



# CHOOSE PEACE



## Activity Guide 2023



Established 1915  
**BROWARD**  
County Public Schools



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# Planning Choose Peace Week 2023



## Staff & Volunteers and Parents and Students

- Have students take part in planning and organizing activities.
- Create an organizing committee of interested staff, students and volunteers who will develop and plan how your school or organization is going to celebrate Choose Peace Week.
- Officially mark Choose Peace Week by posting Peace Week posters, banners and displays.
- If available encourage all staff (front desk, etc.) and volunteers to wear Choose Peace pins or t-shirts for the duration of the week.
- Inform staff about Choose Peace Week by including it on the agenda of Staff Meetings in the month of September.
- Register your participation on [www.choosepeacestopviolence.org](http://www.choosepeacestopviolence.org) receive instructions, free supplies, and starter kits and become eligible to win a Peace Pole or Peace Banner for your school or organization.
- **Win a PEACE POLE:** Email your event photos to [cynthia.tapia-rodriguez@browardschools.com](mailto:cynthia.tapia-rodriguez@browardschools.com)

## Special Events during Choose Peace Week

### CHALK4PEACE & Action4Peace

#### IMAGINE PEACE Wishes

Have a *Imagine Peace Wish Tree* on your campus and contribute to the Imagine Peace Wishes Project and create positive change.

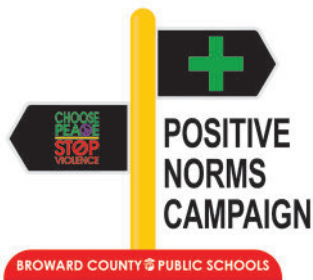


#### Across BROWARD Day

Thursday Sept. 21

Wear something **WHITE** for "PEACE" and foster peace and continue to grow the positive in our schools and communities.

Nob Hill Elementary School



# Positive Community Norms (PCN) Choose Peace/Stop Violence

**What can you do to prevent violence? How are we going to change our school climate?  
Why Choose Peace/Stop Violence matters to you?**

Choose Peace/Stop Violence (CPSV) Program is a comprehensive initiative using the science of the positive to change norms and transform cultures to create healthier, safer communities. The PCN framework educates, engages, and empowers youth to take action to prevent bullying and youth violence, foster social justice awareness, create safe and violence-free environment, as well as improve school climate and academic performance.

CPSV is a peer-led initiative that uses the researched strategies of Positive Community Norms and Social Norms Marketing. The program works to influence and move students' perception and behavior from negative to positive through the accurate marketing of what is "normal" or "typical" behavior for their community. The initiative promotes peace, hope, positive change, social emotional learning competencies (self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, self-awareness, and responsible decision-making). In addition, it fosters resiliency and how to deal with life challenges in order to achieve academic success.

According to social norms theory, people tend to misperceive, i.e., exaggerate, the negative health behavior of their peers. If people think harmful behavior is typical, they are more likely to engage in that type of behavior.

## SOCIAL NORMS THEORY APPLIED



**ME**

+

**My Perception of  
Others' Behavior and  
Beliefs**

=

**MY BEHAVIOR!**





# Choose Peace/Stop Violence Message Development Tips

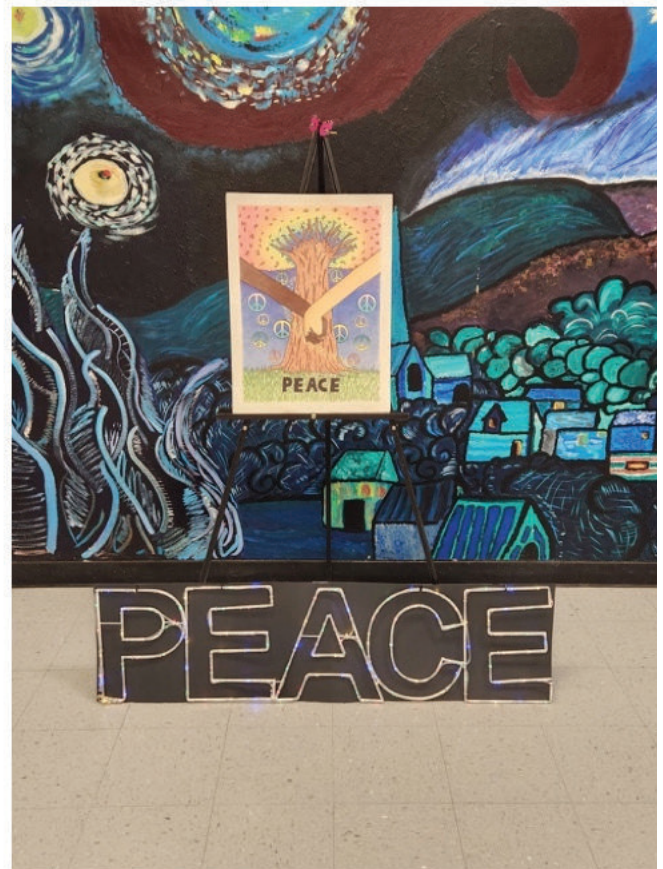
Campaign messages should be designed to correct the misperception about bullying and violence and to promote kindness.

As you are planning, promoting and delivering your Choose Peace Week activities, we ask that you keep the following messaging techniques in mind.

**Your messages should promote what is good and healthy.**

- Avoid being prescriptive, preachy or autocratic
- Should not use scare tactics
- Should portray the message in a creative manner and in a positive light
- Use the words "Choose Peace/Stop Violence"
- Must be colorful
- Include a graphic
- Should represent the theme in a creative way
- Your messages should promote what is good and healthy
- Share your student's hard work on social media!

\* @ChoozPeace @browardschools @unitedwayofbroward #ChoozPeace #liveunited #leadingthechange



Ramblewood MS

# Fostering Peace

## *Actions to Promote a Culture of Peace*

### 50 Ways to Promote Peace

1. Treat all people with kindness, regardless of race, gender orientation, sexual orientation, religion, etc.
2. Attend a peace rally
3. Write to your government (local and federal)
4. Create a peaceful affirmation/mantra
5. Don't engage in violence of any kind
6. Don't purchase weapons
7. Embrace diversity and get to know other cultures by traveling the world and doing research
8. Start a collection to donate to a charity
9. Volunteer for the Peace Corps
10. If you have a platform, use it to educate
11. Advocate for animal rights (including slaughter laws)
12. Meditate and teach/encourage others to meditate
13. Organize community projects to build camaraderie (group mural, clean-up, etc.)
14. Think about other people's intentions vs. their outcome
15. Never honk your car horn unless you're unsafe.
16. Make art installations with the word "peace" or the peace symbol
17. When you see someone who is in trouble, help them
18. Learn mediation/conflict resolution skills
19. Advocate peace with T-shirts, bumper stickers, patches, etc.
20. Call out people when you see them being sexist, racist, etc.
21. Spend time in nature
22. Stay abreast of current events
23. Take a break from watching the news when you need to
24. Register to vote (and actually vote!)
25. Create a safe space/sanctuary in your home
26. Engage in random acts of kindness on a regular basis
27. Hang Tibetan prayer flags
28. Reduce your carbon footprint
29. Try hard not to judge others
30. Research influential peace promoters in history
31. Talk to kids about peaceful virtues early on
32. Have a plan for dangerous situations of all types (being mugged, a house fire, etc.)
33. Respect your environment (i.e. don't litter)
34. Sign a peace pledge
35. Think about any prejudices you might have and explore why they are a part of you, with the ultimate goal being that you release them
36. Learn about symbols of peace and use tangible examples as reminders in your own home, workspace, car, etc.
37. Attend local government meetings
38. Forgive others, even long-standing enemies
39. Read books about peace and recommend them to your friends
40. Help the homeless



41. Volunteer at a shelter
  42. Take a nonviolent crisis intervention class
  43. Develop meaningful relationships outside your own race
  44. Sign an appeal to end nuclear threats
  45. Host art/music/poetry events with the theme of peace
  46. Be patient in all aspects of life
  47. Learn what the main causes of violence in your city are
  48. Practice self-love and care so you can radiate goodness to others
  49. Say you're sorry, when necessary, even it's belated
  50. Define what the word "peace" means to you
- Source: <https://uncustomary.org/50-ways-promote-peace/>

### Other questions to consider:

1. How do you promote a culture of peace?
2. What does peace mean to you?
3. How else can we promote peace in our lives?

## Fostering Peace and Sustainable Development

Sustainable Development goal 15.2: Life on Land – provides the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forest, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and sustainability increase afforestation and reforestation globally. By joining the Peace Pole movement, The Choose Peace/Stop Violence program aligns with United Nations goal 15.2. In addition, promotes peace, hope, solidarity and kindness every time a Peace Pole is planted in Broward County. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/biodiversity/>

### The Broward Peace Pole Project

The Broward Peace Pole project was started in 2010 by the Choose Peace/Stop Violence funded by The United Way of Broward County, Broward County Schools and Children's Services Council of Broward County.

