



A CURRICULUM OF  
HOPE FOR A  
PEACEFUL WORLD

# A Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Newsletter

VOLUME XXXI  
ISSUE 2  
SUMMER 2017

Make the  
shift to  
move from  
fearing fear  
to trusting  
and being  
curious  
about fear...  
bring it into  
the light,  
confront it  
and it will  
become an  
asset...  
Let fear  
motivate  
you.

From the Art of Fear:  
Why Conquering Fear  
Won't Work and  
What to Do Instead

Kristen Ulmer



© Can Stock Photo

## Founder's Message

In 1985 when Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World was founded, it was a visceral response on my part, to counter insecurities and fear which were trickling into the classroom due to world events: the disasters at Three Mile Island and Chernobyl, and the threat of nuclear confrontation. Children were afraid and asking questions, and as educators we did not have the answers. But we did know instinctively that fear needed to be brought out into the open where it could be recognized as a natural condition, discussed openly, faced confidently, accepted, and demystified. Fear had become a fact of life in a shaky world environment.

Now in 2017, here we are again with similar but greatly magnified fears because now we are more interconnected and instantly aware of problems worldwide. All of us, on every continent, are stressed and on edge by a daily bombardment of reports concerning dangerous unstable world leaders threatening each other overtly, as well as covertly, as they engage in political posturing for their own glorification. We know of ongoing smoldering genocides; use of chemical weapons on innocent populations; threatening repeated missile launches; unimaginable turmoil and strife for millions of refugees driven from their homes with consequent resettlement issues thrust upon all of us; AND the ever present completely devastating threat of the use of nuclear weapons! So we are the generation responsible for saving our planet on many fronts. Each is a monumental issue: human rights for food, shelter, clean water, medical care, education and personal safety; environmental sustainability with special attention to climate and global warming control; and social justice for all through realignment of wealth and resources.

Are you ready to take on this poor beleaguered world with masses in misery, pockets of treachery, and political debauchery striving to take over democracy as we have come to know it? That depends on your willingness to do whatever it takes to achieve the longed-for acceptable life every human deserves. To be successful each person must strive for adhering to a moral compass that will keep us centered on our personal values of caring, compassion, and empathy. We must keep focused on the goal for all as we move forward in baby steps helping one person at a time. We must truly and completely believe that our every small effort in any area needing improvement, contributes to the greater good and advances us closer to a more peaceful world.

The ultimate goal must be acceptance, understanding, and unity among all humankind by striving diligently to know each other and to respect each other regardless of any and all differences we may have. Yizhak Frankenthal an Orthodox Israeli whose son was killed by Hamas, wrote "Let us not forget that we have 'human obligations', not just 'human rights'. It is our obligation to accept the other, our obligation to ensure that we are not causing suffering for the other, because the other is me and you. If we can learn to love the stranger.....we will have peace and security".

So let's do what we do best, concentrate on peacemaking, in our hearts, in our families, in our homes, in our neighborhoods, communities, countries, and beyond: anywhere and everywhere and whenever we can. We must be the checks and balances that keep us directed toward peace, especially as some leaders direct us toward war. The future will be shaped by us if we are resolute and willing to do the work. I am, are you? Let's do it together!

Jeanne Morascini, Founder

# Caring for Our Planet

*What we can do to help!*

## Be An Advocate for Bees

- \* Welcome clover and dandelions which are a haven for honeybees. Dandelions and clover are two of the bees' favorite foods – they provide tons of nourishment and pollen for pollinators to make honey and to feed their young.
- \* Stop using commercial pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers on your lawn and garden as they are one of the primary causes of Colony Collapse Disorder. Chemicals can leach into pollen.
- \* Plant native plants that honeybees love, and plant plenty of the same type together. Bee balm, borage, asters, lavender, thyme, mint, rosemary, honey suckle, poppies, sunflowers, marigolds, salvia, butterfly bush, clematis, echinacea, blackberries, raspberries, strawberries, fennel, yellow hyssop, milkweed, and goldenrod are just a few of the bee-friendly flowers.
- \* Buy local honey and support your local bee keepers. Do not buy honey imported from China as it can be contaminated with chemicals.  
<http://www.care2.com/greenliving/7-ways-to-help-honey-bees.html>



## Natural Pest Repellants

### Food Grade Diatomaceous Earth (DE)

This fine powder is effective for ants, fleas, roaches, and other insects that walk or jump. You need to be careful not to inhale the powder. Sprinkle it where ants are seen and vacuum it up after a few days.

### Cornmeal

Put small piles of cornmeal where you see ants. They eat it, take it 'home,' can't digest it, and expire. It may take a week or so, especially if it rains, but it works and you don't have the worry about pets or small children being harmed!

### Sweet Basil

Plant sweet basil next to the doors, or plant in containers. The flies will stay far away.

### Homemade Insect Repellent Recipe

8 oz apple cider vinegar, witch hazel, or vodka

45 drops peppermint essential oil

15 drops lemon or wild orange essential oil

Mix ingredients in a spray bottle and apply liberally. Store in the fridge when not in use. Should last 2-3 months

### Spiders Hate Peppermint

Place a few drops of peppermint essential oil into a spray bottle. Add a squirt of liquid detergent and fill the bottle with water. Spray the mixture on cobwebs, around doors and windows, around the lawn and garden, and on any surfaces where spiders lurk.

