more.

DECEMBER 5 – International Volunteers Day

<http://www.unicef.ca/portal/SmartDefault.aspx?at=1289>

Canadians make an enormous contribution of time to make life better in our communities. According to the latest figures, almost 12 million Canadians volunteer with charities or organizations and contribute close to two billion volunteer hours! If you would like to learn more about ways you and your students can get involved with UNICEF, contact your regional EDEV Manager.

DECEMBER 8 – International Day of Children's Day of Broadcasting

http://www.unicef.org/videoaudio/video_icdb.html

ICDB, celebrated on the second Sunday of every December, is a day when broadcasters around the world "Tune in to Kids". They air quality programming for and about children. But most of all, they allow children to be part of the programming process, to talk about their hopes and dreams and share information with their peers.

DECEMBER 26

<http://www.unicefusa.org/site/c.ktJ0JbMNIqE/b.878817/k.CC1B/Home.htm>

2007 marks the third anniversary of the Indian Ocean tsunami (December 26, 2004) In response to the tragedy, the US Fund for UNICEF developed a series of curriculum resources to assist teachers in addressing the issue in their classrooms. You can access this material by visiting

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For more information about UNICEF Canada's education programmes in British Columbia and Yukon, please contact Paula Gallo pgallo@unicef.ca Tel: +1 604 874 3666 ext. 227.

UNICEF is the world's leader for children, working in 156 countries and territories to save, protect and enhance the lives of girls and boys. UNICEF supports child health and nutrition, promotes quality basic education, protects children from violence, exploitation and AIDS, and is the world's largest provider of vaccines for developing nations. A global leader in emergencies with six decades of on-the-ground experience, UNICEF saves and rebuilds children's lives in natural disasters and conflict. UNICEF is funded entirely by voluntary contributions from individuals, businesses, foundations, schools, associations and governments.

For every child
Health, Education, Equality, Protection



JANUARY 21, 2008 – Martin Luther King Day (observed)

There are 2.2 billion children in the world. 1.9 billion children are living in developing countries with 1 billion of them living in poverty.

JANUARY 27, 2008 – International Day of Commemoration

Spread the Net

We're calling on young Canadians across the country to join Spread the Net, a grassroots initiative in partnership with UNICEF Canada, aimed at raising funds to purchase insecticide-treated bed nets for children and pregnant women in Liberia and Rwanda. It costs only \$10 to provide an insecticide-treated bed net that can reduce malaria transmission by at least 50 per cent. **Think about it: \$10 is worth a couple of lattes, an album on iTunes or a trip to the movies. Or lives saved.**



High school students can help to spread the net in their school communities and beyond by joining the Spread the Net Beat the Mosquitoes Challenge, which runs until February 29th, 2008. Top fundraising schools across Canada will be announced on Africa Malaria Day – Friday April 25, 2008. Top schools could also get a visit from one of our Spread the Net ambassadors, such as the captain of Team Canada's women's hockey team Hayley Wickenheiser, or Cover Girl Canada spokesperson and TV personality Paul Venoit.

For more information on Spread the Net, full challenge details for both youth initiatives, and how to register visit www.spreadthenet.org!

One net. 10 bucks. Save lives.

Junior 8 Competition



We're finalizing details with governments and sponsors, and will open the application process in December or January. Please check our website www.unicef.ca/junior8summit over the coming weeks for more information. Thank you for your interest in the J8!

J8 Summit: If your students had the opportunity to tell world leaders what they should do to solve global problems, what would they say?

The Junior 8 program provides students with the opportunity to develop their own ideas about the most pressing global issues today, discuss them with friends, classmates and young people from around the world. Members of the winning team will then have the chance to present their ideas to the leaders of eight of the most powerful countries in the world.

Many teachers have already been writing and calling to find out how their students can be involved in the 2008 competition. To learn more about last year's team, Act Now for Tomorrow and their work at the G8 2007 Summit in Germany, visit

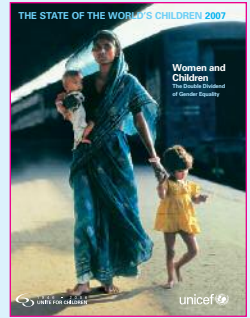
<http://www.unicef.ca/portal/GetPage.aspx?at=1680>

This year's J8 Summit will be taking place in Chitose, Japan, July 2-9.

Keep visiting www.unicef.ca/globaleducation

SOWC Report

The Annual State of the World's Children Report will be launched at the end of January 2008. We will be launching a series of lesson plans and curriculum



resources which can be used in conjunction with the study in the middle of January. These activities will be based on resources that have been developed by the US Fund for UNICEF. You can take a look by visiting

www.unicefusa.org/teachunicef
Visit

www.unicef.ca/globaleducation
for the Canadian version in the coming months.

Quantum Shift TV: An Exciting New Opportunity for Your Students



Quantum Shift TV is challenging students from grades one to twelve across the United States and Canada to participate in the Be the Change! Share the Story! School Video Contest. Students are invited to work on a social or environmental project of their choice, and document their progress in two short videos to be uploaded on the Web. In addition to making a difference in their community, students have an opportunity to win \$50,000 in prizes for their school. Visit

<http://www.quantumshift.tv/schools/> for more information.

