

Objective

To create a display that will provide information about the UN.

Activity

Materials:

UN 40th poster, poster making materials, assorted resource items on UN themes (from your local library or ordered from the Resources section).

Procedure:

Choose a site and get permission to use it. Consider libraries, shopping malls, municipal buildings or other public places.

Use the UN's 40th anniversary as the theme for your display, and consider using such elements as:

- a set of panels the same size as the UN 40th poster, and which you create. Some of the material for these panels could include photocopies (same size or enlarged) of portions of this booklet.
- quotes from local people as to what they think about the UN, similar to those in the Ensemble section.
- books or other items with a UN theme, either from your library, on loan from an organization or ordered from the Resources section.

Objective

To answer some basic questions about the UN.

Activity

Materials:

The text that follows.

Procedure:

These questions and answers are taken from Hope for Tomorrow, a publication of the Department of Public Information of the UN prepared for International Youth Year.

WHAT'S THE UNITED NATIONS GOT TO DO WITH US (YOUTH)?

Quite a lot.

You need never fear you will die of smallpox. That makes you the first generation in history to be free of this scourge which has taken millions of lives and disfigured countless people over the centuries. It was wiped off the face of the earth in a 13-year campaign of vaccination against the disease led by the World Health Organization (WHO), a member of the United Nations family.

You may have seen pictures of aid workers handing out medicines or delivering food to famine victims. The helpers were probably men and women sent there by the United Nations.

Perhaps you know a refugee family. There's a fair chance the United Nations has helped them. It might still be taking care of their needs for food, shelter and protection. It plays a major part in finding refugees new homes.

If you live in the Middle East, Cyprus, or the Kashmir region, you already know the United Nations is a power for peace. The United Nations has soldiers in all these places, trying to calm tensions and stop fighting from breaking out.

WHAT IF I DO NOT NEED EMERGENCY HELP?

The United Nations still touches your life in many ways.

If you want to send a letter across the world, today that's easy - thanks to the United Nations, through its associated organization, the Universal Postal Union (UPU). The UPU smooths the delivery of letters, postcards and parcels around the globe.

A United Nations organization, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), works to ensure that when you turn on the radio or television, you don't hear a lot of noise from overlapping stations.

Other United Nations groups make it easier for countries to sell all kinds of things to each other, so that everyone can enjoy more of the pleasures of life.

DOES THIS REALLY CONCERN ME AS AN INDIVIDUAL?

As a young person with your life before you, you are surely interested in taking part in the activities of the world around you. You probably want to see people have a better life through social and economic progress. It is a safe bet that you want the world to be free from war.

The United Nations is keen to help you achieve these goals. Like you, it wants to promote participation, development and peace.

The United Nations also concerns you because it has proclaimed 1985 as International Youth Year (IYY).

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