<http://www.onegoodthingbyjillee.com/2015/07/31-natural-pest-control-methods.html>

No matter what  
people tell you,  
words and ideas  
can change the world.

Robin Williams

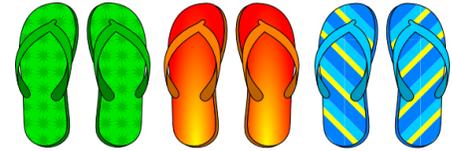
## Toad Abodes

Toads consume 100 or more insects and slugs every day. While you can buy a toad house for your garden, they are easy to make. You can make a garden toad house from a plastic food container or a clay or plastic flowerpot. Plastic containers are free and easy to cut, but clay pots are cooler in the heat of summer. If you are using a clay pot, all you need to do is lay the pot horizontally on the ground and bury the lower half in the soil, creating a toad cave. Or you can set the pot upside down on a circle of rocks and make an entryway by removing a couple of rocks. If you are using a plastic container, cut an entryway into the plastic and place the container upside down onto the soil. Place a rock on top, or if the container is large enough, sink it down into the soil an inch or two to keep it in place. A toad house for the garden needs a shady location, preferably under a shrub or plant with low-hanging leaves. Make sure there is a source of water nearby. In the absence of natural water source, sink a small dish into the soil and keep it filled with water at all times.

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/special/children/garden-toad-house.htm>



# Caring for Our Planet



## Green Toys, Inc.

Green Toys Inc. manufactures eco-friendly children's products in the USA. They use 100% post-consumer recycled plastic, which not only diverts material from landfills, but also reduces their carbon footprint and potentially harmful greenhouse gas emissions. Green Toys' non-toxic food-safe toys and tableware are tested throughout every stage of production, and meet or exceed all relevant safety standards. Green Toys' line — which ranges from kitchen sets to vehicles piloted by little bears — is made completely from recycled milk jugs. To date, the company has recycled almost 50,000, 000 containers. The products are in packaging made from recycled cardboard without any plastic or wire, and is completely recyclable. The toys themselves are also recyclable. <http://www.greentoys.com>

## Uncommon Goods

Uncommon Goods sells bottle openers made from authentic wooden bats swung by Major League players. Each opener has a number, which can be plugged into a database to find out which game the bat was played in.

<http://www.uncommongoods.com/product/baseball-bat-bottle-openers>

## Looptworks

All the materials used to create Looptworks products at one time were headed to the landfill, or worse. They intercept and utilize industry excess materials, transforming them into new, useful products — a process known as upcycling. Their sustainable, eco-friendly products are made in limited editions, and in the process they save materials from landfills or incinerators.

They have previously made items from neoprene wetsuit fabric, cotton jersey, Italian wool, hemp, nylon, vinyl, and recycled polyester—and are now working with scraps of excess shoe leather eliminated because it had natural blemishes. This discarded material can amount to 4500 pounds per day from just one factory. Check out their totes, bags and other products at:

<https://www.looptworks.com>

## Bionic Yarn

This New York City-based company turns used old plastic bottles, some of which were recovered from ocean shorelines, and turns them into yarns and fabrics for clothing, from denim jeans to snowboarding jackets. Bionic Yarn has transformed about 7 million plastic bottles pulled from shorelines. Because plastic bottles are made up of the same polymer as polyester, Bionic Yarn is able to break them down and remake them into "recycled" polyester. The yarn made from this substance can be used in place of virgin polyester, or new polyester made directly from crude oil. <http://bionic.is/>



## Vinylux

Vinylux transforms vintage records into a variety of new designs. Founder Jeff Davis began molding vinyl records over custom-made forms as part of a graduate school thesis project. His designs preserve the look and feel of the old vinyl, including the original record labels, while creating new, useful, elegant objects. Since 2002, hundreds of thousands of old records - past their playing prime - have been collected and transformed into everything from clocks to guitar amps. Vinylux gets its supply of recycled vinyl from record shops, dealers, collectors and in some cases, from people's attics. Every year they recycle and reuse approximately 150,000 records or almost 40,000 pounds of material. Committed to energy efficient manufacturing, the majority of the production process is done in their Philadelphia studio. They do not throw away any part of the record: album covers are converted into sketchbooks and notecards, and leftover material is collected by paper recyclers.

