

Name:

Rights for Everyone

In Ethiopia, Negele is able to go to school and her favourite subjects are maths and English.

Negele and all children all over the world, including you, have the right to go to school. Having the right to do something means that you should be able to do it without anyone stopping you and you should always be able to do it. Children everywhere have basic rights – things that will help them to grow up strong and healthy.

What else do you think are rights for children all over the world? (circle the pictures)



a) Having enough food to eat.



b) Having chocolate every day.





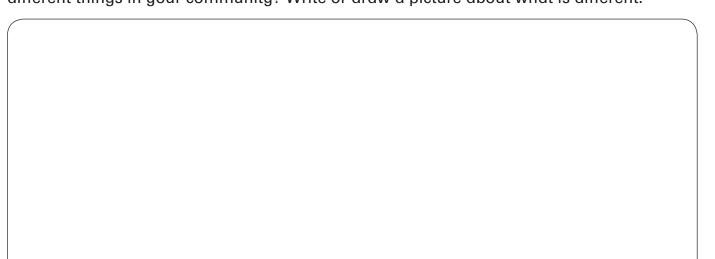
d) Having a new computer game every year.



e) Living in a place without fighting.

Boys and girls

In Negele's community, boys and girls often do different tasks. Do boys and girls do different things in your community? Write or draw a picture about what is different.



Negele thinks that girls are more important than boys! Do you agree? Write why below.

My most important possession

Draw a picture of the most important thing you own.



Explain why the picture above is your most important possession.



In Negele's community, cows are the most important possession people can own. Cows give people milk to drink and to sell, and owning a cow gives you the chance to speak out at community meetings and vote for things you want to happen. Now the community leaders have made a local rule that stops girls getting married before they are 18. This means that they can keep on going to school to learn.

How do you think Negele feels now she won't have to get married at a young age and can keep going to school?

Negele's story:



This is Negele. She is 10 years old and lives in a community called Hidi-Ale, in Ethiopia. She has one sister and three brothers. In Negele's community, girls often get married when they're very young and this means that they can't go to school anymore.

What are your favourite subjects at school? Negele's favourite subjects are English and maths. After school Negele does many different tasks around the house and she has to do many more chores than her brothers. 'I'm a girl so I fetch water, I collect firewood, I clean the house and prepare food,' she

explains. 'Men only look after cattle.' She helps to cook dinner, but her brothers get to eat before her.

Cows are really important where Negele lives, and people who own them have more power. Traditionally, only men can own cows. This means that women have no power; they're not allowed to talk in meetings or make decisions, and women who live on their own are often very poor.

Christian Aid is working with an organisation called HUNDEE in Negele's community to change things for women. HUNDEE has given the poorest women a cow, which means that they have milk to drink, and butter and milk to sell, so they can make money for their family.

Because they own cows, these women are allowed to speak in meetings. They can also make decisions that can bring changes for everyone in the community.

Now the community leaders have made a local rule that stops girls getting married before they are 18. This means that more girls can go to school and means the community are obeying the law of the country that says you have to be 18 or over to marry.

Thanks to Christian Aid, girls like Negele have more rights and can keep going to school. 'When I finish my education, I want to treat those who are sick,' Negele says.

