



Scotland Welcomes Refugees

Refugee Festival Scotland - Solidarity! June 2016

Educational/Awareness Workshop
With Primary School Children In Edinburgh



By Nicola Melvin & Lyndsay Nolan-Martin

Our Mission



As part of Refugee Festival Scotland, One - Refugee Support Scotland, decided we wanted to educate children on the current refugee crisis, to hear what they know, listen to their views and discuss their opinions with a hope of promoting a positive attitude towards the plight of refugees. We decided to do this via an educational/awareness workshop with local primary schools in Edinburgh & The Lothians. Our main aim is for children to learn about successful integration of refugees into new communities and to discuss ways to make the transition happen smoothly. Over a two week period we had the pleasure of working with over 70 children from the ages of 7 years to 12 years old.





We asked the children the following questions to find out what they know about refugees, to listen to their views and hear their opinions on the topic.....



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1

What is a refugee?

2

How many refugees are there in the world?

3

How do refugees arrive here?

4

What do you think refugees can bring with them when they leave their country?

5

What's happening in Scotland and how can we help?





We then discussed their answers and shared some facts.....



1

What is a refugee?

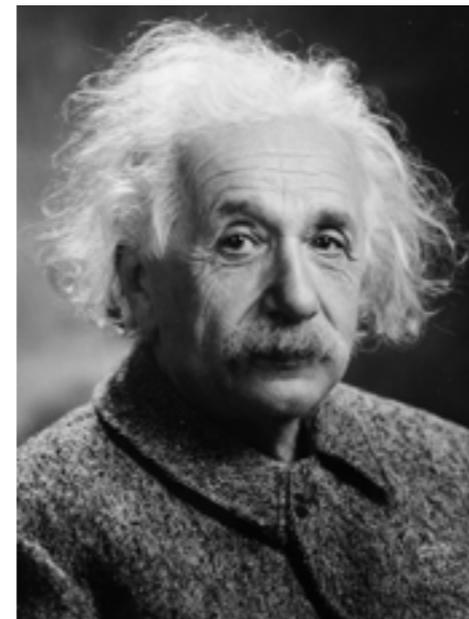


A refugee is someone who has been **forced** to flee his or her country because of persecution, war, or violence.

A refugee has a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group.

Most likely, they cannot return home or are afraid to do so. War and ethnic, tribal and religious violence are leading causes of refugees fleeing their countries.





2

How many refugees are there in the world?



There is an estimated **59.5 million** people displaced worldwide (UNHCR, 2015)

This is almost the size of the UK population



3

How do refugees arrive here?



From this....



To this....

4

What do you think they can bring with them?



5

What's happening in Scotland & how can we help?



Scotland has agreed to taking in 2000 refugees over 5 years and some children may join your school. You can:

- Welcome refugees - treat them as equals and be a friend
- Tell people what you have learned today so they can do the same



Prestonfield Primary, “Mighty Rights Team”



Head Teacher Mr Hutchinson instantly welcomed ‘One’ into Prestonfield Primary School to speak specifically with their ‘Mighty Rights Team’, a group of 14 children - 2 from each primary class. The children were so excited to be involved in the workshop, they began completing our worksheets without any prompts. We were amazed at the level of enthusiasm and knowledge on the topic all children in the group held, from the youngest to the oldest. One discussion for example from a 7 year old girl, Cerys, telling us it is a very difficult situation that can’t be fixed with an easy solution and gave us examples as to why, really opened our eyes to the high level of education being received at Prestonfield Primary no doubtedly due to the leadership of Mr Hutchinson. The children spoke intelligently about the Rights of a Child and related that to facts they knew already about refugee children.





Castelview Primary School - P4

Ms Morris was delighted to welcome us to speak with her primary four class of 46 pupils about the current situation with refugees. The pupils were split into two groups, primary 4a and primary 4b of which we did two workshops. The children seemed to really enjoy the workshops and engaged well with the topic. They worked in pairs filling in a worksheet and had some great ideas into ways they could help refugee children feel welcome in Scotland. The Children at Castelview had been learning about children's rights and they connected what they had learnt to what we were teaching them. They were also excited about telling us their views and knowledge on the subject.



St Francis Primary School Pupil Council



We were invited to St Francis primary school by the assistant head teacher Ms McCallum to speak to their pupil council. The Pupil Council is made up of one boy and one girl from each primary class, primary one to primary seven who have been elected to represent their class. The children all took part and some had great ideas into ways they could help refugee children integrate into new communities. They had some political views into the topic of refugees and knew a lot of facts about the current situation. At the end of the workshop each child had questions which they asked so they could go back and report to their individual classes and were keen to educate their fellow students on the topic.