The Choose Peace/Stop Violence focuses on youth violence and bullying prevention. The positive social norm campaign inspires students be part of the solution by taking small steps to prevent injustice at their school and community by adopting a non-violence approach to problem solving, prevent bullying, and encouraging a "culture of inclusion" within schools. CPSV currently sponsors Choose Peace/Agents of Change clubs in 50 middle and high schools. At the completion of the program, schools receive a Peace Pole.

Schools are recognized yearly for participation in Choose Peace Week activities and promoting a culture of Peace and Kindness at their schools and community. During Choose Peace Week, a random selection is made, and one school is awarded a Peace Pole. Schools are expected to organize a school-wide dedication/planting ceremony involving the school and/or class that worked on the Choose Peace projects.

Every time a Peace Pole is purchased, 10 trees will be planted in Africa. There is 3,500 Peace Poles planted globally with the environmental impact of 35,000 trees planted, too.





A **Peace Pole** is a monument that displays the message “**May Peace Prevail on Earth**”. The peace poles are handcrafted by The World Peace Sanctuary in Wassaic, NY, the international home and headquarters of the World Peace Prayer Society (WPPS).

The **May Peace Prevail On Earth** movement is a grassroots global movement to inspire, and re-awaken the inherent consciousness of love, peace and harmony which exists in everyone of us. It is a movement to bring inner peace of mind and to foster peace in the world at large.

## Peace Poles Awarded by Choose Peace/Stop Violence

### 2010-2011

1. Charles Drew Elementary, Pompano Beach.

### 2011-2012

2. Griffin Elementary School, Cooper City.
3. Sunrise Middle School, Sunrise.
4. Atlantic Technical Center and Technical High School, Coconut Creek.

### 2012-2013

5. Beachside Montessori Village, Hollywood.
6. Everglades Elementary, Weston.
7. McFatter Technical High School, Davie.

### 2013-2014

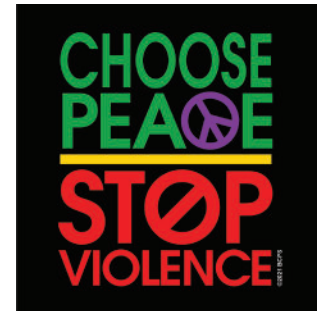
8. Dania Beach Community Project, Olson Middle School, Dania Beach Elementary, Collins Elementary.
9. J.P. Taravella High School, Coral Springs.
10. Castle Hill Elementary School, Lauderhill.
11. Pasadena Lakes Elementary School, Pembroke Pines.
12. Bair Middle School, Sunrise
13. Deerfield Beach Elementary School, Deerfield Beach.
14. Glades Middle School, Miramar.
15. Broward County School's Dept. of Diversity, Prevention and Intervention, Fort Lauderdale
16. United Way of Broward County.

### 2014-2015

17. Renaissance Charter Schools at Pines, Pembroke Pines.
18. Ramble Wood Middle School, Coral Springs.
19. Silver Shores Elementary, Miramar.
20. McNicol Middle School, Hollywood.
21. Cooper City Elementary, Cooper City.

### 2015-2016

22. Peters Elementary School, Plantation.
23. Margate Middle School, Margate
24. Lake Forest Elementary, Pembroke Park.





### 2015-2016

- 25. Peters Elementary School, Plantation.
- 26. Margate Middle School, Margate.
- 27. Lake Forest Elementary, Pembroke Park.

### 2016-2017

- 28. Pembroke Pines Charter, Pembroke Pines, Day of Kindness.
- 29. Falcon Cove Middle, Weston.
- 30. Lakeside Elementary, Pembroke Pines.
- 31. Riverside Elementary, Coral Springs.
- 32. Hawkes Bluff Elementary, Davie.
- 33. South Plantation High, Plantation.
- 34. Panther Run Elementary, Pembroke Pines

### 2017-2018

- 35. Walter C. Young Middle: Pembroke Pines.
- 36. Coral Springs High School, Coral Springs.
- 37. Wilton Manors Elementary, Wilton Manors.
- 38. Silver Trails Middle School, Pembroke Pines.
- 39. Children's Services Council of Broward Council.
- 40. Gulfstream Academy, Hallandale Beach.

### 2018-2019

- 41. Hollywood Hills High School, Hollywood.
- 42. Coral Springs Middle School, Coral Springs.
- 43. North Andrews Gardens Elementary School, Fort Lauderdale.
- 44. Park Lakes Elementary School, Lauderdale Lakes.
- 45. Nova Middle School, Davie.

### 2019-2020

- 46. Silver Ridge ES, Davie.
- 47. Sea Castle ES, Miramar.
- 48. Millennium Collegiate Academy, Tamarac.
- 49. Coral Springs Charter HS, Coral Springs.
- 50. LVL Unlimited Productions (Community), Fort Lauderdale.

### 2020-2021

- 51. Nova Blanche Forman Elementary, Davie.
- 52. Fairway Elementary, Miramar.
- 53. Driftwood Middle School, Hollywood.
- 54. Pembroke Pines Elementary, Pembroke Pines.

### 2021-2022

- 51. Maplewood Elementary, Coral Springs.
- 52. Franklin Academy Pembroke Pines, Pembroke Pines.
- 53. Coral Springs Charter High School, Coral Springs.

### 2020-2021

- 54. Cypress Elementary, Pompano Beach.
- 55. Village Elementary, Sunrise.
- 56. Deerfield Beach Middle, Deerfield Beach.
- 57. West Broward High School, Pembroke Pines.



Silver Shores Elementary School



J.P. Taravella High School



Panther Run Elementary School



Ramblewood Elementary School



Bair Middle School



# CHALK4PEACE & Action4Peace

A sidewalk painting festival which happens WORLDWIDE every September.

**AIM:** Encourage individuals to express messages of inspiration and visions for a more peaceful community and reflect on peace.

**MATERIALS:** Chalk, places to draw, water, buckets, paper, towels, ladders

**AGES:** All ages

**TIME:** Choose Peace Week

**For your school, workplace, and community.**

**Make it a team effort.** Include principals, teachers; students, parents, families, and PTA.



Cypress Bay HS

## Instructions:

Provide a prominent, safe location to draw; your school, sidewalks, parking lots, walls or a local site. The best surfaces are smooth concrete or asphalt, or smooth but not polished granite.

**Register:** To receive a starter kit with chalk, register on-line with [www.choosepeacetopviolence.org](http://www.choosepeacetopviolence.org). Chalk availability is limited! When buying additional chalk, talk to your local art store, tell them it's for Chalk4Peace, or check with your Dollar Stores.

**Group project:** Take some rope and a big piece of sidewalk chalk. Tie the chalk and have someone hold the end of the rope tight to a center point. Pulling the rope tight, draw one big circle, then repeat a smaller circle 2-3 ft smaller. Get someone who can draw straight lines and create the inner lines with a long 2x4 or a surveyor's chalk line. Make these lines bold with chalk, white tempera poster paints or marking chalk spray. Scatter some loose chalk pieces inside the lines and watch it happen.

## Publicize your event.

Download flyers and posters from [www.choosepeacetopviolence.org](http://www.choosepeacetopviolence.org). Invite your local community leaders. Tell your local TV & radio station & local newspaper about your event with a press release. Take pictures **BEFORE IT RAINS** (it's what the ladder is for, to get a good view of the art.)

