Write down ideas on how you can take action...
HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) is a virus that damages the defence system of the body. HIV infects cells of the immune system and destroys their function leading to 'immune deficiency'. A person living with HIV may look and feel healthy for many years, and when provided treatment, people living with HIV lead long and productive lives; and though the persons on treatment may still be able to pass on the virus, they are much less infectious.

AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome) is caused by infection with the virus HIV. Over time the immune system becomes seriously weakened so that the body loses its ability to fight off infection that it would normally have fought. The infected person develops a number of serious infections and illnesses, which eventually leads to death. Once a person who has HIV gets one or a number of opportunistic infections, that person is said to have AIDS ...

Without treatment, people living with HIV may develop AIDS quickly or may live with HIV for 10 or more years before developing AIDS. With treatment, people living with HIV do not develop AIDS.

HIV-related discrimination is treating someone unfairly and unjustly because they are actually living with HIV or because someone thinks they are living with HIV.

All human beings are born with human rights. Human rights law, agreed upon by most governments, aims to ensure that every person in this world is treated with respect and dignity. Human rights describe what governments either should not do to their citizens or should do to their citizens. These laws can be found in documents, like the United Nations’ ‘Convention on the Rights of the Child’.
ONE DAY ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD...

HELLO, FREDDY...

OH, WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIS MOTHER?

WELL, I HEARD THAT SHE IS HIV POSITIVE.

REALLY?! SHE'S HIV POSITIVE?! BUT THAT'S TERRIBLE. SHE SHOULD BE TOLD TO LEAVE THE VILLAGE...

YEAH... I'M AFRAID. LET'S NOT PLAY WITH FREDDY ANY MORE...

BUT... WHY ARE YOU AFRAID?

YOU'RE RIGHT! WE SHOULDN'T PLAY WITH HIM.
Don't you know how you get HIV?

Don't take drugs and do not share needles...

Let's put it on first...

You can only get HIV through:
- unprotected sex
- infected blood
- and needle sharing, so you don't need to be afraid of Freddy or his mother.

We should wait to have sex. We should never have sex because others are.

And when we do have sex, we must always use condoms.
But why don't we learn about this at school?

So you can't get HIV by shaking hands...

...or by hugging or kissing...

Yes! We should be told about it.

We have a right to this information.

Yeah... if we knew more we wouldn't be afraid...

...so it's fine to play football with Freddy.

And then we could protect ourselves and help our friends who have HIV instead of leaving them sad and lonely.
LIKE FREDDY’S MOTHER.

YEAH! LET’S GO AND HELP HER!

YOU’RE RIGHT. WE SHOULD HELP OUR FRIENDS AND THEIR FAMILIES WHEN THEY ARE SICK.

LET’S SHOW HER THAT WE CARE ABOUT HER.

HELLO FREDDY.

WHAT’S WRONG?!

WE’LL GO IN AND SEE HER.
I’m sick so I went to the health centre, but no one paid attention to me though I waited several hours.

It’s okay to hug someone living with HIV.

You see, I’m HIV positive!

In the end, I went and asked the doctor and he said that they couldn’t do anything for me and told me to leave.

This is wrong! When you are sick, you need help like everyone else. Why are you being treated differently? This is discrimination and a denial of treatment.
Yes, but this is not new. Don’t you know that all over the world people like me who are living with HIV are being discriminated against.

"Some have lost their jobs and some can’t even get a job..."

"Others are not allowed to go to school."

We must change this!
It was ok. I learnt a lot about HIV and AIDS today.

Well... Freddy’s mum told us that she was sick and went to the health center where you are in charge. Because she is HIV positive, they refused to help her.

It’s unacceptable! I will take care of this first thing tomorrow morning...

Our Centre has the responsibility to treat all equally and to provide treatment to people living with HIV...
HEALTH CEN

DOCTOR, I NEED TO HAVE A WORD WITH YOU!

YES, OF COURSE!

I HEARD THAT YOU REFUSED TO CARE FOR A PATIENT! HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN?

SIR, WE WERE VERY BUSY AND SHE'S HIV POSITIVE...

WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH IT? YOU SHOULD TREAT A PERSON WITH HIV...

WITH RESPECT AND DIGNITY LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE. PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV OR AIDS SHOULD HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO CARE AND TREATMENT.

YOU ARE RIGHT...
LET'S GET STARTED! HOW ABOUT MAKING SOME POSTERS TO LET PEOPLE KNOW MORE ABOUT HIV AND AIDS.

THANKS, BUT WE CAN DO EVEN MORE.

LATER THAT AFTERNOON, LOOK AT WHAT WE HAVE DONE...

AND I HAVE DONE THIS...
Great work! But don’t forget that there is more we can do to help fight AIDS and associated discrimination. Take women and girls, for example, they are often discriminated against. Please let them know that they have the same rights as men and boys.

I have the same right to education as my brothers.

I can say no to sex or unsafe sex...

I have the same right to work as my brothers.
AND POOR PEOPLE TOO HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS...

...AND PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIFFERENT COLOUR SKIN!

...AND PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK!

ANY KIND OF EXCLUSION OR DISCRIMINATION IS UNJUST AND UNFAIR.

WE SHOULD SUPPORT EACH OTHER AND MAKE SURE THAT PEOPLE'S HUMAN RIGHTS ARE PROTECTED.
PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS...

...AND THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS.

SO THAT IF THEIR RIGHTS ARE VIOLATED PEOPLE CAN SPEAK OUT!

YOU SEEM TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT HIV.

YEAH, BECAUSE ACTUALLY I AM HIV POSITIVE TOO.
DRAW YOUR OWN POSTER FOR A CAMPAIGN AGAINST HIV DISCRIMINATION.
HIV is transmitted only through the exchange of HIV-infected body fluids i.e.: unprotected (without a condom) sexual intercourse with someone who is infected; using unsterilised equipment (needles, syringes, razor blades) that has been used by someone who is infected; transfusion of infected blood or blood products that contain the HIV virus; an infected mother to her child during pregnancy; at childbirth or through breast-feeding.

People living with HIV have a right to be treated with respect and dignity. You should treat persons living with HIV like everyone else.

All governments are responsible to promote and protect human rights. Governments should not discriminate.

Discrimination is wrong and unfair. It is a violation of another person's right. Those who discriminate should be held responsible for their actions...

Everyone has a right to information, including HIV-related information. We need to be informed and speak openly about HIV and AIDS to prevent infection and to help those already living with the virus.

Freedom from discrimination (based on race, colour, sex, language, religion, one's political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or health status) is a human right that everyone should enjoy and all should respect.

People living with HIV can help others to better understand and not fear HIV and AIDS. They can advise people on steps to protect themselves and their loved ones.

Stand up for human rights. Take action against HIV discrimination! You can make things happen!
Write down ideas on how you can take action...