

## DIGNITY IN SCHOOL RESOURCE

# Language Café: A Multi-Cultural Rights-Based Project

## Introduction

Creating a language café in your school is the perfect opportunity to encourage peer to peer learning, connect people, broaden horizons, and learn about children's human rights from around the world.

This project is designed to be flexible. You can create a café for a one-off event or make a language café a permanent fixture in your school. You can use the project to focus on a particular foreign language as part of empowering bilingual learners, or you can discover new cultures for national celebrations of language.

### CfE Learning Outcomes

HWB 1-12a / HWB 2-12a  
LIT 1-15a LIT 2-15a  
SOC 1-16/ 2-16  
MLAN 1-06a MLAN 2-06a

## Aims of the project

This project will support children to:

- Share the cultural and linguistic heritage of their class and wider community.
- Break down communication and cultural barriers.
- Discover children's rights around the world.
- Connect with other members of the school community.
- Foster confidence and leadership through a child-led approach to delivery.



## Language Café

### Project Breakdown

This is a multi-session project that can be completed over several days or weeks; however, you can choose to condense some of the sessions to turn this into a shorter project around one specific language or celebration.

- Session 1 - Children's Rights Around the World.
- Session 2 - Researching our Café.
- Session 3 - Language Games.
- Session 4 - Designing our Café
- Session 5 - Grand Opening.

In our project we created a language café with four 'stalls', each stall was dedicated to a different language and culture. Your language café can have any number of stalls.

This guide is aimed at upper primary school learners. With minor adjustments the sessions can be facilitated for any age group.

### What you need



In order to run this activity, you will need the following:

- Arts and crafts materials.
- Tablets for research.
- Foam or display boards.
- Space to set up your café with different stalls.
- Stamps for each stall.
- Food and drink to serve at your grand opening!

## Language Café

### Getting Started

Check-In and check out - to be used for each session

#### Check-In

We recommend starting each session with a reminder of what you are doing and why and a fun check-in activity. For this project we would recommend a language themed check-in game. We have a couple of suggestions for games below.

Play a circle game in a different language. e.g. Heads, shoulders knees and toes in Polish where children have to match the word to the action.

Ask children how they are feeling today using a target language. You can provide a mood board with translations on the smart board to support them.

#### Check-Out

Each session should end with a check-out to see how children are feeling and what they have taken away from the session. We have included a couple of useful prompts for a check-out below.

Ask children to teach a new word to the rest of the class.

Ask children to share their favourite thing they have learned about their country.

## Language Café

# Session One: Children's Human Rights Around the World

**Length:** 40-60 mins

**Location:** Classroom

**Materials:** Powerpoint, pens, paper.



## Session Plan

This session will set the foundation for your language café. In our project we set up a language café with four stalls. Each stall represented a different language and culture. Depending on your class you may choose to focus on just one country and language or have multiple.

As a starting point, find out who in your class is fluent in another language and interested in becoming an 'ambassador'. Ambassadors will lead on the research for their country's café stall.

You can also select countries based off the interests of your class. Make a list together of countries you are interested in representing and narrow them down as a class. You can ask children which stall they would like to work on or allocate based on the needs of your class.

Once you have selected your countries it is time to start your research!

Start with children's human rights in Scotland. What do children already know? Find out more about incorporation and what that means as a group. The Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland has lots of useful information to share: <https://www.cypcs.org.uk/incorporationuncrc/>.

Once children have found out more about Scotland split them back into their groups and ask them to do some research on children's human rights in their selected country. How is it different to Scotland? What do they think it is like to be a child growing up in their country? Ask them to think about a right that is really important to them. How would you say that right in their country of choice.

When you come back together ask each group to share a fact about their country and how it is different/the same as Scotland. You can also get them to share their translated right, can other children guess which article it is?

## Language Café

# Session Two: Researching our café

**Length:** 60 mins

**Location:** Classroom

**Materials:** Tablets/computers, art materials

### Session Plan

Split the class back into their language groups, they will be working in this group for the rest of the project. This activity can take place over one session or, if the children are enjoying the research phase, be continued across multiple days.

Within each group ask children to research their chosen country. Give them some prompts to help guide their research:

- Traditional music
- Traditional recipes and drinks
- Traditional dress, fabric and patterns
- Famous landmarks/buildings/geography
- Famous people
- National holidays and celebrations
- Fun facts about the country
- Basic phrases in the language

Children should create a slideshow of their country to show to the rest of the class and to act as a trailer for their country's café stall. This could include traditional music to play to the class.

Children can also add the national holidays and celebrations to a class calendar so they are all stored in one place and can be celebrated in future!





## Language Café

### Session Three: Language Games

**Length:** 60 - 90 mins (this session is flexible for timings)

**Location:** Class

**Materials:** Tablets/laptops, large sheets of paper, art materials, board games (if available)

#### Session Plan

In this session children are going to create and play language games of their chosen country themed around dignity and children's rights.