West Broward HS



Cypress Bay HS



Stoneman Douglas HS



Falcon Cove MS



Adapted from Chalk4Peace, Inc. a 501 (c)(3) organization promoting global peace through the arts for more information

[www.chalk4peace.org](http://www.chalk4peace.org)

# IMAGINE PEACE Wish Tree Project

It's Time for Action

The Action is PEACE

Think PEACE, Act PEACE, Spread PEACE

PEACE is POWER!

Yoko Ono Lennon

**AIM:** Encourage individuals at your school, workplace, community. to think about and reflect on peace.

**MATERIALS:** Tree, pencils, Wish tags.

**AGES:** All ages

**TIME:** Ongoing



Westchester ES

## Instructions:

Choose a tree or create a large tree display in a visible location, preferably shaded from rain if outdoors. Suitable locations indoors could be lobby, reception area, cafeteria, fitness center, etc. Have the tree on display for Choose Peace Week Sept. 19-24 or during September- International Peace Month. (Note when choosing a tree outdoors, trees are traditionally native, local and indigenous.)

Download display sign from [www.choosepeacetopviolence.org](http://www.choosepeacetopviolence.org) or create your own sign inviting students, visitors, staff etc., to hang their message or quote for peace in your Wish Tree. To create Wish Tags you can use paper and string (use our template for tags) or buy [pre-strung white gift tags](#). If outdoors, we suggest buying waterproof paper.

Place the tags in a basket or box, add pencils and encourage everyone in your school, workplace, or community to participate.

**NOTE:** This would be a perfect Community Project.

In addition to having a physical Wish Tree at your location, students can continue to contribute to the over the 1,000,000 wishes collected by sending wishes via Twitter @IPTower, by email [wish@imaginepeacetower.com](mailto:wish@imaginepeacetower.com) or mail a postcard to Imagine Peace Tower P.O. Box 121 Reykjavik, Iceland.

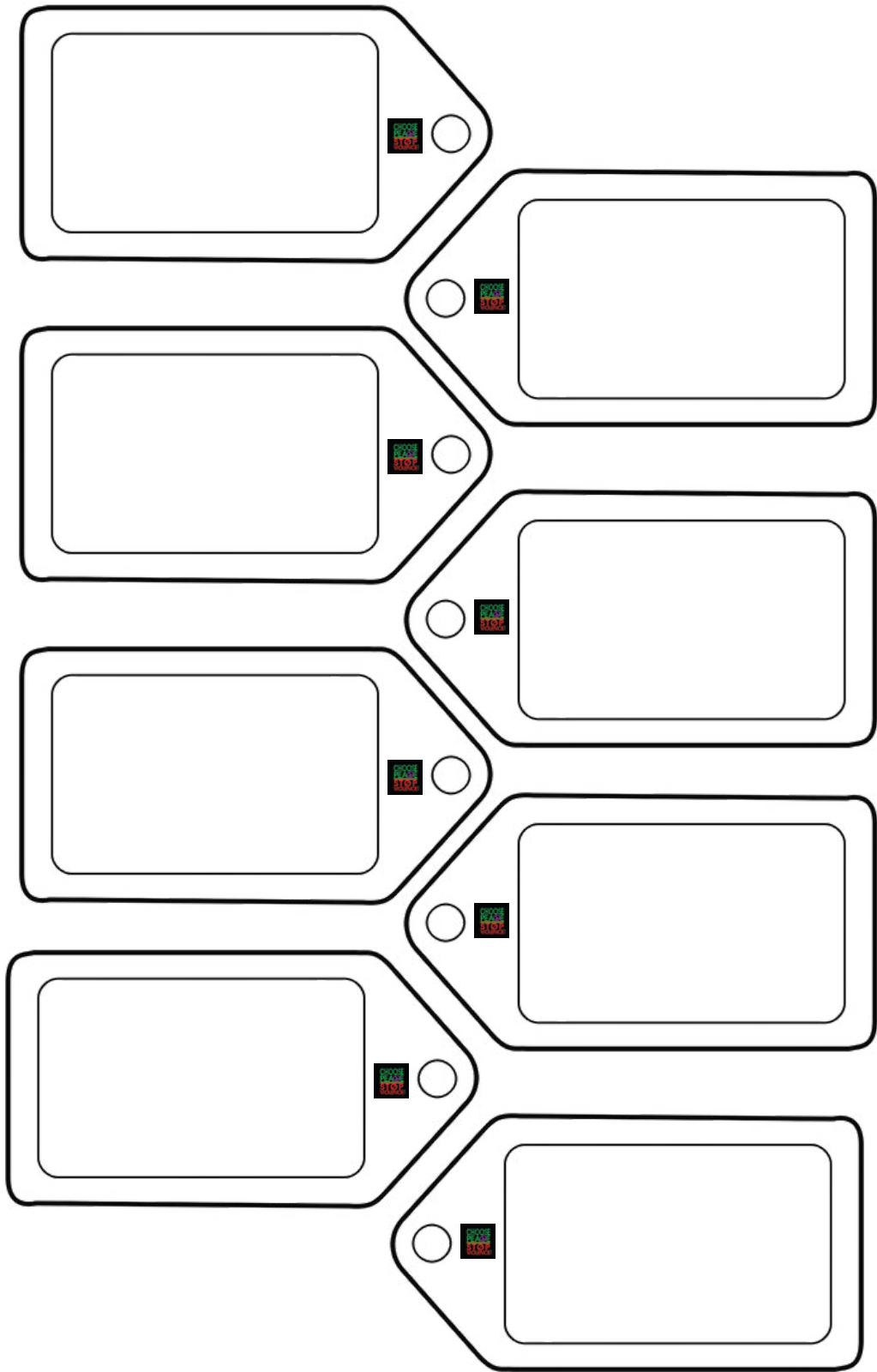


Photo by Miramar HS

The wish trees were inspired by Yoko Ono and John Lennon's Imagine Peace Tree to promote world peace. More information at [www.imaginepeace.com](http://www.imaginepeace.com)

Since 2008 Iceland has been ranked the most peaceful country in the world.







# Pinwheels for Peace

**AIM:** To engage children to share their messages of peace

**MATERIALS:** Scissors, straight pins, pencils with erasers, colored pencil or markers

**AGES:** 5-10

**TIME:** 30 minutes

## Introduction:

Discuss with the children what peace means to them and what words or pictures might symbolize peace.

## Instructions:

Show the children how to cut out the pinwheel square template following the line on the template. Cut in diagonally from all corners leaving about 2 inches of center uncut and decorate.

To create the pinwheel (more information at [www.pinwheelsforpeace.com](http://www.pinwheelsforpeace.com) )

- Gently bend (don't fold one of the cut corners to the center point.
- Skip the next cut corner and bend the next one.
- Skip and bend until four points meet in the center
- Stick the straight pin through all four points AND the back of the pinwheel. Stick the pin into the pencil eraser. Find some wind to test it out.