Some outstanding examples of work
by the children....



Vada Aged 12

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1 What is a refugee?

 A refugee are people who have been forced to leave their homes/countries for various amounts of reasons like war, terrorists, IS, hackers, ^{their home conditions} & many more.

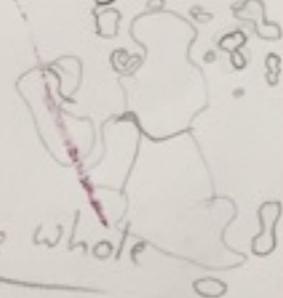
2 How many refugees are there in the world?

18 million

56.8m!



Almost the whole UK!



3 How do refugees arrive here?

Sometimes they are cramed onto boats and there are certain people who hijack them.

They have to walk ~~so~~ very far distances. People trafficking!

Sometimes they jump onto trains. They illegally climb into underneath trucks.



4 What do you think refugees can bring with them when they leave their country?

They can't really bring much because of their journey.

They would try to bring family & friends too!
Don't change clothes!



5 What's happening in Scotland and how can we help?

Spread the WORD!

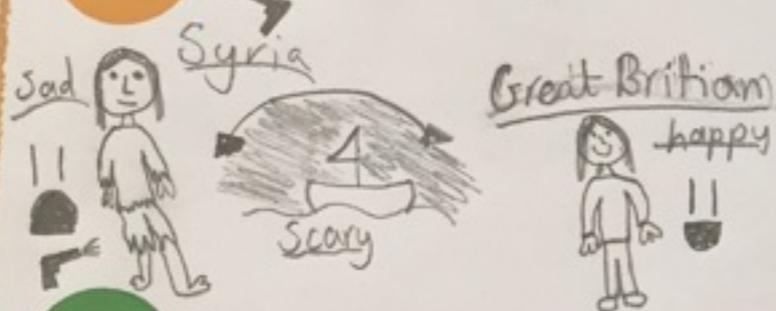
Sophia 10

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1 What is a refugee?



2 How many refugees are there in the world?

Hundreds, millions,

10 100,000+

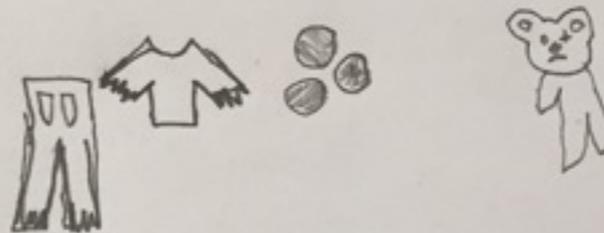
3 How do refugees arrive here?

They take a risky horrible journey.



4 What do you think refugees can bring with them when they leave their country?

As much as they have left.



5 What's happening in Scotland and how can we help?

Need to be friendly towards refugees.



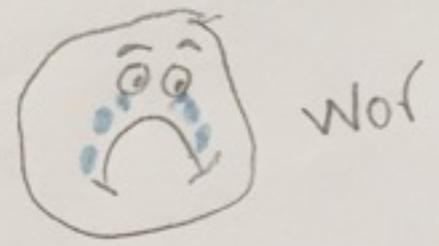
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1 What is a refugee?

