To schedule a workshop for your classroom, please submit an online request at www.tinyurl.com/ccletrequest.

Visit us online for more ideas on how to engage your students in critical thinking about rights and freedoms. Download teacher resources like our lesson plans, recommended children’s book list, student contests, and teaching tools suitable for learners in a wide range of grade levels.

Access our educational resources here: http://ccla.org/education-2/resources/

Visit www.thatsnotfair.ca to access CCLET’s That’s Not Fair! animated series, along with lesson plans and video games designed to encourage learners aged 6 – 11 to think about what it means to be fair in a democracy.

For more information about CCLET’s educational programming, please visit www.ccla.org/education.

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The Canadian Civil Liberties Education Trust (CCLET) is a non-profit research and educational organization created by the Canadian Civil Liberties Association with funding from the Law Foundation of Ontario and individual donors.

CCLET maintains that anyone who has the capacity to say “that’s not fair,” can then engage in critical thinking about rights and responsibilities.

Children who think critically about their rights and responsibilities are better prepared to live in a diverse community. Understanding that different views are acceptable and that we can disagree with one another respectfully are important aspects of democratic and civic engagement. There are even indications that schools where these ideas are alive and at work may observe reductions in bullying.

With these objectives in mind, CCLET’s school programs help to prepare the next generation of Canadians for civic engagement by introducing students to the exploration of civil liberties and encouraging the development of democratic habits.

Since the early 1990s, CCLET has been providing free workshops, seminars, and in-class sessions to teach students about their rights and freedoms. Through full-class discussion, small-group cooperative learning, and individual critical thinking strategies, students explore social justice issues and learn to ask the kinds of questions that may not have easy answers. With resources and programming developed and delivered by certified teachers, academics, and lawyers, our program supports and fulfills curriculum expectations in many subject areas including Language Arts, Media Literacy, Social Studies, and History.

CCLET believes in a value-balancing approach that allows students to examine and explore ethical dilemmas from multiple perspectives. Using principles that inform the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, CCLET provides teachers and students with a simplified framework for questioning nearly any issue of fairness.

Through picture books, animated videos and case studies, even very young children can be encouraged to critically analyze important social justice issues. What do our rights and freedoms mean, and when is it reasonable to place limits on them? Is majority rule always the best way to decide what’s fair? How can we respond when we see injustice happening in our schools, communities, or abroad?

Each year CCLET reaches over 10,000 primary to graduate level students, from a wide range of public, separate, and private educational institutions. And the demand for our programming continues to grow each year.

Feedback surveys continually show 100% of teacher respondents would recommend our program to a colleague and would invite CCLET to present in their classrooms again.

Here is what some teachers are saying about our program:

My students were thoroughly engaged and came up with thoughtful, relevant questions about Canada’s democratic system. Will ensure [CCLET] comes again next year for sure!
- Grade 5 Teacher, Harry Bowes Public School

The students were very engaged and made personal and world connections to the presentation... The situations presented were at an appropriate level that the students could easily relate to.
- Gr. 1/2 Teacher, Hanover Public School