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*“Rights” are things every child should have or be able to do. All children have the same rights. These rights are listed in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Almost every country has agreed to these rights. All the rights are connected to each other, and all are equally important. Sometimes, we have to think about rights in terms of what is the best for children in a situation, and what is critical to life and protection from harm. As you grow, you have more responsibility to make choices and exercise your rights.*

*From the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in Child Friendly Language*  
<https://www.unicef.org/rightsite/files/unrcrchildfriendlylanguage.pdf>

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For Human Rights Day, the CLPE recognises the power of children’s literature as a way to help us understand the rights that every child is entitled to.

Here are some books which we believe sensitively and powerfully explore some of the UN’s Conventions on the Rights of the Child paired with the associated article in accessible, child-friendly language.



**Ruby’s Worry by Tom Percival**

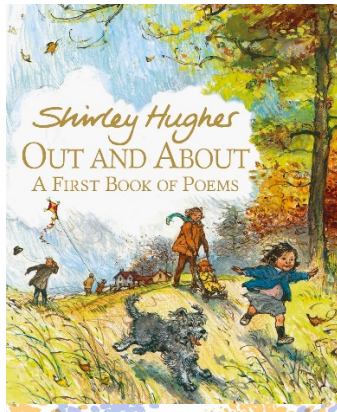
*Article 12: (Respect for the views of the child)*

You have the right to give your opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously

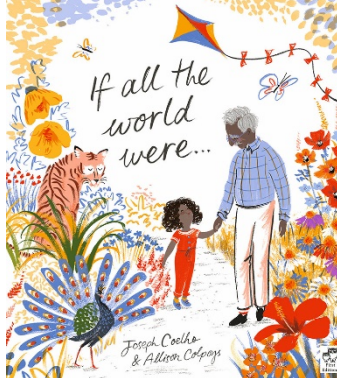
**Anna Hibiscus by Atinuke**

*Article 5: (Parental guidance and a child’s evolving capacities)*

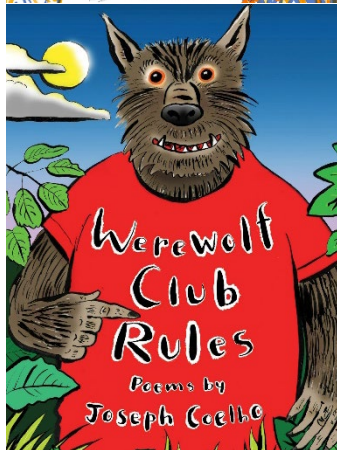
Your family has the responsibility to help you learn to exercise your rights, and to ensure that your rights are protected.



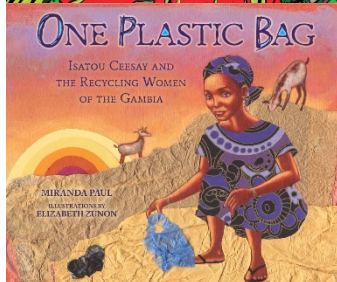
**Out and About by Shirley Hughes**  
*Article 31: (Leisure, play and culture)*  
You have the right to play and rest.



**If All the World Were... by Joseph Coelho & Allison Colpoys**  
*Article 8: (Protection and preservation of identity)*  
You have the right to an identity – an official record of who you are. No one should take this away from you.



**Werewolf Club Rules: Poems by Joseph Coelho**  
*Article 29: (Goals of education)*  
Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.



**One Plastic Bag by Miranda Paul**  
*Article 24: (Health and Health services)*  
You have the right to the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help you stay well.



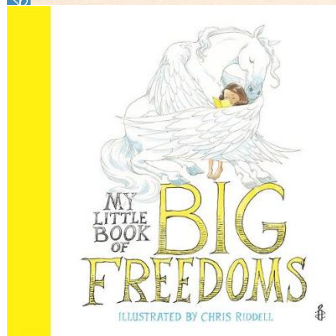
**Running on Empty** by S.E. Durrant

*Article 18: (Parental responsibilities and state assistance)*  
You have the right to be raised by your parent(s) if possible.



**The Journey** by Francesca Sanna

*Article 22: (Refugee children)*  
You have the right to special protection and help if you are a refugee (if you have been forced to leave your home and live in another country) as well as all the rights in this Convention.



**My Little Book of Big Freedoms** illustrated by Chris Riddell

*Illustrated Human Rights Act*