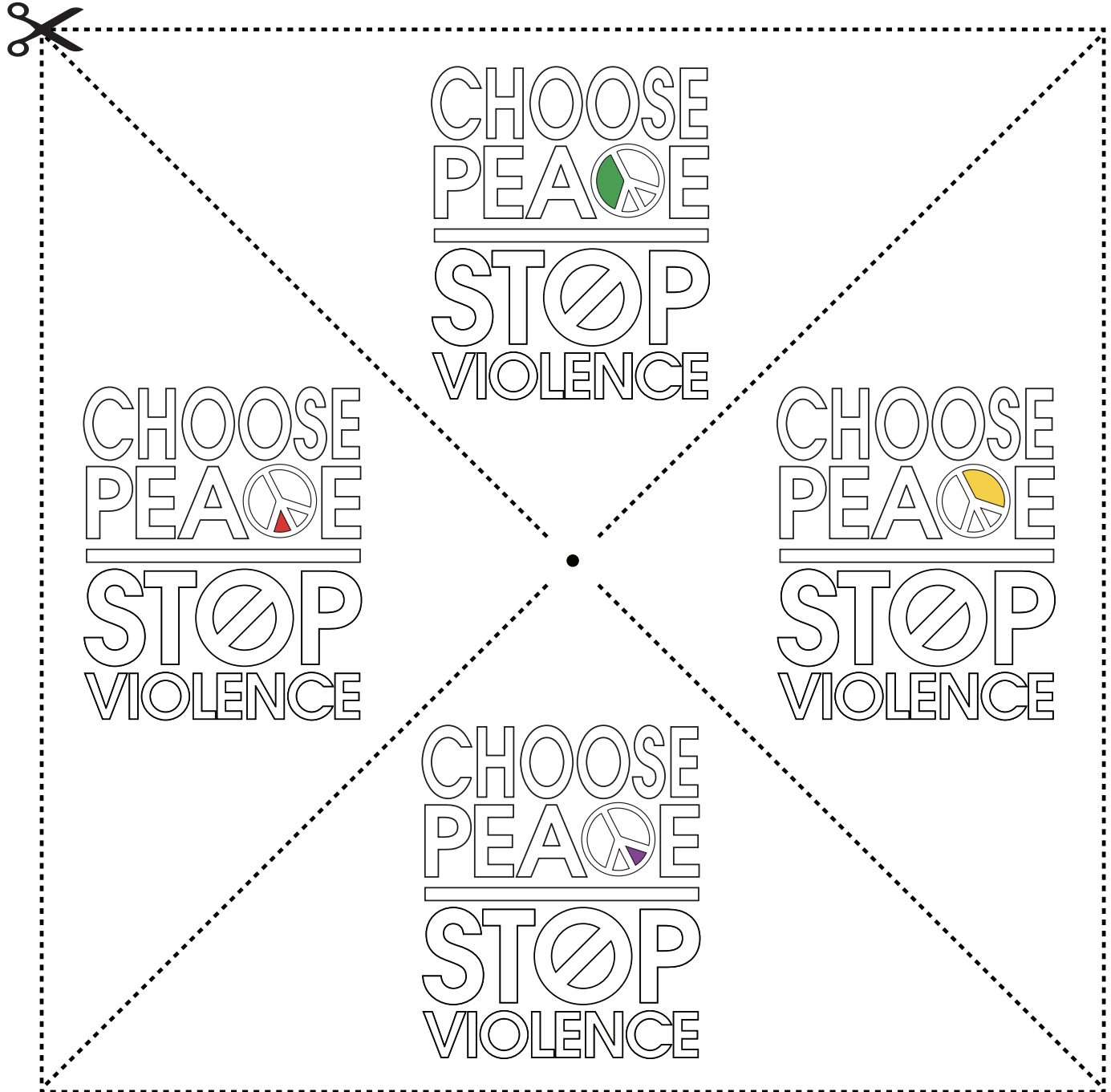
Westchester ES

Cypress Bay HS



# Pinwheel for Peace

CHOOSE  
PEACE





# Kindness Cards

**AIM:** Create a Kindness Card and leave it somewhere in your community to brighten up someone's day. Inspired by: Pembroke Pines Charter Elementary School - FSU Campus

**MATERIALS:** paper, pen, pencil, markers, crayons, scissors

**AGES:** All ages

## Instructions

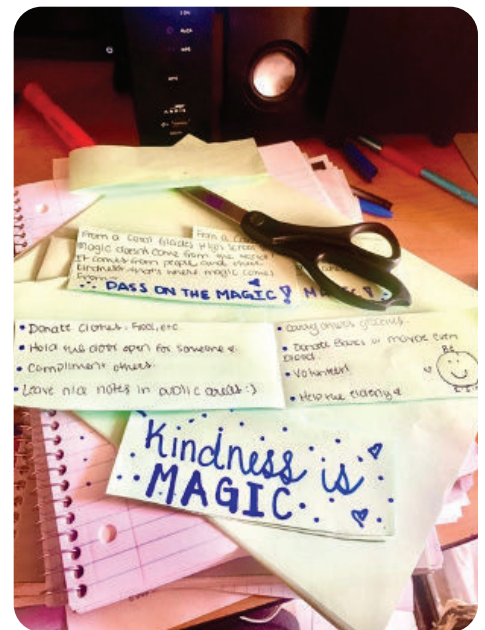
1. Cut a piece of paper into a business sized card (3.5 X 2 inches).
  2. On the front of the card write: "Kindness is Magic" and list different random acts of kindness. If you have space, draw a smiley face or peace sign, too!
  3. On the back of the card write: "From a student at insert your school name here! Magic doesn't come from the world, it comes from people and their kindness, that's where magic comes from. Pass on the magic!"
  4. Leave your Kindness Card somewhere in your community!
- Share your kindness with us: @ChoozPeace @browardschools @unitedwayofbroward  
#choozpeace #liveunited #leadingthechange



New Renaissance MS



Coral Glades HS



Coral Glades HS

*Thank your teacher. Donate a used book. Give a loved one a hug. Hold a door open. loved one a hug. Hold a door open.*

# 30 Acts of Kindness Challenge

Being Kind Counts

- 1) Give three compliments to strangers
- 2) Give three compliments to people you know
- 3) Donate an item to someone in need
- 4) Leave your favorite book somewhere with a note for someone to enjoy it
- 5) Leave flowers or a note on someone's car telling them to have a nice day
- 6) Pay for the car behind you in a drive through
- 7) Thank a soldier, police officer, firefighter
- 8) Smile at everyone you see
- 9) Make dinner for a friend for no reason
- 10) Write a letter to someone important to you and thank them
- 11) Take someone's shopping cart inside the store for them
- 12) Donate food to the food bank
- 13) Write a letter to someone serving in the military (find address)
- 14) Volunteer doing something
- 15) Go through your closet and find things to donate
- 16) Do something nice for your neighbor
- 17) Bake cookies and drop them off at friends or local police or fire station
- 18) Spend all day only saying kind things
- 19) When you are going on an errand ask a friend if they need you to pick up anything
- 20) Spend all day having kind thoughts
- 21) Offer to watch a friend's kid or pet
- 22) Hold open a door for someone else
- 23) Donate to your favorite charity
- 24) Leave coupons you won't need at the store.
- 25) Do a random act of kindness
- 26) Take a minute to tell someone's boss they are doing a great job
- 27) Flush a toilet that is full of poo in a retail store, (not sure about this one)
- 28) Smile, just because and make sure you are looking at a person.
- 29) Place .25 in a purse you are looking at in a store, it will be a treasure to the next person
- 30) Give a gift card to the church donation basket



South Plantation HS



# KINDESS CARD TEMPLATE



KINDESS IS MAGIC



KINDESS IS MAGIC



KINDESS IS MAGIC



# A Heart of Positive Messages

## Materials

Positive messages

Glue

Construction paper (red and white)

Markers

## Instructions:

- Provide a heart template for students to create more hearts.
- Teacher will create positive messages and put all those messages in a box or any other container. Words will represent love, respect, kindness, etc.
- Students will choose which word to use to create phrases such as “be kind”, or “respect others property.”
- Students will glue phrases and messages to the framed heart they were given by the teachers and place messages on the wall in a shape of a heart.

This activity was inspired by teachers at Pembroke Pines ES







# A Minute of Silence for a Moment of Peace

For your school, workplace, community

**AIM:** Encourage individuals to think about and reflect on peace.

**MATERIALS:** people

**AGES:** All ages

**WHEN:** Sept. 21 @ 12:00 noon (all time zones)



*City of Coral Springs*

On Sept. 21 for a global minute in all time zones across the world, meditate or pray for, to envision peace. This simple act will create a "peace wave" around the world and becomes a shared act of peace building in which everyone can participate. Be present and send all positive energy to the universe.

## Instructions:

Gather around a Peace pole or in any peaceful area that can accommodate your gathering. Hold hands as you observe a minute of peace at noon. Include this universal statement – **"May Peace Prevail On Earth"** – to begin and/or end your gathering.

*Silver Trails MS*



# Create a Peace Garden

**AIM:** Create a symbol of hope for the future and commitment to peace within yourself and the community. A space for conflict resolution, cross cultural understanding, compassion, communication and friendship.

**MATERIALS:** A site with good drainage, access to water, plants, dream/ friendship bench

**AGES:** All ages

**TIME:** Ongoing

For a full how to, curriculum and guide visit:

[www.choosepeacestopviolence.org](http://www.choosepeacestopviolence.org)



## Instructions:

Choose a site with good drainage. Request on sites can be made to local municipal parks and/or nurseries. The compacted ground before planting. Discuss soil types, water access, class and school use. Involve the School Board, ground personnel, and requests for help can be made to local Municipal Parks and/or nurseries as well as PTA.

