



## Lesson 1

### Get Started - Explore Human Rights

# Introduction to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

## Objectives

After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Understand the purpose of the SDGs
- Identify the SDGs that most resonate with them

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### Overview/Purpose:

The Sustainable Development Goals are presented as a foundation for students' awareness and understanding of the 17 Global Goals.

### Guiding Questions:

- What are the Sustainable Development Goals?
- Which of these goals initially resonate most with me?

### Recommended Time:

45 minutes

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### Common Core State Standards:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.2](#)

### Materials:

Device with internet access and ability to project

### Lesson Design:

- Explain to students that the SDGs or Sustainable Development Goals are a set of actionable goals that came out of the UN in 2016. The object of the goals is to protect and promote human rights worldwide.
- We will learn more about the SDGs by watching a few video introductions. The first is an excerpt from the video [Nations United: Urgent Solutions for Urgent Times](#). (Teacher note: Screening the first five minutes will provide an introduction, focusing the capacity for people to create change. You may choose to screen the film in its entirety, or show additional segments based on your students' interest and/or time.)
- After showing the excerpt, have students turn and talk to a partner or group, having one student record their thinking:
  - What do you think the message of each of these videos is?
  - Why?
  - What thoughts and/or questions do you have?
- Explain to students that the second video, [We the People for the Global Goals](#), is a call to action that also identifies the 17 Goals.



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# Introduction to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

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- After showing the excerpt, have students turn and talk to a partner or group, having one student record their thinking:
  - What do you think the message of each of these videos is?
  - Why?
  - What thoughts and/or questions do you have?
- Ask partners groups to share their thoughts, while you keep track of questions and thoughts and facilitate any conversation that ensues.
- If time permits, you can ask students to identify the goals that are most interesting to them using an online poll, like [Mentimeter](#) or [Poll Everywhere](#), or a physical grouping activity where students stand near a goal posted in the room.