



write unite

Visions of the Future  
Learning Pack

# Calling All Young People... Everywhere

WriteUnite is on a mission to ensure young people across the globe can express their thoughts and feelings, and be heard.

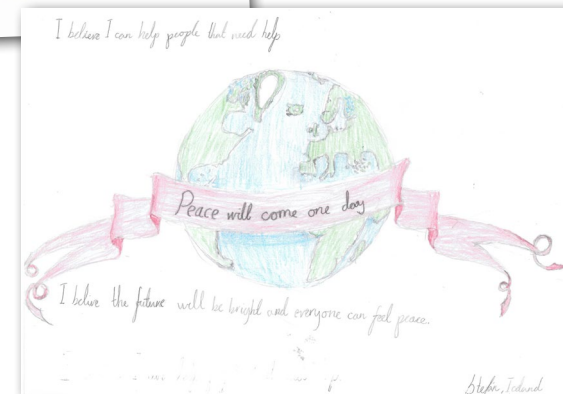
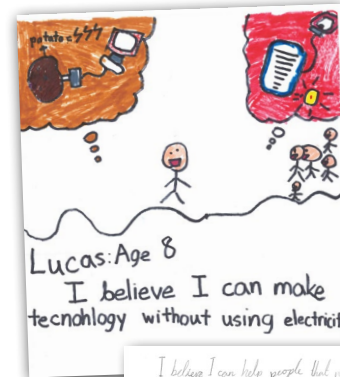
We work with young people to gather their opinions about global issues and then publish them for the world to see.

We have already published three books with submissions from over 2700 young people in 35 countries on every continent. And now we're starting a new project!

In November 2022, we're creating a global exhibition of young people's ideas by putting their work up on billboards, street corners and bus stops around the world.

The exhibition is the next part of our **Visions of the Future** project that has already seen the hopes, harsh realities and future dreams of hundreds of children be published in our *Visions of the Future* book. We are now going even further, moving from the page to the streets.

We would love the young people that you know to get involved. This pack gives all the details for contributing, and some ideas to get the creativity flowing. We will also be adding more resources and more ways to get involved as the project progresses.



# How it Works



## Create and Submit

Young people all around the world send us their stories, opinions and creations based on our current themes.



## Publish

We publish these submissions and release them to the world.

So far we've published three books read in 35 countries.



## Spread the Word

We share the submissions as far and wide as we can, to show that young people have ideas and power to inspire and change the world.



# Visions of the Future

We are looking for young people's **Visions of the Future** and would love to receive your submission for our global exhibition.

We are looking for young people to send us submissions telling what they think our world could look like or should look like in the future. Imagination has no limits, so please be as creative as you'd like.

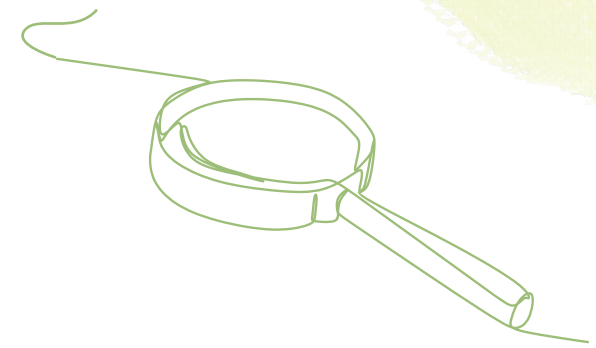
Submissions can come in many forms; it could be a story, poem or short essay, a drawing, painting or collage - anything that gets the creative juices flowing!

Submissions close on 25th September 2022.



# Generating Ideas

Here are a few activities to get the ideas flowing and encourage young people to share their thoughts with each other as well as in their submission.



## Grab the headlines

Use our headline examples below, or look in newspapers to begin discussions about how young people feel about the world, and what they would change for the future.

### Top female footballers to get the same salaries as their male counterparts

Cars banned for one day every month everybody must walk, cycle or use the train

### New drug discovered to cure HIV

USA elects Black female president

All children to be given education across the planet



#### Questions:

How does this make you feel?

Is it a good or a bad thing?

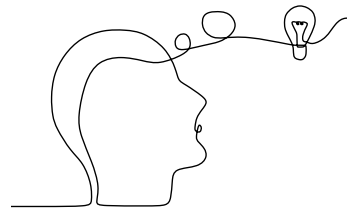
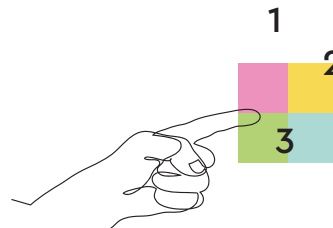
Do you think this could change the future?

Does the future need to be different? Why?

What do you think needs to change to make this happen?

## What needs to change

- Get your young people to use their paper folding skills to create an **Ideas Explorer**.
- In small groups or pairs, ask the young people to pick a colour and move the explorer as it is spelt out.
- Select a number and consider the statement about what needs to change in the world to build a bright future.
- Ask the young people to try and decide which issues are the most important, and how change might be achieved.



### From the Ideas Explorer:

We must treat each other with kindness.

