

# WORKSHOP MANUAL

*Thanks for your interest in running workshops with young people!*

## INTRODUCTION

RErights.org is an online community where young people are invited to share their insights on their experience of their rights in the digital age by completing a series of activities. Researchers around the globe, led by Western Sydney University and the Young and Well Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) will use these insights to produce a number of materials, including a report, infographics and short films that aim to enrich the discourse on children's rights and digital media. We hope that this information will inform decision-makers working in this area.

The activities that RErights.org invites young people to complete are grouped into 'Operations', which focus on particular themes relating to children's rights and digital media. Each Operation consists of a number of specific activities, called 'Missions', that explore a specific aspect of the theme by asking participants to complete surveys, write a text submission or upload a photo or video.

As a class or group, you have the ability to bring a range of voices to the conversation by running workshops based on these activities. To assist you, we have designed this manual to guide you through the processes. Please read the enclosed information carefully. If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at [rerights@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:rerights@westernsydney.edu.au).

## WORKSHOP GUIDELINES

1. Activities will work best in groups of **up to 10 participants**. However, if you have more than 10 young people, feel free to adapt the activities to suit larger group sizes.
2. All participants must be **under the age of 18**.
3. It is important to ensure you have **consent from all participants and their parent/s or guardian/s** before they take part in your workshops. Note - by creating a group account on the RErights website and/or by uploading content from your workshop to an online storage platform you affirm that participants have consent to take part in the project and for their content to be used in project outputs.
4. In the past, activities run by **two or more adults** have worked best. These adults should have the necessary authorisations and clearances to work with children as determined by your country's legislation.
5. As a group, you can choose to **complete activities online or offline**. Online activities require the use of one or more computers and access to the internet. Offline activities can be completed in a classroom without computers or an internet connection, and the answers or resulting materials can be uploaded to an online storage platform later. Processes and further guidelines for each of these methods are included in this manual.
6. Where possible, please **document your workshop** by taking photos or filming workshop sessions.
7. We recommend that you hold **group discussions** on each of the Operation themes. This will help to enrich participants' understanding of these issues.
8. Feel free to **tailor any or all of the activities**, taking into consideration group size, access to technology, age of participants, and any issues of particular interest etc.
9. Please allow **approximately one-to-two hours** for each Operation. You may wish to allocate one Operation per workshop session, or complete a number over the course of a full day workshop.
10. New **Operations are released periodically** on the site, so please check back frequently.
11. There are a number of useful links on our website: <https://rerights.org/what-is-rerights/useful-links/> which may assist you in the creative and technical aspects of the activities.

## **ONLINE (using the RErights website)**

### **EQUIPMENT NEEDED**

- At least one computer, tablet or phone, and as many as possible depending on the number of participants.
- Internet connection.
- Any other technology devices available, such as phones, cameras, etc.
- Access to [rerights.org](http://rerights.org)

### **GUIDELINES**

- We recommend that you hold a preliminary group discussion on children's rights and digital media before beginning activities. A printed copy of the convention on the rights of the child may be handy [[http://www.unicef.org/crc/files/Rights\\_overview.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/crc/files/Rights_overview.pdf)], and here are some questions that you may wish to use:
  - Have participants heard of the convention on children's rights?
  - Do they know what the convention says?
  - How do participants use digital media? (you may want to clarify this term, the way that we use the term digital media on RErights.org refers to both digitized content (text, audio, video and graphics), and the technologies that are used to access and transmit digital content (computers, telephones, cable, radio, software etc.).
  - Does digital media help or hinder certain rights? (for example, article 17, the right to access information – does digital media help this right? does digital media also hinder this right by information overload?)
- Ensure that participants understand each Mission and what is required before submitting responses.
- Participants may need assistance or guidance when using technology, such as smart phones, cameras, tablets etc., however please ensure that their responses are not influenced.

## PROCESS

1. Explain the purpose of RErights.org to participants and inform them that it is a research project. You may wish to have them read the information at <https://rerights.org/what-is-rerights/>.
2. To begin, direct your group to <https://rerights.org/signup> and assist them to create individual profiles.
3. Navigate to the Operation Centre (<https://rerights.org/operations>) and begin completing Missions. You may choose to complete all Operations in sequence, or make a selection according to your group interests and time constraints.
4. Work through Missions and assist participants where necessary.
5. Keep up to date with Mission results and participate in community discussions on our blog (<https://rerights.org/news/>).
6. Please send any feedback to us at [rerights@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:rerights@westernsydney.edu.au). If you have documented your workshop with photos or videos, please let us know so that we can provide you with a link to an online storage platform where you can upload this content.

