# Lesson 1: Supporting refugees

Learning outcome

Participants will develop understanding of government programs that support refugees in Australia.

## Lesson resources

* Teaching notes **Supporting refugees**
* UNICEF Australia > Discover > What We Do > [Rights of the Child](http://www.unicef.org.au/Discover/What-we-do/Convention-on-the-Rights-of-the-Child.aspx) and [photo essay](http://www.unicef.org.au/getattachment/Discover/What-we-do/Convention-on-the-Rights-of-the-Child/What-are-rights.pdf.aspx)
* **Roads to Refuge > Refugees in Australia > Supporting refugees**

### Step 1. Human rights brainstorm

Ask students to brainstorm the basic human rights that we enjoy in Australia (shelter, access to food, education/ health care).

* For more information and a [photo essay](http://www.unicef.org.au/getattachment/Discover/What-we-do/Convention-on-the-Rights-of-the-Child/What-are-rights.pdf.aspx) on Child Rights refer to UNICEF Australia > Discover > What We Do > [Rights of the Child](http://www.unicef.org.au/Discover/What-we-do/Convention-on-the-Rights-of-the-Child.aspx).

Ask students to consider which of these rights refugees and asylum seekers either have access to, or are denied.

### Step 2. Investigation

Ask students to review the website **Roads to Refuge > Refugees in Australia > Supporting refugees.**

Divide students into groups and allocate each group a section of the **Supporting refugees** pages (On arrival, Education, Health, Communities).

Each group investigate and report back on:

* the role that each sector plays in supporting and promoting the rights of asylum seekers and refugees
* the types of programs and partnerships that exist to support refugees.

### Step 3. Refugee experiences

Students use the experiences provided in the corresponding **Our experiences** and DVD sections, to think about the support that was provided for each person/ family.

Students make a presentation to the class, or create a text for a local media publication such as:

* National Ethnic & Multicultural Broadcaster’s Council *Refugee Australian Stories* <http://www.nembc.org.au/nembc_home.php>