



### Objectives:

1. To understand the Children's Referendum through researching it in the media
2. To explore both sides of the debate
3. To formulate and articulate opinions on the Referendum.

### You will need:

1. Copies of Worksheets
2. Space for debate
3. Newspaper and online articles on the Children's Referendum.

**Length: Two 40 minute classes**

### Note to Teachers:

A few weeks before the workshop, ask your group to research the Children's Referendum on their own and bring back to the group, articles about the Referendum. Articles should be a mix of opinions. If possible display them in the room.

Content	Activity	Time
Worksheet	Ask the group to fill in the worksheet below, based on their own research.	10 mins
Activity (Group work)	<p>In this activity children will be holding a panel style discussion (similar to Frontline) about the Children's Referendum. Divide class into 4 groups:</p> <p><b>1. Presenters 2. Supporters 3. Opposers 4. Audience</b></p> <p>Each group will have a different task. Children will use their worksheets as guidance in their group. The following is an outline of what each group should achieve. Encourage them to practice with each other their arguments, questions and answers.</p> <p>▶ <b>1. Presenters Group:</b> will interview the panel, they will come up with a list of at least 10 questions for the discussion. They will decide on one person from the group to be the presenter of the forum.</p> <p>▶ <b>2. Supporters Group:</b> Will represent 2 organisations in support of the Referendum. They will devise an argument for the Yes Campaign. (A paragraph for each agency). They must also think of answers to questions the presenter/audience might ask. They will decide on two people to represent their side on the panel and the rest of the group can join the audience to answer questions from the audience.</p> <p>▶ <b>3. Opposers Group:</b> Will represent groups that are against the Referendum. They will devise an argument for the No Campaign. They must also think of answers to questions the presenter/audience might ask. They will decide on two people to represent their side on the panel and the rest of the group can join the audience to answer questions from the audience.</p> <p>▶ <b>4. Audience Group:</b> This group will be the audience and will put forward a list of scenarios for the panel to address. Encourage this group to take on characters with real life scenarios. For example an angry parent who can't get her child in to a local school, a parent who feels their right to parent should be protected.</p>	30 mins
Debate	Groups debate the issues in a panel type discussion.	40 mins next class
Inform Others	Ask the participants to take the information they have learned and write an editorial style article on the Children's Referendum. Ask each group to outline their arguments on UNICEF's Video Blog.	



# CHILDREN'S REFERENDUM WORKSHEET

What is the Children's Referendum and when will it be held?

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Name 3 agencies in support of the Referendum and reasons why they are in support of the Referendum

1 \_\_\_\_\_

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2 \_\_\_\_\_

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3 \_\_\_\_\_

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Name at least 1 group against the Referendum Reasons why they are against the Referendum

1 \_\_\_\_\_

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What do you think?

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