

Today's Motion is:

**'The arts are key
to achieving the
Sustainable
Development
Goals (SDGs)'**



Classroom Activity

Charades: Arts Edition!

Take a moment to think about a **type of art** - **dancing, theatre, playing an instrument, books, painting or anything else creative you enjoy!**



Your teacher selects someone to begin - share your idea with your teacher before you start.

Without speaking, act out the word or phrase that others can guess. Whoever guesses correctly then begins their turn.



Let's breakdown today's motion..



The Arts: the making or showing or performance of painting, acting, dancing, literature and music

Key: the most important part of achieving something

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): a collection of 17 interlinked global goals outlined by the United Nations

Source: Cambridge Dictionary and United Nations



This motion links to the following SDGs;





The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) or Global Goals are a collection of 17 interlinked global goals designed to be a “blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all”



The SDGs were set by the United Nations (UN) in 2015 to be achieved by 2030 with the support of all member states



The arts is a small word for a broad range of activities and experiences which includes literature (poetry and novels); performing arts (music, dance, opera, theatre and film) and visual arts (drawing, painting and sculpting)





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1 NO POVERTY | 2 ZERO HUNGER | 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | 4 QUALITY EDUCATION | 5 GENDER EQUALITY | 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION |
| 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY | 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE | 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES | 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES | 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION |
| 13 CLIMATE ACTION | 14 LIFE BELOW WATER | 15 LIFE ON LAND | 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS | 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS | SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS |

CONCERN
Primary Debates

How does this link to Concern? *

All of our work is towards the larger goal of ending extreme poverty. Many of our programmes also directly link to the SDGs and their targets. The SDGs recognise that ending poverty goes hand-in-hand with improving health and education, reducing inequality, all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.





Photo: Comité Consultatif de Jeunes/Concern Worldwide

In Haiti, Dieudonne Jean Bertho participates in a social event organized by Concern, Sakala and Lakou Lapè, under the UN's Peace Building Fund project Semans Lapè. Art, self-expression and creativity are at the centre of these social events, bringing together singers, dancers and other artists from different neighbourhoods, young people that otherwise don't have the opportunity to meet and share their talents.



Concern works in Ukraine to support communities affected by conflict. Children of all ages come to support classes where they engage in arts and crafts. This time they drew a poster for JERU and Concern.

Photo: Mykhaylo Palinchak/Concern Worldwide



The songs saving lives in Liberia



Around a quarter of the population of Liberia does not have adequate access to healthcare. Childcare and feeding practices need to be improved to protect children against sickness and malnutrition. But thanks to the art of song, a certain part of Liberia is seeing great improvements.

“Let’s sing together. One, two, three...”

The crowd inside the small tin-roof community hall in Wrobone village break into a smile at Korpo Jallah’s instructions. They know what is coming next. She begins to clap her hands, moving gently from side to side. They all rise to their feet and lift their voices:

“Healthy baby, shiny baby, clever baby.”



Video: Darren Vaughan/Concern Worldwide

Everyone joins in - mums, grandmothers, husbands, the village chief, teenagers, grandads, boys and girls. The song that Korpo has taught this Mothers' Group - is about breastmilk and the importance of breastfeeding. It is an effective learning tool and a light-hearted way to drive home a serious message.

Classroom Activity



Pair & Share: SDG Version

Firstly, on your own, write down anything that comes to mind when you think about the **Sustainable Development Goals**.



After **1 minute**, turn to the person beside you and discuss what you have noted down.

When the time is up, in your pairs share your notes with the class!



The Motion is:

‘The arts are key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals’

This means the proposition team agree with this motion and want to support it!