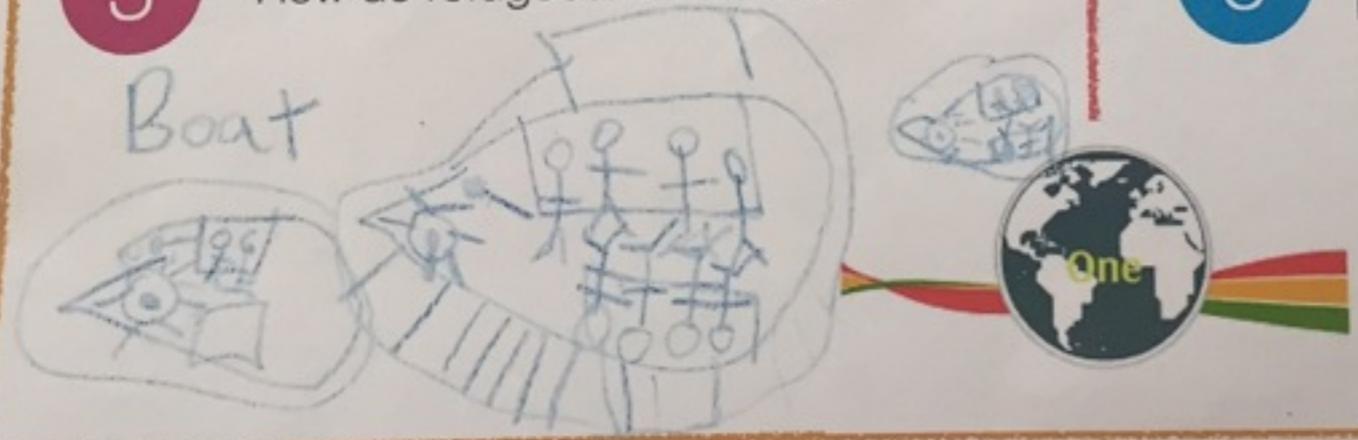


2 How many refugees are there in the world?

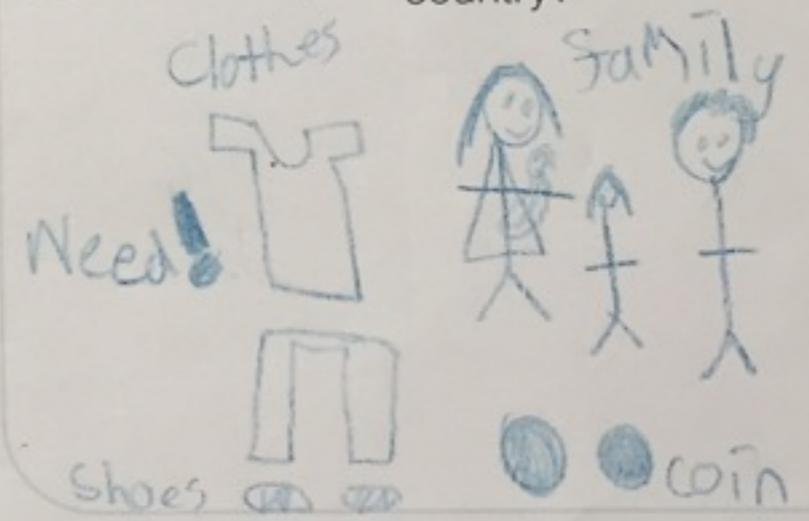


59.5 million

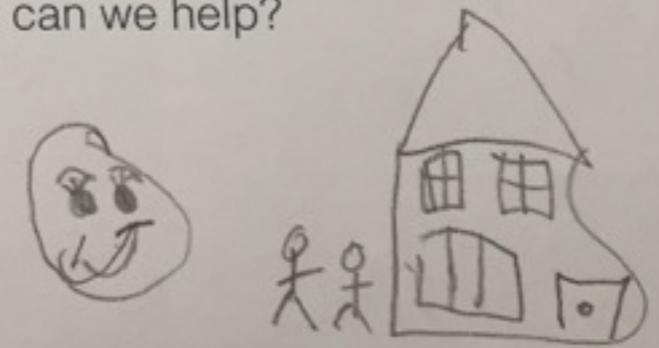
3 How do refugees arrive here?



4 What do you think refugees can bring with them when they leave their country?



5 What's happening in Scotland and how can we help?



by LEWIS DRAILLY

Age 8 Scotland Welcomes Refugees

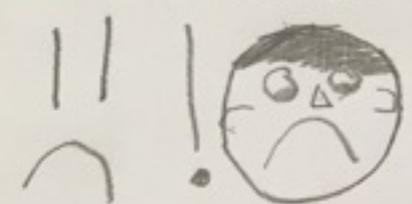
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11

What is a refugee?

Wars And Scareniss!
Wars in d
sirya!



44

What do you think refugees can bring with them when they leave their country?

cloths
hats
From Family.
Shops
Presints

22

How many refugees are there in the world?

