

First aid first: There is a Red Cross in your country

In 1919, the League of Red Cross Societies, now called the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, was formed to coordinate the work of national Red Cross societies around the world. In addition to responding to natural disasters, its aim was to respond to health crises and prevent them by promoting health, hygiene and first aid.

Our work has expanded to reach most countries in the world. Children and young people can use this colouring resource to find out more about the Federation and national societies and the first aid work we do.

Learning objectives

Learners will:

- Learn about the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
- Reflect on the importance of first aid
- Think about objects in your house you can use in first aid

Colouring activity: First aid first

This [poster](#) was made in 1988. It was created to tell people in Africa that they could learn first aid in their country with the Red Cross. Red Cross and Red Crescent societies around the world have a long history of using posters to inform people, of all ages and backgrounds, on the importance of first aid skills.

Colour in the poster and share it with people in your household as a kind act.

Primary extension activities

Reflection activity: What can we use in first aid?

The boy in the picture is wrapped up in bandages. What injuries do you think he has? Use the [First aid champions](#) website to explore the first aid skills and learn what to do.

You don't need to use bandages to do first aid. There are many things in your house you can use to help.

Check out our resource on [First aid at home](#) and look around your house for things that you can use to help others.

Sharing activity: Share your skills

Learning first aid is important for everyone. No matter where you live in the world you might need to use first aid. There is something you can do to help. After you have used the First aid champions website to learn some skills, teach them to your household.

Look at our [resources on sharing skills](#) for ideas of how to share and why it is important.

Secondary extension activities

Reflection activity: What can we use in first aid?

The boy in the picture is wrapped up in bandages. What injuries do you think he has? Use the [First aid champions](#) website to explore the first aid skills and learn what to do.

You don't need to use bandages to do first aid. There are many things in your house you can use to help. Check out our resource on [First aid at home](#) and look around your house for things that you can use to help others.

Research activity: What do you know about the movement?

The poster is informing people that they have a national Red Cross or Red Crescent society in their country. The British Red Cross is also a national society.

The Red Cross and Red Crescent is made up of 3 parts: the International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (ICRC), the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) and the societies in each country like the British Red Cross, the South African Red Cross, the Angolan Red Cross, etc.

As part of the movement's 'independence' principle, a country is only allowed to have one national society. During the time of the British Empire, any overseas territory ruled by Britain had an overseas branch of the British Red Cross. When those countries gained independence, they created their own national society.

Learn more about the movement [here](#).

Use [our website](#) to find out the answers to these questions. Use the search bar to find the information.

- > How many national Red Cross/Red Crescent societies are there?
- > The British Red Cross still has some overseas branches in some British Overseas Territories. Where are they?
- > What is the difference between the IFRC and the ICRC?
- > What are the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Crystal emblems and what do they mean?

Sharing activity: Share your skills

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Look at our [resources on sharing skills](#) for ideas of how to share and why it is important.