THE PROPOSITION MAY MAKE AN ARGUMENT SUCH AS THIS ONE:

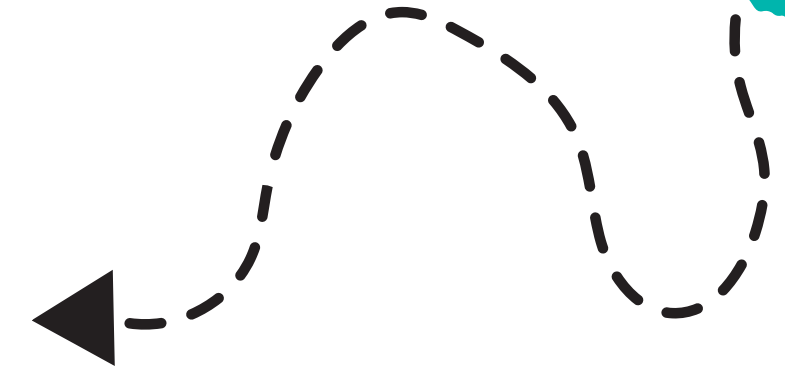
“Art has the power of taking big ideas of worldwide transformation and communicating them to all people.”

On the 24th of September 2024, SDG Action Zone collective hosted a webinar focusing on ‘Arts guiding the way to the SDGs’. During this event, it was noted that art has long played an important role in spreading awareness of global issues. The opportunities art presents highlight possibilities for change and the urgency of working towards accomplishing the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

At the beginning of the webinar, the author Bell Hooks was quoted: “The function of art is to do more than tell it like it is – it’s to imagine what is possible”. Art is not just a pretty painting, it is the pulse of society, the heart of the change people want to see in their local and global communities.

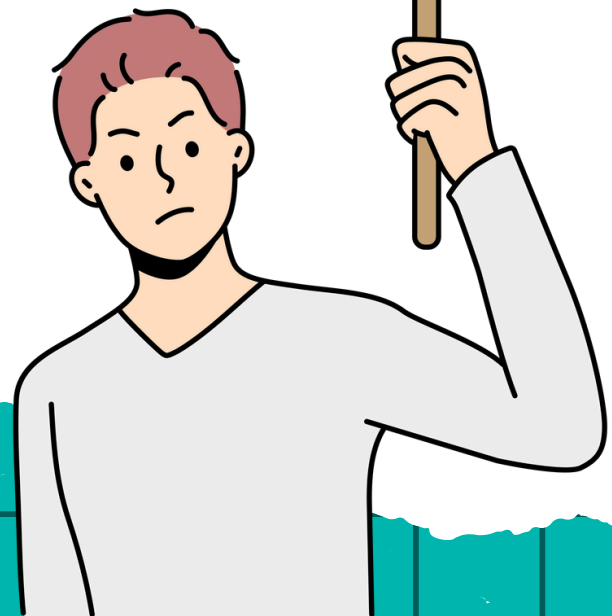


The Motion is:



‘The arts are key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals’

NO!



This means the opposition team disagree with this motion and want to disprove it!



Irish Aid

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs



**CONCERN
Primary
Debates**

THE **OPPOSITION** MAY MAKE AN ARGUMENT SUCH AS THIS ONE:

***“Arts-based initiatives often lack clear metrics for measuring success and impact, making it challenging to assess their role in achieving SDG targets.*”**

In Ireland, arts and health projects aim to support SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being). For example, Helium Arts is a charity that uses creative arts to improve the well-being of children with long-term health conditions. They have shown this reduces isolation and improves self-esteem for the children they work with. However, measuring specific health outcomes—such as reduced hospital visits or improvements in physical health—is challenging, which are indicators typically used to track SDG 3. This makes it difficult to assess how directly arts initiatives contribute to health goals on a national or global scale.



Classroom Activity



SDG Activity

In the next slide, you will see the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

At your table, discuss what you consider to be the **5 Most Important SDGs**.

After 5 minutes, your teacher will ask each group to rank the **5 SDGs** they have chosen in order of importance from **1st to 5th** and share this with the class.