## OFFLINE

Provided you have access to a computer with internet access to [rerights.org](https://rerights.org) before and after the workshop in order to download documents, share the results of the workshop and liaise with the team, you can hold a workshop offline and tailor the activities to suit your group and circumstances.

## EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- Operation activity sheets, downloadable from <https://rerights.org/for-workshop-facilitators/>
- Other technology devices, such as phones, cameras, video or audio recorders, a scanner, etc. if available.
- Pens, paper, scissors, glue, etc.

## GUIDELINES

- We recommend that you hold a preliminary group discussion on children's rights and digital media before beginning activities. A printed copy of the convention on the rights of the child may be handy [[http://www.unicef.org/crc/files/Rights\\_overview.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/crc/files/Rights_overview.pdf)], and here are some questions that you may wish to use:
  - Have participants heard of the convention on children's rights?
  - Do they know what the convention says?
  - How do participants use digital media? (you may want to clarify this term, the way that we use the term digital media on RErights.org refers to both digitized content (text, audio, video and graphics), and the technologies that are used to access and transmit digital content (computers, telephones, cable, radio, software etc.).
  - Does digital media help or hinder certain rights? (for example, article 17, the right to access information – does digital media help this right? does digital media also hinder this right by information overload?)
- We also recommend that the theme of each Operation is introduced before starting the Missions in that Operation. Feel free to hold group discussions, small group work and sharing, or creative activities!
- Ensure that participants understand each Mission and what is required before submitting responses.

- Participants may need assistance or guidance when using technology, such as smart phones, cameras, tablets etc., however please ensure that their responses are not influenced.

## **PROCESS**

### **Prep:**

1. Contact us at [rerights@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:rerights@westernsydney.edu.au) and inform us that you are conducting workshops offline. We will send you a link to an online storage platform where you can upload your group's responses and workshop documentation.
2. Go to <https://rerights.org/signup/> and select 'Sign up as a group'. Please ensure you provide accurate details about your group and have read the Terms and Conditions.
3. Download PDF Operation activity sheets from <https://rerights.org/for-workshop-facilitators/>.

### **Delivery:**

4. Explain the purpose of RErights.org to participants and inform them that it is a research project. You may wish to use information from <https://rerights.org/what-is-rerights/about-rerights/> or the summary at the end of this manual.
5. You may choose to complete all Operations in sequence, or make a selection according to your group interests, time constraints or available technology.
6. If necessary, adapt Missions to best suit your context. For example, if you have limited access to cameras, phones, etc. you may wish to share technology or choose options which do not require this equipment.
7. Participants should complete one activity sheet per person. For Missions that require participants to take a photo, film or draw pictures, collect these and submit with their activity sheets.

### **Follow-Up:**

8. When completed, scan or transfer participants' responses as well as any workshop documentation to a computer and upload to the online storage platform provided by us.
9. Please send any feedback about your workshop to us at [rerights@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:rerights@westernsydney.edu.au).

## ABOUT RERIGHTS

Young people have rights, right? But who decides what rights they need? How do adult decision makers know what young people want?

RErights.org is part of a project called Children's Rights in the Digital Age. We are a group of researchers at Western Sydney University and the Young and Well Cooperative Research Centre (CRC), working in partnership with Digitally Connected and UNICEF's Voices of Youth, and other national and international organisations. We are inviting you – young people – to help us explore and define your rights. Wherever you are in the world, we want to hear what you think about digital technology and what you need in your online lives. And we want to make sure that adult decision makers are listening to your voices when they make decisions that will affect you.

## HOW IT BEGAN

In 2014, we invited children and young people all over the world to send us videos, photos, drawings and stories about how they use digital technology and what problems they face. We were told some interesting things about the right to be forgotten, about 'nosy' parents restricting internet access, and we were sent videos showing what young people do online and what they have to say about it. We wrote a [research report](#), compiled the videos into a film, and took it all to the United Nations (UN). We knew we had started something that would get young people's voices heard, so we kept going. The RErights website and the workshop that you are taking part in is the next step.