I think they're million
tooo ref you gess
ther is in the wold



55

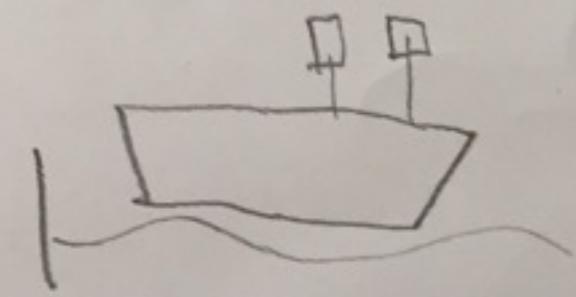
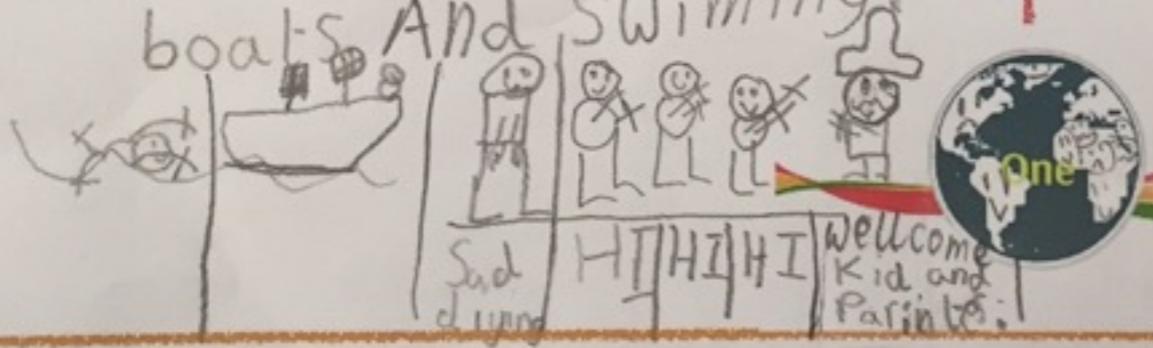
What's happening in Scotland and how can we help?

Nice

33

How do refugees arrive here?

I think walking
boats And swimming



Amber age 11

Primary 7

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1

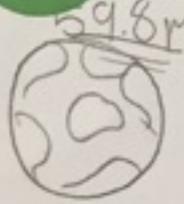
What is a refugee?



Someone in a very dangerous place needing help and to get out of their country or safe.

2

How many refugees are there in the world?



There are countless but I think maybe 20 million!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

3

How do refugees arrive here?



dangerously they take a bad boat trip. Most people drown on this trip.



4

What do you think refugees can bring with them when they leave their country?

they bring hope mainly but nothing else really.



5

What's happening in Scotland and how can we help?

Need to be nice and happy. Sweet and kind.

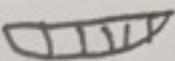
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1 What is a refugee?
a person who needs
to flee their country
because of shooting or
bombing.

2 How many refugees are there in
the world?
1.5mil

3 How do refugees arrive here?
1. by boat 
2. by walking
~~3.~~

4 What do you think refugees can
bring with them when they leave their
country?

kid's
pet's
a bag
water
or cloth's

5 What's happening in Scotland and
how can we help?
put them in school
is not the group could
teach them
and be their pal's





The children were excited to take turns
reading a poem by By Sid Niqqash



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I am not White, nor Black
I am neither Brown, nor Yellow
I am not British, nor American
I am neither Syrian, nor Russian
I am not Christian, nor Muslim
I am neither Jewish, nor Buddhist
I am not Rich, nor Poor
I am neither Young, nor Old
I am not Male, nor Female
I am neither Superior, nor Inferior
I am but a simple Being, a Human Being
I may be your Mother, or Father
Maybe your Sister, or Brother
I may be your Grandma, or Grandad
Maybe your Aunt, or Uncle
I may be your Friend, or Relative
Maybe a Work Colleague or Acquaintance
Whoever you are, wherever you are, I hold you Dear to my Heart
As after all we are all the same deep under
We are Human Beings
Humans we are but how easily it is to forget our Basic Principals
Humans we are, but unable to understand the meaning of Humanity
We are One, bound by no Religion, Race, Gender, Age or Country
We have a Responsibility to care for one another without Prejudice
So let's treat each other as Equals as no life is of any less Value
After all we are all Equal Beings, HUMAN BEINGS
Let's Unite and hope we can Rescue ourselves by showing a little bit of Humanity.
Meaning:
Humanity is a Virtue associated with basic Ethics of altruism derived
from the human condition.
#PRAYFORTHEWORLD
#HUMANITYNEEDSRESURRECTION

By Sid Niqqash





We were astonished by the **enthusiasm and interest**, **knowledge** and depth/quality of **conversation** and **discussion** amongst the children. The resounding message from each school was SOLIDARITY in welcoming refugees.

Each child said they learnt something new which they didn't know before our workshop and that is our aim - to educate!



REFUGEES
ARE HUMAN
BEINGS





Following the success of our workshops during Refugee Festival Scotland, we look forward to rolling out the workshops in more schools in Edinburgh & The Lothians from August 2016 onwards!

Thank you for watching!



By Nicola Melvin & Lyndsay Nolan-Martin