In their groups ask children to create a grid of vocabulary with the keywords they want to research. These could be useful phrases and words related to children's rights e.g. 'hello', 'how are you?' 'kindness', 'friend' 'respect', 'dignity' etc.

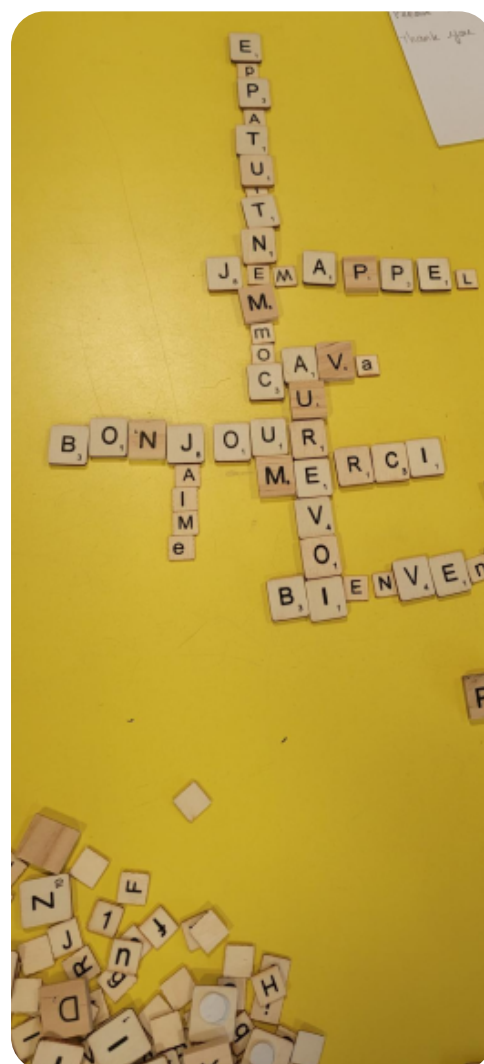
For each word look up the translation in the chosen language. Ask children to create flash cards with the English on one side and the new word and its phonetic description on the other, this will help with learning and pronunciation.

Ask children to choose a word-based game that they enjoy. Examples include:

- Crossword
- Word search
- Boggle
- Scrabble

Create one of the games above using your new vocabulary. These can be created online (using cross word software for example), or on paper. Children can also use version of real board games in their target language.

Children can play in their own groups or swap with their neighbours.



## Language Café

### Session Four: Designing our Café

**Length:** 60 mins

**Location:** Classroom

**Materials:** Tablets/laptops, display boards, art materials galore!

#### Session Plan

In this session children will design their café stall. They will create signage, decorations, menus, and passports for customers.



Children can choose what and how they want to decorate and display their café stall. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Come up with a name for your café in your chosen language - create a sign.
- Make a display poster with interesting facts about your chosen country.
- Choose one savoury food, one sweet food and a drink and write a menu in both English and your chosen language, remember to provide a description of your dishes!
- make a 3D model of a famous landmark from your country.
- Play traditional music from your country in your stall.
- Create postcards for each stall that customers can use to give feedback to the stall owners (template available for download).



You can also have children create passports for customers to their café. Each stall will have its own stamp which customers can collect as they visit the different countries. A template passport is available for download.

## Language Café

### Session Five: Grand Opening

**Length:** 60 mins

**Location:** Classroom/café location

**Materials:** Display from previous session, passports and postcards for customers.

#### Session Plan

This is a chance for children to unveil their stall to their excited customers. We would recommend that the rest of the school and parents are invited to the opening. This could take place as part of an assembly, or at drop off/pick up to allow parents to participate.

#### Things to consider

- Make sure each stall is set up with the display boards, menus, any real food children want to provide, models, language games, passport stamps and postcards.
- Make sure everyone in the group knows their role, what would they like to talk to customers about?
- Ask if one child would like to be the maître d' to welcome people into the café, hand out passports and explain the event.
- Remind children to pass out feedback postcards.
- Enjoy!



