

International Day of Peace September 21

Overview and Purpose

This lesson is designed to teach children about the International Day of Peace and the right of children highlighted by this UN Day; their right to have protection and freedom from war (CRC Article 38).

Background Information for Teachers

United Nations International Day of Peace
un.org/en/events/peaceday/

Grades

K – 3

Materials

Book entitled *Can You Say Peace?* by Karen Katz

Peace in Different Languages cards (printable copy attached)

Pledge of Peace Hands (printable copy attached) (master copy of an outline of a large hand)

Crayons or pencil crayons

Wool or string

Activity One

- Introduce September 21st as International Day of Peace; a UN day celebrated around the world. This day has special significance in Canada because Canadian Lester B. Pearson played a pivotal role in the development of the UN's peacekeeping forces.
- Ask the students what the word peace means. Explain that the word peace is spoken in many different languages around the world. Ask the students if peace has the same meaning no matter what language it is spoken in.
- Read aloud from the book entitled *Can You Say Peace?* by Karen Katz.
- Discuss the right of every child to have protection and freedom from war (CRC Article 38) in relation to the book.
- Ask the students why all the languages have a word for peace. Remind them that although we speak different languages all over the world, we share the same idea about peace.
- Give each student a peace card. Have the students try to find the other student who has a matching card (this could be done silently).
- After the students have found their match, have them practice their peace word.
- Let each pair take a turn to teach the class the word (have the pair say the word, and then the class can repeat it).

Global Themes

- Conflict and conflict resolution
- Social Justice
- Interdependence

Activity Two

- Ask the students to remember a time when they felt peaceful. What were they doing? How did their body feel? What did they look like? Have a volunteer show what it looks like to feel peaceful. Ask the class what the difference is between feeling peaceful and acting peaceful.
- Brainstorm what the students can do to promote a feeling of peacefulness in their own lives, at home, in the classroom, around the school, in the community or in the world. What kind of peaceful actions can each person do so that others are able to feel peaceful?
- Give each student the Pledge of Peace Hands worksheet. Ask each student to draw an activity inside the hand shape that they pledge to do to promote peace.
- Have the students cut out the hands and attach them to a string to create a Peace Flag banner.