Hold class discussions on the design aspects that focus on peace and protecting bio-diversity. Discuss the design ideas with students and what they would select for the garden. \*See the design sheet at the end of this kit. Students can visit the outside space using mathematical and spatial concepts before drawing their personal designs.\*

Invite students to draw a design of their own peace garden. Discuss individual feelings about the peace garden. Ask students to use all their 'senses' as they select plant species. Students then write a page about their own peace garden concept. A committee chooses a compilation of the designs.

Teachers can invent ways to use the peace garden as a tool to aid the school curriculum. The planting and management by every class of their own garden will be part of the reason that the school continues to become safer and the community becomes involved and remains involved.

## Hold a dedication Ceremony

### Main items in the Peace Garden:

- The Dream Bench and the Friendship Bench for friendly conflict resolution. The Friendship Bench is a place to learn the skills of breathing to relax, and for solving conflicts through compassion, communication and friendship – all lessons from nature.
- Planting vegetables and fruits for food security which can help food banks. Many schools plant a “pizza garden” - green peppers, tomatoes, basil, onions, mushrooms etc.
- A healing garden – for example herbs that can be used for stopping the itch of mosquito bites, a cancer garden, plants that have a soothing smell. This is particularly useful for students who are acting out.
- The path of peace could be walked with eyes closed, to identify species by touch, smell, or rubbing a leaf. It could also have a series of sounds, both natural and sculptured, that can be recorded, listed and written about.
- Other gardens could be roof top gardens, an indoor tropical garden with a place for special objects, or a water garden.



f. Use the following “Elements of Learning” as you develop your school curriculum. You may like to consider these as you link and expand your ideas.

- i. I : Information Input.
- ii. O : Organizing the information.
- iii. D: Demonstrate the organization.
- iv. E: Expressive response to the information through the arts.



Silver Shores ES



Cypress Bay HS

Gulfstream Early Learning Center



North Andrews ES



Miramar HS



# Design your own Peace Garden

The elements of design are very important within the shape of your garden. This is a school math and spatial activity. Basic requirements to include: a path of peace, two friendship benches or logs, a peace tree, peace rock logo.

**One square = 3 meters.**


# Peace Collage

Peace Collage In celebration of National Peace Day on September 21st, your child can create a colorful peace collage, using magazine clippings and colorful pieces of paper. Along with honing fine motor skills, he'll learn more about the concept of peace and harmony.

## What You Need:

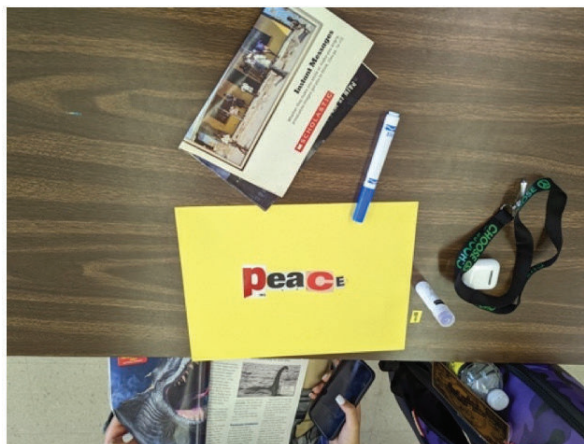
- Old magazines and newspapers
- Scrap paper
- Pencil
- Sheet of white paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers

## What You Do:

1. Start by discussing with your child what peace means to him. He can create a list of all the words that pop into his head to use later with his collage.
2. Now he can go on a scavenger hunt around the house for all those magazines and newspapers hiding in the corners of the house. He can begin searching through them for peaceful images and any of the words he had added to his list.
3. Offer your child a pair of scissors and encourage him to cut out what he finds.
4. Once he's cut lots of pictures and words, your child can begin the arrangement of the peace collage on a larger sheet of white paper. Along with using some glue to secure the cut papers, he can think about arrangement and design, challenging his creativity!
5. Encourage your child to keep working until his peace collage is complete and his entire paper is covered.

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Source: <https://www.education.com/download-pdf/activity/88873/>



Walter C. Young MS



# Peace Mobile

**AIM:** To engage children to share their messages of peace

**MATERIALS:** Doves (template) – 1 per child, hearts (template) – 6 per child, ribbon (6" length) – 6 per child, glue, scissors and markers

**AGES:** 3-10

**TIME:** 30 minutes



## Introduction:

Discuss with the children what peace means to them and what words or pictures might symbolize peace.

## Instructions:

Hand out 6 hearts to each child (older children can cut out the templates themselves). Have them write or draw their messages of peace on the hearts using the markers.

After the children have finished their messages for peace, hand out the dove, ribbon and glue. The children will then attach their messages to their dove by gluing the ribbon to the back of the hearts and the bottom of the dove. Some children may need assistance with this part of the activity.

Allow the doves to dry and then put them on display around the school, during peace week to share with visitors your messages of peace.

Adapted from: Holiday Crafts 4 Kids – [www.holidaycrafts4kids.com/MLK\\_dovemobile.htm](http://www.holidaycrafts4kids.com/MLK_dovemobile.htm)



Westchester ES

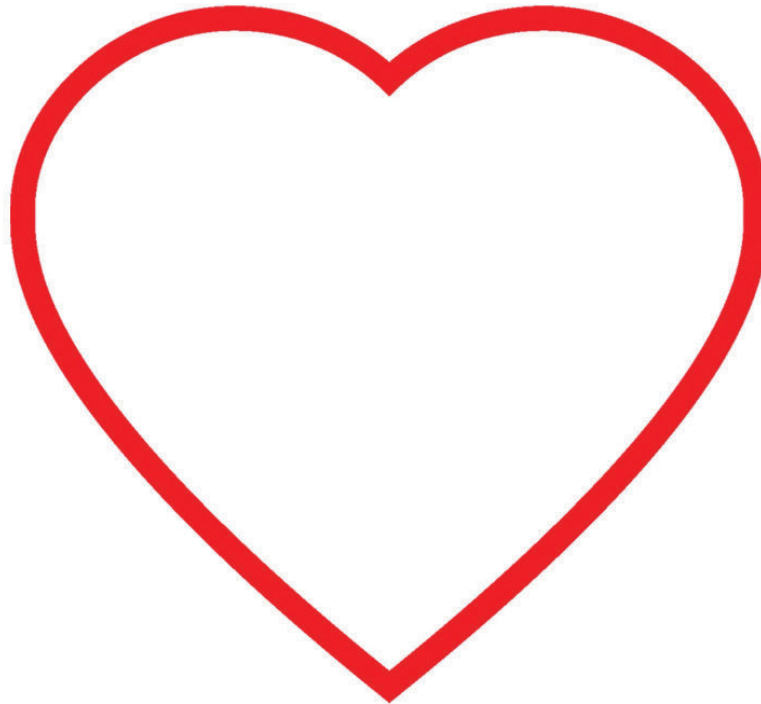
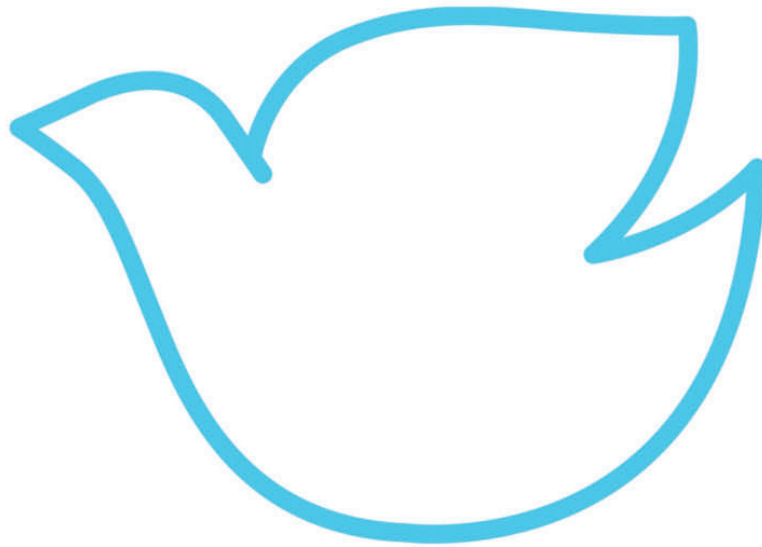