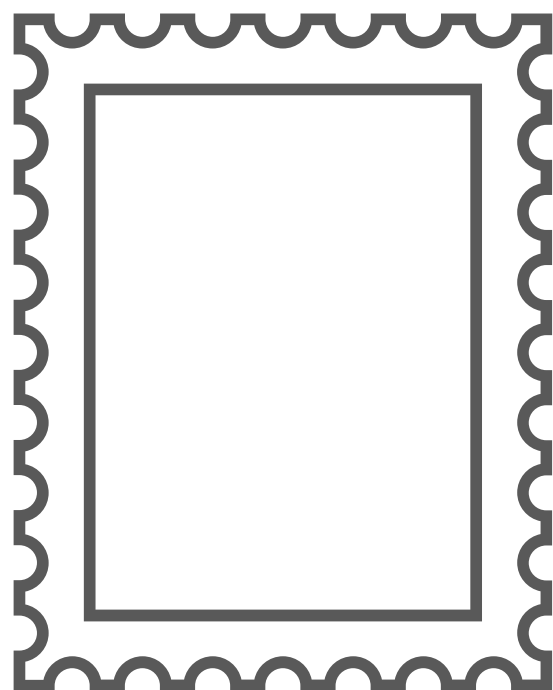


**CITIZEN OF THE WORLD**



**PASSPORT**





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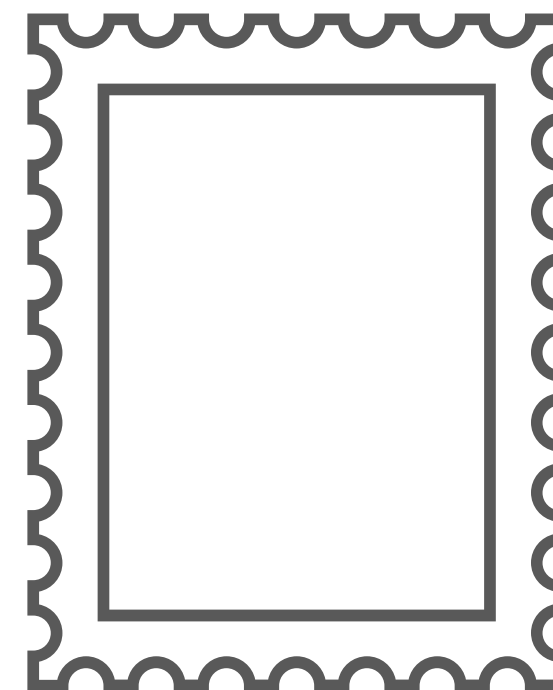
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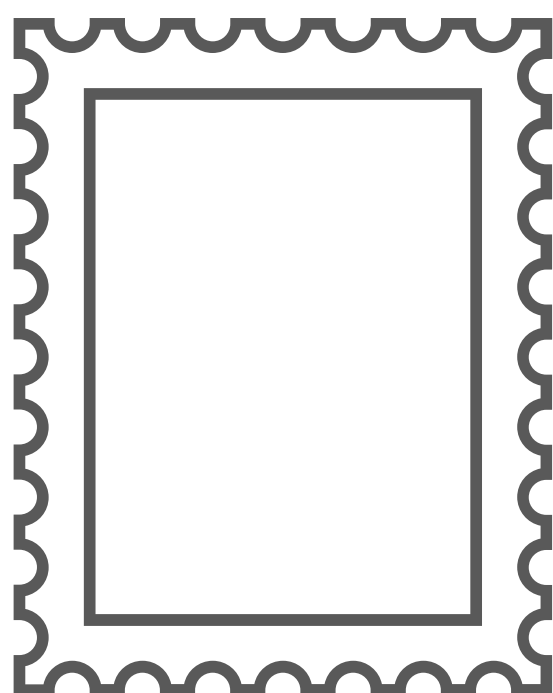
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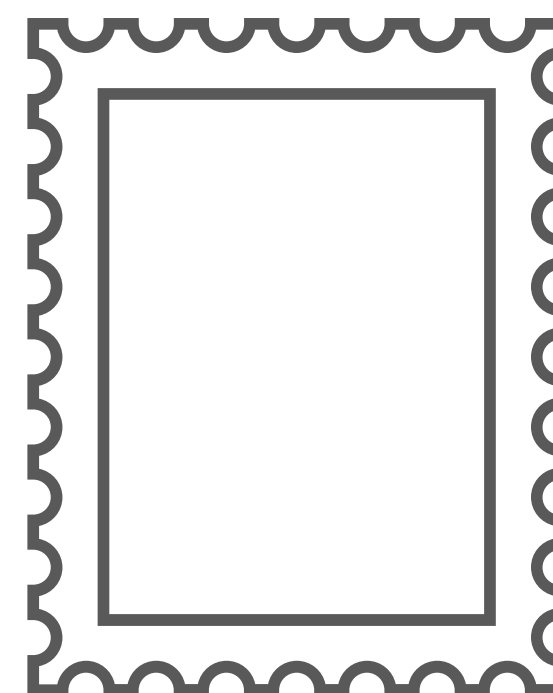
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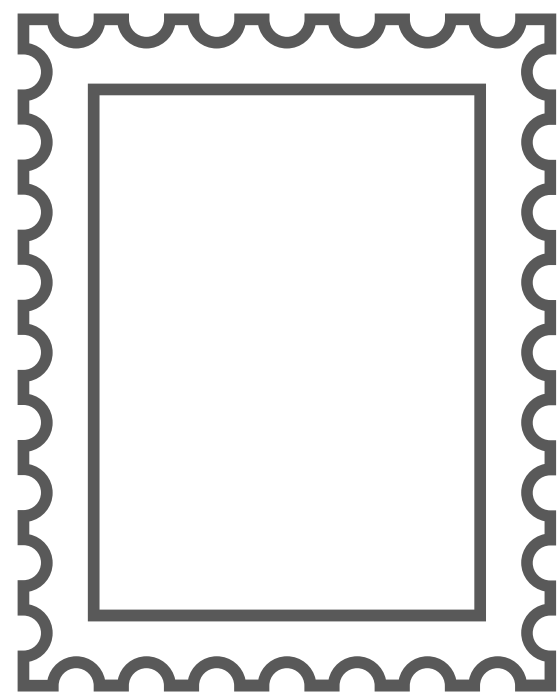


