

# Speak out for gender equality!

For a world without discrimination

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#### **ABOUT THE LESSON**

#### **OBJECTIVE:**

March 8th is internationally recognised as *International Womens' Day*. On this day, people of all countries are asked to stand against all forms of stereotypes or discrimination against women and promote concrete actions to implement a culture of gender equality and equal opportunity.

If you want to be part of the change, here is a lesson plan for you and your students to organise a lesson using the materials taken from *Your world #bethechange* to celebrate women and their strength.

#### **PREPARATION**

On the day of the lesson, invite your students to think about the words *gender equality* and identify at least five different connections. These might include:

- 1. one or more keywords or key concepts;
- 2. the account of one or more episodes they have heard about, witnessed or experienced;
- 3. people that have fought or are fighting against discrimination;
- 4. the different forms gender discrimination might acquire.





### **LESSON 1**

#### **BACK AT SCHOOL**

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Before the actual start of the lesson, invite your students to organise themselves in pairs and share their brainstorming. Are there any recurring ideas/concepts among the students?

#### WARM UP (5 minutes)

Invite your students to look at the infographic on page 44 and work in pairs to do exercise 1. Then, ask them to identify possible links between the infographic and the picture on page 44.

#### **UNDERSTAND THE TOPIC**

Once students have completed the *Warm up activity*, ask them to form three groups. Each group will be assigned a different paragraph to read and analyse:

GROUP 1	The greatest human rights challenge in our world	Read the text, do exercise 3 on page 45 and use the information it contains to create a summary (max. 2 minutes) of the paragraph.
GROUP 2	Towards freedom and emancipation	Read the text, do exercises 1 and 2 (Text 1) on page 46 and use the information you collect to create a summary (max. 2 minutes) of the paragraph.
GROUP 3	A UN priority of our age: eliminating violence against women	Read the text, do exercises 1 and 2 (Text 2) on page 47 and use the information you collect to create a summary (max. 2 minutes) of the paragraph.

When groups have completed their task, give each 2 minutes to share their summary with the rest of the class.

#### DELVE DEEPER INTO THE TOPIC (15 minutes)

When groups have completed their task, give each 2 minutes to share their summary with the rest of the class. Invite students to stay with the same groups/create three new groups and invite them to do the *Comparing Perspectives* activity on page 47. Give students at least 10 minutes to read the pieces of advice to promote gender equality presented and reflect on the following:





- 1. The meaning of these principles;
- 2. How these principles are promoted/respected in your school;
- 3. What principles you think should be more respected in your school;
- 4. The principle(s) you might want to add to the list.

Ask them to share their reflections with the rest of the class.

# 5 FOLLOW UP

Share the following activities with your students and invite them to choose one of them to carry out as homework:

OPTION 1	Read the presentation of the leading British women's rights activist Emmeline Pankhurst and do exercise 1 on page 48. Then, get ready to share your ideas about her and her engagement orally with the rest of your class.	
OPTION 2	Read the presentation of the leading British women's rights activist Emmeline Pankhurst. Then, choose one of the three quotes on page 49 and explain why you agree/disagree with it. Then, get ready to share your ideas orally with the rest of your class.	
OPTION 3	Watch the YouTube video <i>Palace Pandemonium (1914)</i> , answer the questions of exercise 4 on page 49 and say if you agree with Pankhurst's ideas. Then, get ready to share your ideas orally with the rest of your class.	
OPTION 4	Search for the poem <i>To Men</i> by Ella Wheeler Wilcox. Read it, focus on the first and the last stanzas and do exercise 6 on page 49. Then, get ready to share your ideas orally with the rest of your class.	

# **LESSON 2**

#### BACK AT SCHOOL

Invite your students to focus on the activity they have carried out at home. Ask them to summarise their main takeaways in one sentence and share them orally with the rest of the class. Use the following guiding questions to help them shape their thinking:

- 1. what is the most important message you learnt from the activity you did?
- 2. What "lesson" did the exercise you carried out give you?

#### **TEAMWORK (50 minutes)**

Ask your students to organise themselves into four groups. Then, invite them to follow the instructions in the #bethechange session on page 49 to create a gender equality policy to be shared with the rest of the school community.policy to be shared with the rest of their school community.





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# LEZIONI PRONTE

## Memoria, cittadinanza e sostenibilità

Calendario civile è l'iniziativa Sanoma dedicata alla Scuola primaria e secondaria per portare in classe i grandi temi dell'educazione civica e discutere con ragazze e ragazzi delle grandi sfide del presente. Memoria storica, Cittadinanza, Sostenibilità: in occasione di alcune tra le più importanti Giornate nazionali e internazionali mettiamo a disposizione una serie di Lezioni pronte e un estratto dai nostri libri per costruire attività da inserire facilmente nella programmazione didattica.

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