Forest Glen MS



**PEACE MOBILE**

**CHOOSE  
PEACE**



# My Act of Peace

**AIM:** To encourage children to engage in peace on a daily basis

**MATERIALS:** Journals, markers, pencils

**AGES:** 6-12

**TIME:** 10-15 minutes per day

## Introduction:

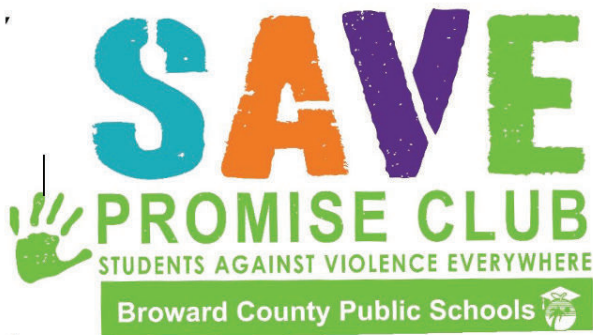
Brainstorm ways we can promote peace everyday, i.e. include others, share, and help others, etc. For one week (or month) we will be tracking our acts of peace in our journals.

## Instructions:

Challenge the children to commit to one act of peace per day. Have the children create a journal at the end of each day to track their act of peace. They can use both stories and pictures in their journal.

At the end of the month have the group share a couple of their acts of peace with everyone. Share these acts of peace with visitors and families and encourage the children to continue this at home with their family.

Glades MS





# Hand Banner

**AIM:** To encourage children to engage in peace on a daily basis

**MATERIALS:** range of skin colored paper or card, glue stick, paper and pens for writing, or a print out of the Martin Luther King quotes

**AGES:** Preschool to middle school

This hand banner craft makes a good class or family project. Why not make the banner long enough to circle a room so it joins together in a unified circle? Each child can use a different quote and think about its meaning.

## Instructions:

Cut out a number of handprints, making half left hands and half right hands. Either cut out and glue on one of the MLK quotes (on the back of this page) to each hand or have children research and write on their own.

Take one left hand and one right hand and glue the ends of the index fingers and thumbs together. Make lots of pairs of hands in the same way.

Glue the pairs together by overlapping the little finger and the edge of the palm. Hang your banner.



## Walter C. Young MS





# Give Diversity a Hand

**AIM:** To explore each other's similarities and differences

**MATERIALS:** Crayons, construction paper, imagination

**AGES:** 5-12

**TIME:** 30 minutes

Apollo MS

## Introduction:

Ask the children to think about the many different personalities (people) they know. Often our personalities are expressed in our hands. What do their hands say about them? What can you wear on them to express yourself (rings, gloves, nail polish, henna art, etc.)?

## Instructions:

Children are to use crayons to draw a variety of different hands on white paper. They can trace around their fingers if they want to be realistic or draw their own hands and design some other hands using their imagination. Ask the children to think about what the hands of a grandmother would look like, a baby or someone who works with their hands.

Encourage them to decorate these real and fantasy hands to show interesting differences and similarities.



## Discussion:

1. What differences can you see in the drawings?
2. What similarities can you see?
3. How do these differences and similarities relate to the differences between people?



Challenger ES

# Coffee Cup Peace Sleeves

Inspired by Karen Alfieri, Sunrise MS

**AIM:** To encourage the community to engage in peace. Decorate coffee sleeves with messages of peace that Starbucks customers will receive upon purchasing a coffee.

**MATERIALS:** Acrylic paint, Sharpie paint markers medium tip, coffee cup sleeves, Avery 8160 labels 1" x 2-5/8

**AGES:** 5th grade to 12th grade



## Preparation:

Contact your local Starbucks coffee shop close to your school to obtain several hundred coffee cup sleeves. Explain that Broward County Schools celebrates the annual Peace Week in September and that your school would like to collaborate to share messages of peace with your local community. Explain that your students will decorate the coffee cup sleeves with peace messages so that the coffee shop can hand them out to their customers when they purchase coffee during Peace Week September 19 - 22.

## Instructions:

In the weeks leading up to Peace week challenge your students to commit to decorate several hundred sleeves. Create a peace sign or message using the shape of the logo on the front of the sleeve. We suggest to use acrylic paint to cover the semi-circle logo and decorate with peace messages when dry. Print enough labels with your school name to be placed on the back side of every decorated coffee sleeve. (Example (your school name)... School celebrates "Peace Across Broward Day" September 21. Deliver the sleeves in advance of peace week to the coffee shop so they can hand them out.



Sunrise MS



Glades MS

# Peace Poem

**AIM:** Understanding the different ways people view peace

**MATERIALS:** Markers, paper (one per child)

**AGES:** 5-12

**TIME:** 30 minutes

## Introduction:

Talk with the children about what peace means to them and brainstorm different words that represent peace to them.

## Instructions:

Hand out a paper and markers to each child. Each child will create an acrostic poem using the word "PEACE" or what peace means to them. You may want to create an example depending on the age of the children.

## Discussion:

Have each child present their poem to the rest of the group. Once everyone has had the opportunity to share their poem, discuss with the children the differences and similarities of each poem.

1. Were there lots of similar words/phrases used in the poems? Why or why not?
2. Does peace mean the same thing to everyone?
3. If we all describe peace differently, how can we all work together to create peace?

**P** \_\_\_\_\_

**E** \_\_\_\_\_

**A** \_\_\_\_\_

**C** \_\_\_\_\_

**E** \_\_\_\_\_





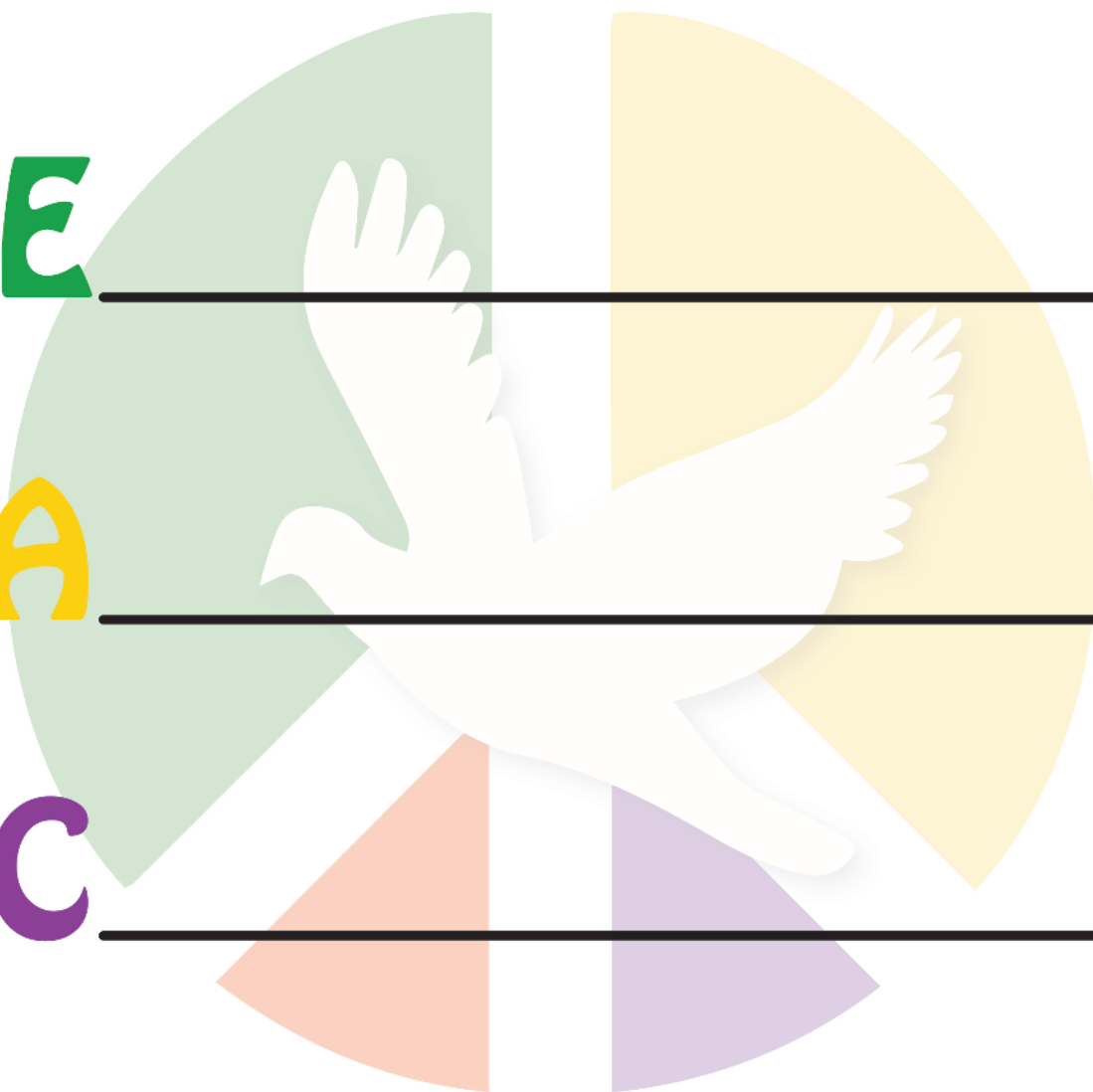
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# Kindness Rocks