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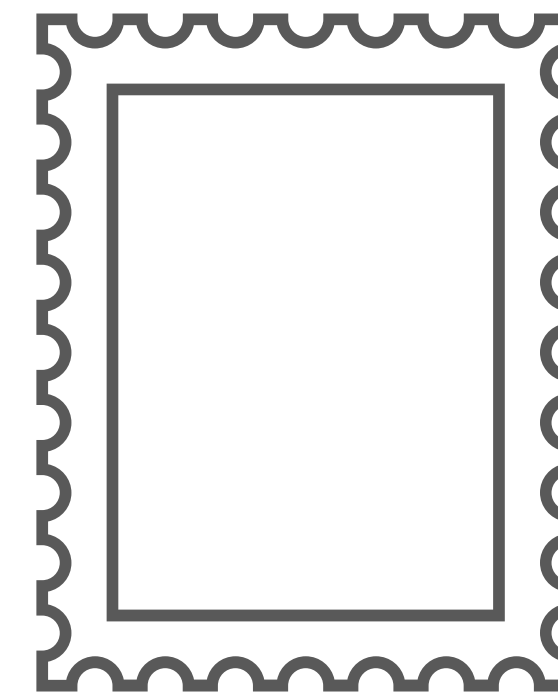
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# Japan



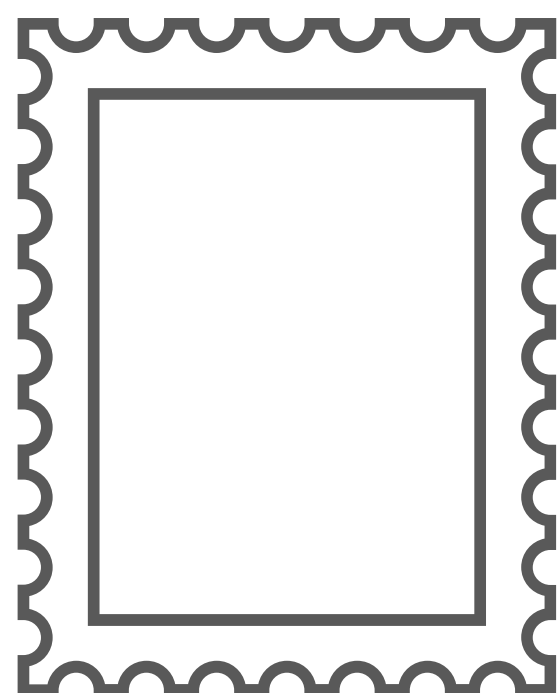
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# Sweden



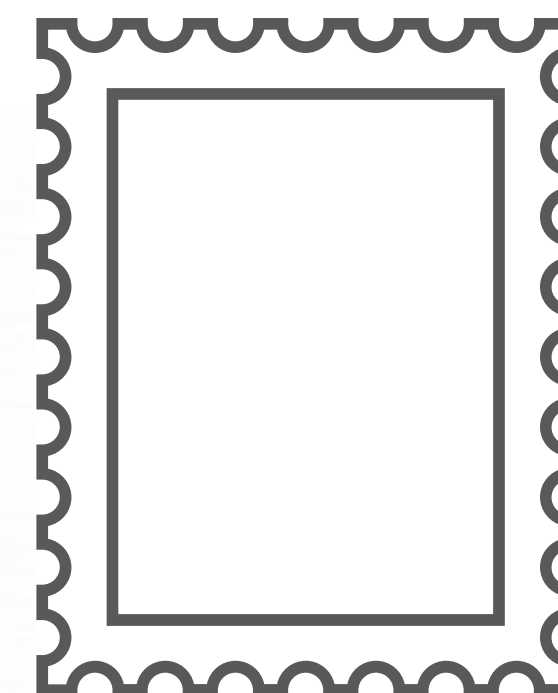
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# Poland



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