



Teachers notes: The Thai Children's Trust supports a Drop-in Center in Pattaya, Thailand for street kids. The Drop-In Centre offers a way off the streets and back to childhood for the most vulnerable children in Pattaya. Children living on the streets can come to the Drop- in Centre for counseling, medical and psychological support, safe and decent sleeping accommodation, physical security, and most importantly of all - a gateway back to their families or to a safe and secure life. Some children that attend the drop in center will be reunited with their families; some may move to live at the Redemptorist Children's Home.

There are 30 residents at any one time, outreach workers are in regular contact with over 100 children that still live on the streets.

The children that come to live at the Drop- in Center may be living on the streets for many different reasons. Some have run away from dysfunctional families, some children's parents have died and do not have anyone to take care of them. Children that live on the streets will try to survive by begging, collecting recyclable materials, drug dealing or prostitution.

For more information please see: <http://www.thaichildrenstrust.org.uk/projects/DropIn>

This unit has been designed to fit in with Citizenship unit for KS 3 & 4 'Challenging racism and discrimination.

Please note: The film clip from the link above is to be shown at the teacher's discretion as sensitive issues are highlighted.

Objectives for lessons

- Explore the different reasons why children end up on the streets.
- Examine a case history in reference to The UN Conventions of The Right of a Child

Introduction

Inform your students that they will be studying a case history of a young boy who now lives at the Drop-in Center for street kids in Pattaya, Thailand. They will also be looking at 5 Articles from The UN Conventions of the Rights of a Child.

Ask your students to brainstorm reasons why children may end up living on the streets – write answers on the board.

Main activity

- Ask students what rights they think all children should have, list on the board.
- Highlight and discuss the following articles from the UN convention of the rights of a child:

Article 19: Right to protection from being hurt, violence, abuse and neglect;

Article 20: Right to special care and protection if you can't live with your parents.

Article 27: Right to a good enough standard of living for you to develop properly

Article 32: Right to protection from work that is bad for your health

Article 36: Right to protection from any other kind of exploitation;

- Read the case history of one of the children that now lives at the drop in center and then fill in the following worksheet (resources below)

Plenary

Discuss with students about what they can do to help:

Students can tell others about the work of The Thai children's Trust and of what they have learnt in this lesson.

Or your class or school could fundraise to help support the drop in center.

For more information please e mail: school@thaichildrenstrust.org.uk



Explain your answers in full sentences by providing information from the case study, also include your own opinions.

Answer the following 2 questions for each article

1. Do you think 'Boy' had this right whilst living on the street?
2. Do you think Boy gained this right by living at the drop in center?

Article 19: Right to protection from being hurt, violence, abuse and neglect;

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Article 20: Right to special care and protection if you can't live with your parents.

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Article 27: Right to a good enough standard of living for you to develop properly

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Article 32: Right to protection from work that is bad for your health

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Article 36: Right to protection from any other kind of exploitation health or education;

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Drop-In Center for Street Kids

Nickname: Boy

Sex: Male

Birth Date:

Birth Place: Unknown

**Arrival
Date:** 2008.05.28



Family History and General Information

Our sponsorship staff found Boy. He worked as a general worker with a small income and little food. Boy told us that he received irregular schooling. We finally talked to the director of our Drop-In Center and decided to bring Boy to our Center for shelter, decent living, and a good education. Boy was accepted into our Center on the 28th of May 2008. Boy reported that he has no relatives to support him after his parents passed away when he was 4 years, and he quit school when he completed Grade 3. Proper arrangements will be made for Boy after our staffs have more information on him. At the moment, Boy has no official documents such as a birth certificate or ID card. At the Center, Boy is generally an active, happy, young boy who loves to play football with his friends. He appears to be a clever speaker and a mature and responsible young lad who needs some supervision at certain times. He is also being closely observed to see how is able to adapt himself to the new surroundings and new friends.

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Boy displays himself as an obedient and well-behaved boy who loves to help people. His supervisor expressed she has no concerns with Boy's development or behaviour. Politeness and responsibility are the basic makeup of Boy. He does his assigned household chores without being told. At the Centre, he actively joins in the basic classes prepared for the children who cannot attend a formal school. Boy loves swimming. It is the happiest time for him when the visitors take him to the sea. Boy's current ambition is to be a waiter and run his own restaurant in the future. He enjoys reading and watching TV in his free time. (WS)