**AIM:** To promote kindness and peace

Adopted from the Kindness Rock Project

**MATERIALS:** rocks size 3" to 6", pens, non-toxic paint, non-toxic sealant, brushes

**AGES:** All ages

For more information visit <https://www.thekindnessrocksproject.com/howto>

## INSTRUCTIONS:

- Check your local craft store or garden center to purchase some rocks.
- Prepare the rocks by painting them with non-toxic paint. This will prepare the rocks surface for your artwork/writing and seal the rock so your paint pens will last longer.
- Use paint pens to create your artwork.
- Topcoat your art with a non-toxic clear sealant. This will protect the artwork from the elements and the paint from altering the environment.



## Pines is Kind Event



## South Plantation HS



**AIM:** To create a feeling of interconnectedness and show the impact of individuals

**MATERIALS:** Large poster board cut into puzzle shapes (one per person), markers, crayons, other drawing materials, tape/sticky tack

**AGES:** 12+

**TIME:** 20-30 minutes

## Introduction:

Discuss how we all have similarities and differences. Discuss how these things create a rich fabric for our society, and that both differences and similarities contribute to a better world.



Silver Shores ES

## Instructions:

Hand out one puzzle piece to each youth (if you have additional puzzle pieces distribute to the youth once they have completed their first piece). Encourage the youth to draw, write or decorate the puzzle piece as a representation of their own unique self, showcasing their interests, abilities, etc. When everyone has completed their puzzle pieces, have them assemble the puzzle together and display it in a visible location.

## Discussion:

Discuss and reflect with the youth that although everyone has something different on their puzzle piece, they all fit together to make the whole picture.

1. How does this compare to your lives?
2. How is this reflected in your day-to-day interactions with others?



Parkway MS



# Peace Promoters

**AIM:** Learn about how others are making an impact on peace

**MATERIALS:** Computer access/library access, poster board, markers

**AGES:** 12+

**TIME:** Two 45 minute sessions



Manatee Bay ES

## Introduction:

The youth will do research about a world leader who promotes peace or interview a local leader who works to make the lives of others more peaceful. They will then create a display to educate others on their chosen leader.

## Instructions:

### Session 1:

The youth will use the internet and books about a world leader who has promoted/promotes peace in the world OR interview someone in their community (social worker, youth leader, etc.) who works towards promoting peace through their everyday actions.

### Session 2:

Have the youth create a poster board from the research to present to the other youth and to put on display during Peace Week. You might suggest that they incorporate photos or graphics on their display to catch the reader's eye.

## Discussion:

After the youth have created their displays have them share with the group before putting them on display within the school or organization to share.

1. What were some similar traits between the leaders chosen by the youth?
2. What were some differences?
3. What are some characteristics the youth associate with work promoting peace?
4. Are the characteristics in question three similar to the traits in the leaders researched?

South Plantation HS



Village ES



Glades MS





# Web of Strength

**AIM:** To encourage cooperation and to demonstrate the strength in working together as a team

**MATERIALS:** Rope and 2 poles or trees

**AGES:** 13-19

**TIME:** 30-45 minutes

## Introduction:

Explain to the youth that there are many negative factors at play that can lead to bad situations. The youth will work together to combat these negative factors and influences.

## Instructions:

Set up a spider web structure using the rope tied to the poles or trees. Vary the size of holes, but make sure there are big enough for a youth to fit through.

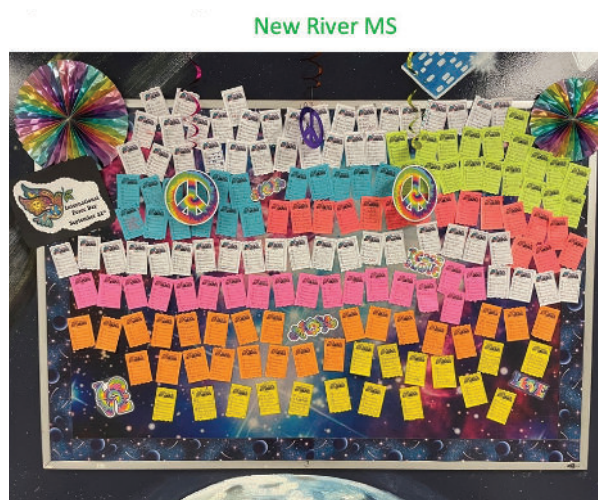
Explain to the youth that this is a web of negative influences. They will work together as a team to get all the youth through the negative influences safely.

## Rules:

1. Only 1 person through at a time.
2. Each hole can only be used once.
3. You may not touch the rope. If someone makes contact with the rope, the team must start over. (baggy clothes don't count)
4. Once a team member crosses they must stay on the other side.

## Debrief:

1. Ask youth if this was an easy task?
2. How did the team's strategy change throughout the activity?
3. Why is it important to work as a team?



Source: YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington/Brantford



# Taking the Right Steps

**AIM:** To recognize the value of teamwork and collaboration in solving environmental problems

**MATERIALS:** 7 large stepping stones or 7 sheets of paper with masking tape

**AGES:** 13-18

**TIME:** 20 minutes

**Note:** Activity requires a minimum of 6 youth.

## Introduction:

Set up 7 stepping stones or pieces of paper on the ground in a straight line. (Tape the paper to the ground so that it does not slide around.)



James S. Hunt ES

## Instructions:

Three youth are to stand on the stones on the left side and 3 youth stand on the stones to the right. The middle stone remains empty. The objective is for the youth on the left and right sides to switch places, so everyone on the left must end up on the right and vice-versa. Youth can only move in one direction (cannot move backward), and can only move one space at a time. Youth can also jump a stone if there is a free one on the other side of the person.

**Example:** | | O | | |

Each “I” is a person, the “O” is the empty stone. The first “I” could jump the second “I” because there is a free stone on the other side (like checkers).

## Discussion:

Finding solutions to environmental problems (like more effective recycling systems) can be challenging, but if we work together we can learn from each others’ ideas and develop creative and effective alternatives. This activity is much easier to complete when everyone contributes ideas and listens to one another.

1. Did the group succeed the first time they attempted to solve the problem? Why do you think you did/did not succeed?
2. How important was discussing the problem and developing a strategy as a team?
3. What does this tell us about solving complicated problems that do not have directly evident solutions (like environmental problems)?

Fort Lauderdale HS



Pines is Kind Event

# Silent Peace Walk

**AIM:** Encourage individuals to think about and reflect on peace

**AGES:** Any age

**TIME:** 30 minutes



## Getting Started

Prior to engaging in leading Silent Peace Walks we suggest that you decide for yourself what is moving you and why you want to bring a Silent Peace Walk to life. This will give you the motivation you will need to touch, move and inspire other individuals. If you feel inspired, then it is time to put a group of Peace Walkers together. Talk to your friends or groups in the community who might support the initiative. Promote the Silent Peace Walk, and educate people about it.