Classroom Activity



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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Learn More:



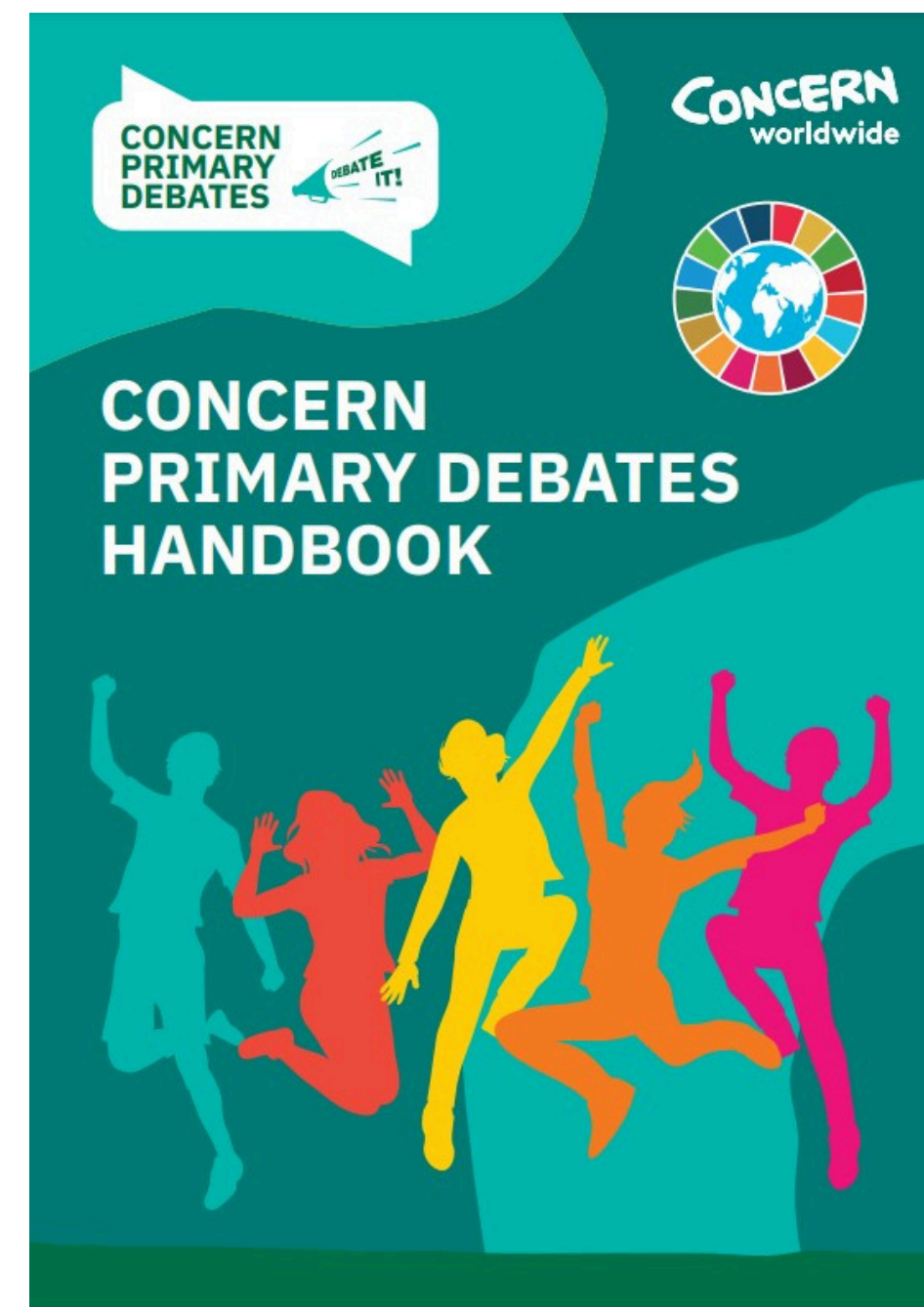
Handbooks, marking sheets and training videos all available on the **Concern Primary Debates** materials webpage



Primary Debates Playlist on YouTube



Contact Concern
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