New from unicef.org

Voices of Youth

Will You Listen? Young Voices from Conflict Zones

The 'Machel plus 10': Children and Conflict in a Changing World <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/english/machel10.html> report carried out by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict and UNICEF was released October 17, 2007. The report reviews progress since the release of the Graca Machel study and finds dozens of conflicts around the world are still robbing children of their childhood." As part of the strategic review process, a separate report entitled *Will you listen? – Young voices from conflict zones* has captured youth voices; gathering the views, concerns and demands of 1700 youth, from 92 countries, through focus group discussions and an online survey. The majority of the youth participating were from countries affected by conflicts.

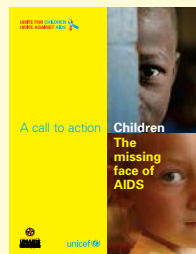
For more information on how you can take action to end the use of child soldiers, visit the Voices of Youth website, www.unicef.org/voy/.



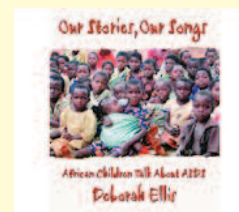
New Resources on [unicef.ca/globaleducation](http://www.unicef.ca/globaleducation)

Teacher's Guides to accompany *Children: The Missing Face of AIDS DVD*

The *Children: The Missing Face of AIDS* Teacher's Guide includes lesson plans, extension activities and facts and figures related to the pandemic. The video profiles a day in the life of Nyirabimana, a young Rwandan girl who has been orphaned by AIDS and is left to care for her young siblings alone. Resource is appropriate for use with youth ages 12 and up.

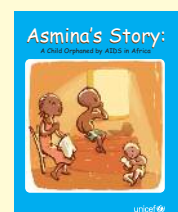


Teacher's Guide to accompany *Our Stories Our Songs: African Children Talk About AIDS*



Deborah Ellis' *Our Stories Our Songs* is a series of autobiographical vignettes written by young people, many of whom are orphans or living on the street. Through these stories they discuss their families, their favorite pastimes, their fears, and their dreams. This guide will help teachers navigate through their stories and songs with lesson plans, activities and resources on where you

might find additional background information on the pandemic. Book is appropriate for use with youth ages 12 and up.



Asmina's Story and Teacher's Guide

This resource has been popular with teachers for many years. The comic book and accompanying teacher's guide helps young Canadians to understand the plight of children orphaned by AIDS in Africa and the work that UNICEF does to support them. The guides are available for download and are appropriate for use with youth in grades 7-9.

Media corner

As teachers, you are well aware of the profound impact of media and its power to influence attitudes and behaviours of young people. You also likely have a keen understanding of the ways students have harnessed this power for good and as a vehicle to showcase their intelligence and creativity. UNICEF International is working with children around the world by providing them with exciting opportunities to share their experiences with others through the use of photography, television and radio. To learn more visit:

Photography

Media Magic

<http://www.unicef.org/magic/>

Media Activities and good ideas by with and for children. Media Magic addresses a children's right to participate in the media and to learn more about what young people all over the world are doing to exercise that right. This site also offers opportunities for Canadian youth to join in the discussion.

You can sign up through the website to receive the MediaMagic digest. The most recent newsletter looks at children and photography projects in development.

<http://www.unicef.org/voy/explore/media/3825.htm>

Eye See II

In 2005 to mark the one-year anniversary of northern Pakistan's earthquake, UNICEF launched the 'Eye See II' photo project, a special initiative to highlight the unique experiences and needs of children in the quake's aftermath. Eye See II featured photos taken by twenty-one children from areas that were hard-hit by the earthquake. To learn more about the exhibit and see the pictures, visit:

http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/pakistan_36087.html

Television and Radio

Watch UNICEF Television

You can invite your classes to learn more about our work in the field by streaming UNICEF Television and radio through vodcasts.

http://www.unicef.org/videoaudio/video_allvodcasts.html

Listen to the Digital Diaries:

Take a listen!!

www.unicef.org/voy

Voices of Youth Digital Diaries are all about young people who want to know more...do more...and say more about the world. These reports are first-person/eyewitness accounts by young people from around the world.

Rights Corner

Media Magic Make a Difference

In honour of the 5th Anniversary of the Special Session for Children, Media Magic's Make a Difference contest invited youth to tell the world what they think about the world they live in and how they're making a difference. Youth to look at the four priorities of the session's adopted agenda "Building a World Fit for Children": Promoting healthy lives; Providing quality education; Protecting children against abuse, exploitation and violence; Combating HIV/AIDS. Youth were to look at : how have these goals been achieved in your community? what problems still exist in your communities? what suggestions do you have to fix these issues? What can be done to make the world better for children? Share some of the winning entries with your classes.

http://www.unicef.org/voy/takeaction/takeaction_3731.html

The First Rights Generation Comes of Age

Overall Canada has done reasonably well in protecting children's rights and promoting children's well-being, yet eighteen years on, too many children still fall through the gaps and live below the international standards for children's rights. UNICEF Canada believes a national Children's Commissioner is crucial to focus national responsibility and accountability for the implementation of the Convention in Canada's federal system.

