

Civili-Tea City-wide Creative Expression Contest

“Peaceful Pathways to Resolve Conflict”

Lesson Plan

How do you envision a peaceful world?

Create art that represents bringing peace to your neighborhood, school, home or the world.

Lesson Objective: *Brainstorm about peace*

- Talk to your students about what peace means to them.
- Explain various symbols used to show peace in America.
- Have students research symbols of peace from various cultures.
- Have students write out what peace means to them and the ways in which peace can help resolve conflicts.
- Have students come up with Synonyms for peace.



Possible Activities:

(Below are examples and ideas to help the students explore their creativity)

1. A Peaceful World
 - **Discussion:** What does a peaceful world look like?
 - **Independent Practice:** Have your children draw a picture of what they think the world will be like if there was no fighting in the world.
2. Symbols of Peace
 - **Discussion:** What are symbols for Peace?
 - Students can look at various symbols of peace from their culture and from other cultures. They can compare and contrast the design of the symbols and the use of color for the symbols.
 - **Independent Practice:**
 - Have your students draw / design **peace signs**.
 - Each line in the peace sign can be a path way leading to the formation of peace.
 - Students can also incorporate synonyms for peace to write on the lines of the peace symbols.
 - The **Dove** as a symbol of peace
 - **Discussion:** Talk about how the dove represents peace.
 - **Independent Practice:** Have students draw and decorate a Dove or doves bringing peace to the world, or to their community.
 - Draw a **heart**
 - Have the inside of the heart drawn into puzzle pieces.
 - Label each puzzle piece of the heart with a peace synonym.
3. One-point perspective landscape painting
 - **Independent Practice:**

- Have students create a landscape painting with various paths that are pathways of solutions leading to a peaceful valley, city or sunset.
 - Each pathway can be labeled as a different solution or way that we can walk to bring about peace.
 - Student can also add people walking on these various paths.
 - The paths can be labeled or they can have signs by the path labeled with a synonym for peace.
4. Read the poem “*Growing in Harmony*” by Xuan Duong
- **Discussion:**
 - Discuss the title. What might it mean?
 - What does community harmony mean to you?
 - Discuss what the poet thinks community harmony is and draw examples from the poem.
 - Discuss how the composer has created meaning in the poem through striking and unusual features in use of language and imagery.
 - **Independent Practice:**
 - Prepare individual or group verbal responses to the poem.
 - Students create their own artwork on the theme of Living in Peaceful Harmony which represents what it means to them.

GROWING IN HARMONY

by Xuan Duong

We, you and I
 may be born at different hours
 on different days
 or in different months
 or even in different years

We, you and I
 may be born to different mothers
 to different fathers
 or into different families
 or even into different communities

We, you and I
 maybe at first
 belong to different ethnicities
 different races or countries
 or even to different continents

But these surface differences
 are no oceans
 that may keep our hands apart
 are no deserts
 that may burn our links

Look at our schools
 with our playgrounds holding our games
 with our teachers kneading our lessons

Look at our neighborhoods
 waiting for our trains and buses

They are not that different

And above all you and I
 together we are learning in this peaceful
 country
 we are belonging to this continent of
 harmony

Let us cheer for our happiness
 let's share our commonness
 and enjoy our togetherness

*We grow and grow
 in the borderless harmony*



DC Public Schools Cornerstone Connections

- Kindergarten: How to be a Good Friend
- Grade 1: American Symbols and Contributions
- Grade 2: The Virtual Exchange: Connecting with Mexico and Canada
- Grade 3: A Right or a Responsibility
- Grade 3: Powerful Characters, Powerful Words
- Grade 3: Powerful Influences
- Grade 4: What is a Hero?
- Grade 5: Civil War and Reconstruction – The Emancipation Proclamation
- Grade 5: Civil Rights Movement
- Grade 6: Turn Up, Turn Out for Your Community
- Grade 6: From the Eyes of the Monster
- Grade 6: What is Courage?
- Grade 7: Real World Warriors
- Grade 8: Talking about the American Dream
- Grade 8: Jim Crow: Stories from the Road
- Grade 8: Messages of Social Justice
- Middle School: Powerful Beyond Measure
- High School: The Role of the Black Artist
- High School: Mobilizing the Masses
- High School: Taking Action in Africa Project