We must protect the environment from being destroyed.

Every child must be able to go to school.

All animals must be protected and live alongside humans.

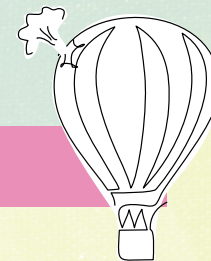
Only by ending wars will we be able to live safely.

We must all be able to access good health through doctors and nurses.

Everybody is equal and must be treated that way.

We must be free to make our own choices and express our opinions.





## Balloon debate

- Use this idea to help young people explain how change might happen.
- Present the class/group with the scenario that six of them are in a hot air balloon that is losing air. In order to reach their home, one of the people in the basket must jump (with a parachute) to lighten the load and let the balloon carry on its way. But who should leave the balloon?
- With the class/group select six young people to be in the balloon, and allocate one of the following (or a selection of your own choosing) to each person.  
  
A doctor, a musician, a politician, a teacher, a scientist, a journalist.
- Either as individuals or in groups, the six young people are given time to put together their reasons why they must stay in the balloon.

- They then present these ideas in a Balloon Debate to the whole class, who are then also allowed to ask questions before voting for who they all think should stay and who should leave the balloon.



## Our voice matters

Start the session by getting the young people to clap their hands, make lots of noise and then explain:

"You are all amazing! And you all have the right to speak out, to be loud, and to be heard. Rights are the things that every child should be able to do. Like the right to get an education. Or the right to the best possible health.

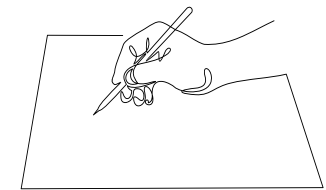
"In fact, there is a special law that almost every country in the whole world has agreed to that gives everybody in this room the right to say what they think in all things affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously.

"The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child actually has a list of 54 rights for every child in the world. And includes the right for every child to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously."

- Explain about the **Visions of the Future** project, and then get the young people to think about who needs to read the submissions.

For example, should all parents read the book?  
Presidents and politicians?

- Create a list of who needs to read the book, and perhaps get the young people to write letters to the people they decide on. We would love to hear what young people think.



- Finish the session by getting the young people to give themselves a huge round of applause and remind them that they are the next generation who need to be heard to make the world a better place.





# How to Submit

Once the the young person/people have created their submissions for **Visions of the Future**, there are a number of ways to send them in. Our preferred way to receive submissions is by post but we can also accept submissions online.

## Post:

Submissions made by post must be at least A4 sized. Please write the contributor's first name, age and country on the back of the submission.

Please send the original submission and a completed and signed [submission form](#) to:

WriteUnite CIC  
Global Exhibition 2022  
PO Box 7099  
London, W1A 9BD  
UK

## Online:

Any scanned electronic submissions must be at least 600dpi. Please name the electronic files with the contributor's first name, age and country.

They can be submitted [here](#).



## Submission Guidelines:

Anyone up to the age of 18 can contribute. (We have had children as young as 3 years old submit in the past!)

Please make sure the submissions are made by 25th September 2022.

Young people are more than welcome to write in their own language.

Please keep entries below 80 words as we will have limited space.

Full submission guidelines can be found on the website [writeunite.org/submission-rules](https://writeunite.org/submission-rules)

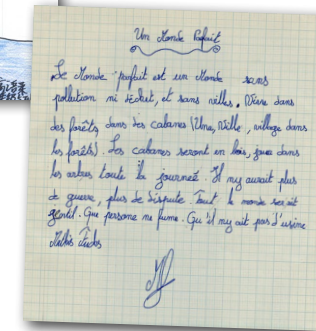
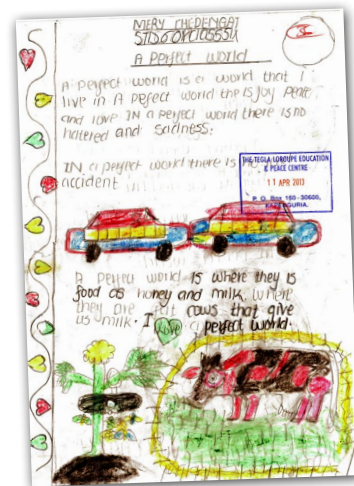
## Choosing the Finalists:

We wish every single submission could be in the final exhibition but we just won't have the space! So every single submission will be displayed on an online exhibition running alongside at least 10 submissions displayed around the world on billboards and bus stops. Finalists will be chosen by our Youth Advisory Group by 17 October 2022.

# More Resources

Throughout the project we will be updating the WriteUnite website with lots more resources that can be used to get young people involved. We will also be offering lots of different ways for young people to be part of the project, even if they don't fancy creating a submission.

Please get in touch if you would like to request a digital workshop for the young people you're supporting. And if you and your children want to get more involved with the project, we would love to hear from you.



'I am overwhelmed with the beauty, power and size of this publication. It is truly an amazing thing you are doing by bringing so many voices together ... So many ponds and so many ripples can grow into a tidal wave of change.'  
– Monica Dođru, MEF International School Turkey









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