We need the Commissioner to:

- Monitor the federal government's implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, conduct independent investigations and make annual reports to Canadians
- Speak on behalf of all Canadian children and youth, listening to them and making sure their voices are heard on the national issues that affect them
- Raise awareness of Canadians about children's rights
- Work with provincial child and youth advocates and encourage all levels of government and non-governmental organizations to join together to advance children's rights and well-being

November 20 is National Child Day! Mark the day and call upon the Government of Canada to establish a national Children's Commissioner by visiting

<http://www.unicef.ca/portal/SmartDefault.aspx?at=2086>.



The CRC@18 Website

In commemoration of the 18th anniversary of the CRC UNICEF International has developed a CRC@18 website. Through videos, games, posters, research, classroom activities and even a tour through Second Life, visitors have

the opportunity to learn more about the Convention here in Canada and around the world.

Visit the site at <http://www.unicef.org/knowyourrights/>

UNITE Against AIDS video competition

UNICEF Canada and IndieMV are inviting youth across the country to showcase their creativity and talent by participating in the UNITE AGAINST AIDS video contest. HIV and AIDS is having a devastating impact on kids, robbing them of their childhood and their future. UNICEF's Unite for Children. Unite Against AIDS Campaign is helping to change that by mobilizing people around the world in the fight against HIV and AIDS.



**UNITE FOR CHILDREN
UNITE AGAINST AIDS**

Go to www.indiemv.com to find out more!

Child Rights to be Taught in School

[NEW DELHI, 1 November 2007] - The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) in India has written to district collectors to ask that articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child are read out in every class, and morning assemblies, at least twice a week. Children will now be educated about their rights and the laws protecting them in their classrooms.

Since children are least likely to be aware of their rights and the laws meant to protect them, the NCPCR wants the move to begin from 14 November, Children's Day, to make the day meaningful for them.

Besides schools, the NCPCR wants hostels, orphanages, juvenile observation homes, children's homes and shelter homes etc also to take up this activity. "Despite having certain rights and laws, children never complain against the atrocities or the humiliation they face. They are simply not aware about what to do and where to go in such situations. Hence, it is important let them know of articles, laws and issues related to their rights so that they can stand up and speak against atrocities," said a member of NCPCR.

Accordingly, children will be told about their rights in schools and at home. They will be informed that they have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated in body or mind.

[Source: Daily News and Analysis India; www.dnaindia.com]

Regional Update – British Columbia and Yukon

Hello British Columbia teachers and educators!

I hope you are all having an excellent fall. Things have been very busy here in the Vancouver UNICEF office – lots of new connections are being made with schools, and we are talking to many teachers and students who are actively working to make the world a better place!

There are a number of British Columbia schools with a common thread running between them – they have all taken part in the activity: *Walk for Water* (This is one of the featured activities in the *Schools for Africa* campaign, located in the Teachers' Resource Guide that schools receive when they sign up). This activity involves learning about how far many children, often girls, have to walk every day to gather water for their families. It offers an engaging way to involve students in a physical and interactive activity that will increase their understanding of what many children must do, every day of their lives, to fetch water for their families. Clean water is essential for survival, and is one of the articles in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

in West Vancouver, did this activity in 2006 and it was a great success. Their principal, Brad Lund, then moved to **Caulfield Elementary** and marched the whole school out in their own *Walk for Water!* The teachers and students then held a 2 day conference for students, staff and parents to raise awareness about the daily life of young people in Africa. Nigel Fisher, UNICEF Canada's President, and John Nsabimana, a survivor of the Rwandan genocide, took part in this very special event.

Jules Quesnel Elementary School in Vancouver also decided that this activity would be a great way to infuse their Grade 6 math class with some real life meaning, and Kristiina Harris, a Faculty of Education Student at Simon Fraser University, with the support of her sponsor teachers, Natalie Morissette and Deborah Roos, piloted and developed the *Walk for Water* activity (attached). A word of advice from Deborah: *"The students learned that the water would not spill out if they put a stopper on the jug, which might have been a rock or some moss or a stick (they didn't necessarily have lids on the jugs before we left). The stopper was especially important for when they were carrying water jugs on their heads!"* Way to go Jules Quesnel!

Queen Mary Elementary School was the next school to decide that the *Walk for Water* was a fun and meaningful way to increase students' connections to other children around the world. Grade 6 and 7 students walked to Jericho Beach in Vancouver and filled their buckets, and next year they are planning to involve the whole school, which will be quite and adventure! (insert pictures here of Queen Mary)

So have a look at the attached activity, and let me know how it goes if you decide to try it out. I am sure your students could come up with many variations, and we would love to let other teachers know about them! Have fun!



Caulfield Students coordinating the Conference on Africa.



John Nsabimana and UNICEF Borad Member Alan Ely



Queen Mary Students filling their buckets at Jericho Beach



Making the long walk back up to the school....



A young Caulfeild student walking to collect firewood.

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Canadian International
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