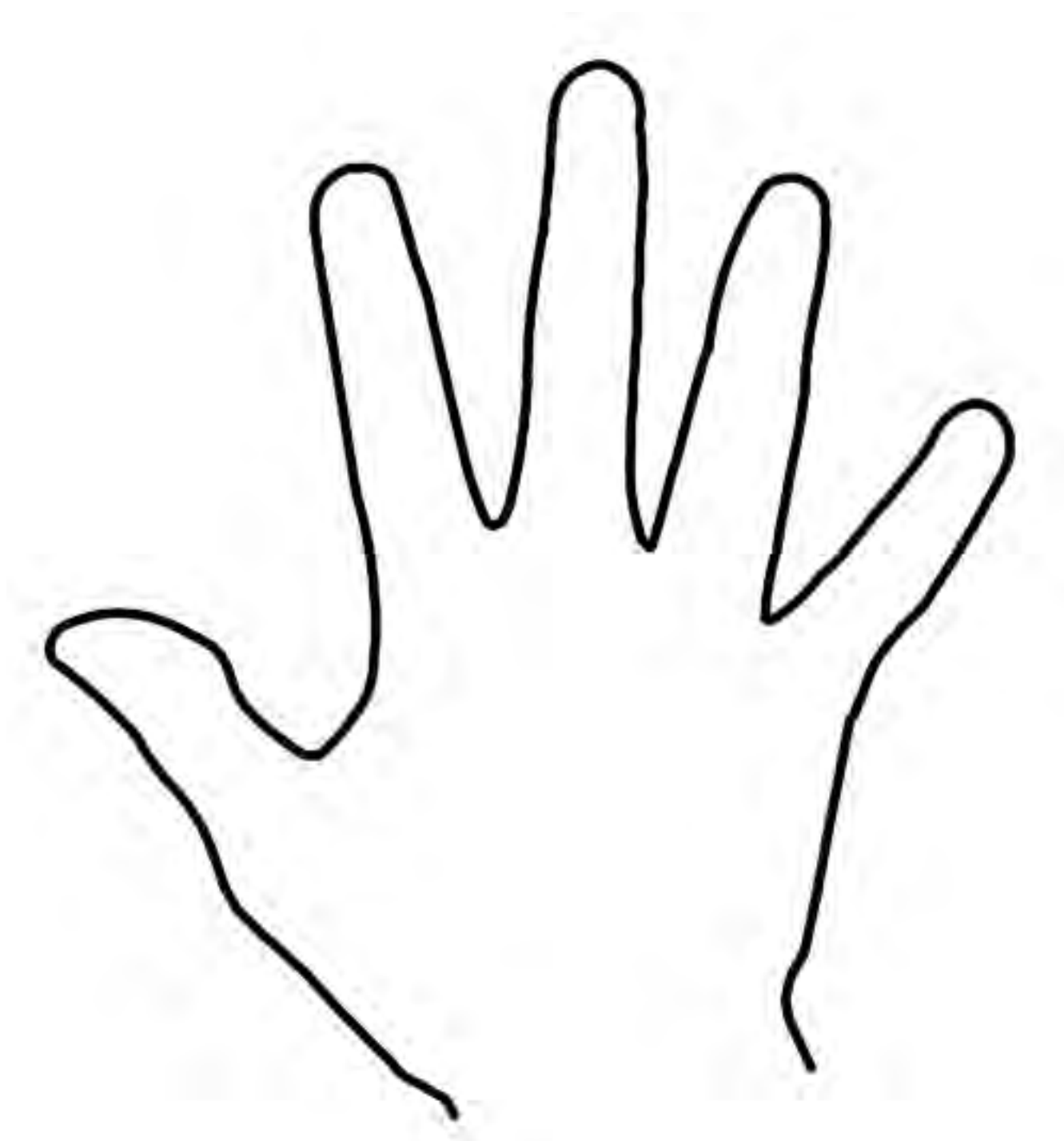
Extension

Have the students complete the statement “Peace is...” This can be done in the form of a story, journal, poem, metaphor, etc. The students can create an illustration to accompany their writing.

Additional Resources

United Nations Peacekeeping
un.org/en/peacekeeping/

Pledge of Peace Hand



Peace in Many Languages

<p>"Peace" in the Hindi language is...</p> <p>shanti</p> <p>(SHAHN-tee)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the English language is...</p> <p>peace</p>	<p>"Peace" in the Japanese language is...</p> <p>平和</p> <p>heiwa (hey-wah)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the Spanish language is...</p> <p>paz</p> <p>(pahs)</p>
<p>"Peace" in the Iranian language is...</p> <p>صلح</p> <p>sohl (sohl)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the Russian language is...</p> <p>М и р</p> <p>mir (meer)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the Chinese (Mandarin) language is...</p> <p>和平</p> <p>he ping (hey ping)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the French language is...</p> <p>paix</p> <p>(pay)</p>
<p>"Peace" in the Ebuli language is...</p> <p>goom-jigi</p> <p>(goom-jee-jee)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the Bolivian language is...</p> <p>mojisa kamana</p> <p>(moh-khesh ka-mah-neesh)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the Vietnamese language is...</p> <p>hoa binh</p> <p>(hwah bean)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the Danish language is...</p> <p>fred</p> <p>(frehd)</p>

Peace in Many Languages

<p>"Peace" in the Arabic language is...</p> <p>salaam (sa-LAHM)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the German language is...</p> <p>frieden (fee-den)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the Greek language is...</p> <p>irini (eh-ree-nee)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the Hungarian language is...</p> <p>beke (BAI-keh)</p>
<p>"Peace" in the Icelandic language is...</p> <p>fridur (fri-er)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the Hebrew language is...</p> <p>shalom (shah-LOHM)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the Italian language is...</p> <p>pace (PAH-ehy)</p>	<p>"Peace" in the Polish language is...</p> <p>pokoj (pah-KOY)</p>
<p>"Peace" in the Tibetan language is...</p> <p>sidi (SHEE-deh)</p>			