*"If we are peaceful, if we are happy, we can smile and blossom like a flower, and everyone in our family, our entire society, will benefit from our peace." ~*

Thich Nhat Hanh

## Place and Time

Find a suitable place and a good time for a Silent Peace Walk. Early mornings are excellent. Locations can be gardens, courtyards, parks, the beach or any location suitable for reflection.

## I walk for Peace

Bring signs or banners with information about the Peace Walk and place them on visible spots. Wear shirts displaying sayings such as, "Silent Peace Walk. I walk in silence for peace. Join me."

## Opening

1. Ring the Peace Bell and invite the Peace Walkers to assemble in a circle or semi circle so they can hear you.
2. Make sure everyone is comfortable and acknowledge all for coming
3. Give a short explanation about the Silent Peace Walk and how Peace Walks contributes to peace in the world.

### A. Inner Peace and World Peace

- Ultimately, inner peace is the only thing that can bring about lasting peace.
- Participation makes us more peaceful and develops a desire to actively, and lovingly promote peace.
- Participation develops an internal reservoir of peace. When you find yourself in challenging situations, simply remember the peaceful feelings you experienced during the walk. With practice, these memories will instantaneously calm you down, allowing you to pause and choose those responses that increase peace in your life and, consequently, peace in the world.

### B. Awareness, Gratitude and Peace

- Participation enhances quality of life, and increases gratitude, an essential ingredient for a peaceful life. Unremarkable occurrences such as a passing breeze or branches moving with the wind will take you to relive the feelings of peace you experienced during the walks. You will become more aware of the beauty that surrounds you, and you will feel blessed.

C. Create a calm atmosphere by saying a few words, such as "Let's prepare ourselves. Soon we will be walking together in silence for peace. Let's close our eyes, and take a few deep breaths."

D. Provide instructions to walk slowly, pay attention to the environment around us, notice the big and the small, feel the breeze, let go of all the thoughts, the past and the future, put aside the to-do list, and be in the here-now. Let the sound of the Peace Bell remind us to release the thoughts and come back to the present".





## 2. Awareness, Gratitude and Peace

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## The Walk

Peace Walkers usually line up in a single line and walk behind the leader. Sound the Peace Bell and start walking.

1. Sound the Peace Bell a few times during the walk to remind the participants to release the thoughts and return to the here-now.

2. Walkers can choose to be on a completely silent mode. Walkers can also choose to break the silence to greet those passing by. Remember, you are promoters of peace, so you are the first to smile and say Hello.

## The Closing

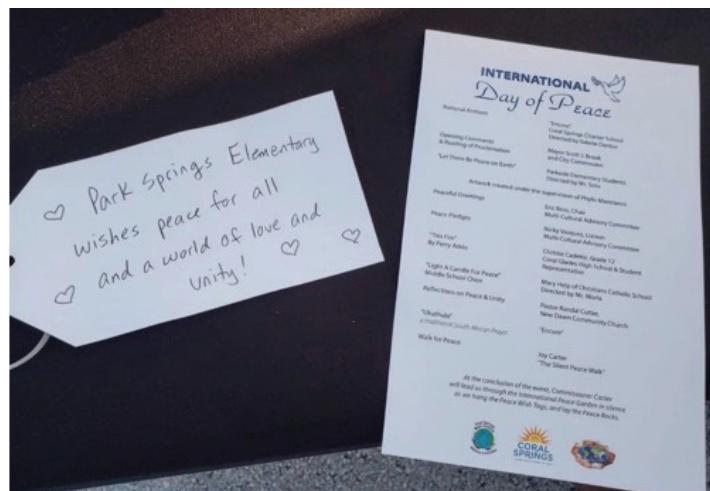
1. Stop walking after 20 minutes -- possibly at the same spot where the Peace Walk began -- remain in silence, and allow time for the Peace Walkers to gather around and settle down. Sound the Peace Bell, recite the Peace Poem

*Peace in our hearts brings peace to our families  
Peace in our families brings peace to our communities  
Peace in our communities brings peace to our nations  
Peace in our nations brings peace to the world  
Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me  
One world, One community, One family, One heart, One love  
One Planet United*

2. Finish by sounding the Peace Bell again for one last time.

3. Invite participants to hug one another or shake hands.

4. Invite the Peace Walkers to briefly share what may be in their minds and hearts.



Source: One Planet United, Coral Springs. Silent Peace Walks take place at the Coral Springs International Peace Garden every first Saturday of the month, at 7:00 AM.

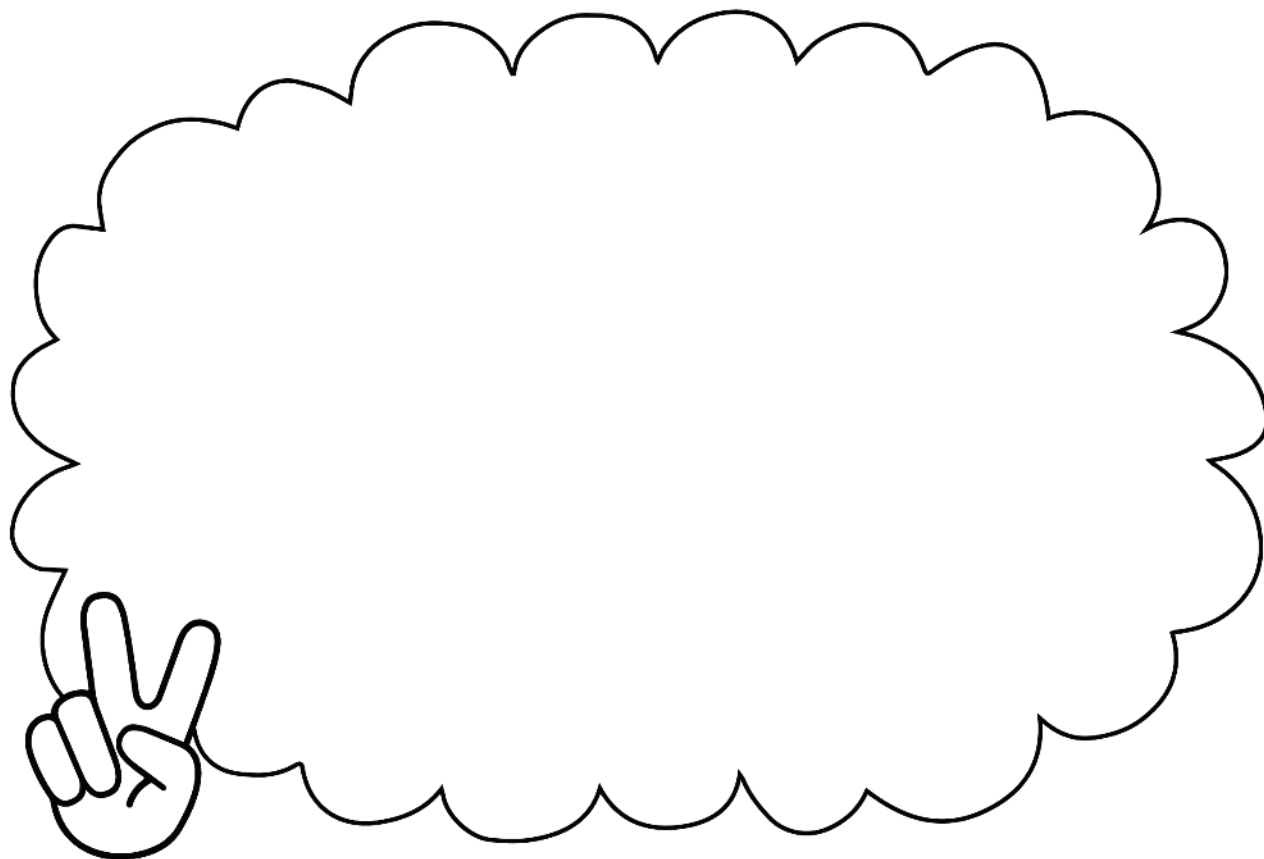
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How can we have

**PEACE**



at school?



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*From Teaching Peace Activity Book*