<http://vinylux.net>

## Nike

Recycled materials are being used in 71% of Nike footwear and apparel products, in everything from yarns to basketball shoes. Nike has made a big commitment to the environment, zero waste from contracted footwear manufacturing sent to landfills by the year 2020 and by the end of 2025, achieve 100% usage of renewable energy at Nike-owned and operated facilities. That could include solar, geothermal, or wind energy and will vary by location depending on what's most efficient. Flyknit — now a \$1 billion business for Nike — reduced waste because it features a one-piece upper in the shoe that doesn't require multiple material cuts that are typically used to build a sports shoe. Because the Flyknit almost completely eliminates waste, that technology has reduced Nike's environmental footprint by some 3.5 million pounds of waste. [http://www.nike.com/us/en\\_us/c/sustainability](http://www.nike.com/us/en_us/c/sustainability)

## Resources and Ideas

During the spring of 2017, The Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World committee, along with other committed people, was dedicated to the **Pieces for Peace** project. The committee collaborated with CITYarts from New York City to bring this opportunity to Northeastern Connecticut. Local schools were invited to participate in **Pieces for Peace** using the creative process to build bridges of cultural understanding between American youth and their peers from around the world. Student work joined with artwork from 67 countries to become part of the vast collection of CITYarts.

The **Pieces for Peace** display includes 30 pieces of artwork done by children throughout the world. The pictures are the students' interpretation of "What does peace look like to you?" The art work has been displayed at E.O. Smith High School in Storrs, CT, J. Eugene Smith Library at ECSU, Bentley Memorial Library, Bolton, CT, and ArtSpace Gallery in Windham, CT. It was also shown at the Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford and at the Mansfield Community Center.

We are planning to keep the momentum going with follow up-activities. We want to make a 30-piece **P4P Traveling Exhibition** for the state of CT. It will hang in the Legislative Office Building in Hartford next spring. As suggested by Tsipi, we will call it the **CT Pieces for Peace Traveling Exhibition**, inspired by CITYarts P4P project of New York City. There is also an ongoing discussion with Tsipi and Mayor Eldridge to build a peace wall in Willimantic, CT. We are excited about the possibilities ahead!!



### Pieces for Peace Exhibition in Connecticut

Dear Friends,

We're very happy to share some highlights from the opening event of CITYarts' Pieces for Peace exhibition in Connecticut. This includes some quotes from our amazing collaborator Jeanne Morascini, an 88 year old veteran teacher and ball of energy, who brought our exhibition and workshops to Connecticut schools, churches, and community centers.

"We were so very delighted to have you here with us for a quick overnight stay to participate in our Gala Opening Reception at ArtSpace Windham Gallery in Willimantic on Sunday, May 21, 2017. You were so gracious as you chatted with each person and made them feel welcome and special to have your attention," Jeanne shared. She also told us that one patron who visited the Pieces for Peace exhibition in Bolton, CT said that it "added a peaceful quality to the ambience of the whole building." She even admitted that packing and unpacking the artworks kept her and her team of volunteers very busy, but that with assistance from many people, "it was not only manageable but awe-inspiring to us all."

Jeanne was excited to add the Refugee Mural Project to the CITYarts display. "We have welcomed two Syrian families to our area with warm support for one year from a large committee of interfaith workers. The mural was designed and implemented by a nearby congregation that is involved in that refugee effort. The mural added another dimension to the whole peace concept," she explained. Furthermore, I greatly enjoyed the 24 insightful Pieces for Peace created by E.O. Smith High School students. Jeanne informed me that "the exhibition was displayed at that school for two weeks to motivate the students."

One attendee at the opening event suggested that Pieces for Peace "offers proof that longing for peace is universal," and we agree! Pieces for Peace workshops have taken place in 71 countries to date, and we're working towards reaching all 193 countries under the United Nations. Our hope is to connect youth around the world through the creation of artworks expressing peaceful ideas. If you have contacts in the countries we haven't reached yet, please help us connect with them. We need and appreciate your help!

CITYarts would like to thank Jeanne and everyone else who helped make Pieces for Peace a success in Connecticut and beyond. The wonderful photos from the opening reception were taken by Rebecca Moran. We would also like to thank the Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Pieces for Peace sub-committee which includes Jackie Abbott, Karen Dibala, Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean, Carol Kraus, Sue Moon, Rebecca Moran and Jeanne Morascini. Others who helped with setting-up the Exhibition, packing and unpacking, and transporting it from town to town are Lynne Morascini, Lynda Stein, Sharon Bartlett, and Yves Kraus. Pat O'Connell Buckley, Anita Satriano, and Judy Baxter also helped out. Heather Bunnell, E.O. Smith High School Art Department, and Nancy Bunnell, Artist and leader of the Refugee Mural Project at Storrs Community Church, contributed as well. Both women added artworks to the Pieces for Peace Exhibition.

Happy summer,  
Tsipi Ben-Haim, Executive & Creative Director at CITYarts

Through the creative process, CITYarts empowers youth and connects children locally and around the world to become active participants in transforming communities. [info@cityarts.org](mailto:info@cityarts.org)



Pieces for Piece Exhibition at the Asylum Hill  
Congregational Church in Hartford, CT

## Resources and Ideas

Raise awareness and support for refugees with a Refugee Portrait Project. The mural to the right was created by children and adults from Storrs Community Church under the direction of Nancy Bunnell. It was part of the Pieces for Peace Exhibition at the ArtSpace Windham Gallery.



### Directions for the Refugee Mural Project

Use 3- 30" x 22" cardboard or foam board (the cardboard can be colored or painted with a large brush or roller)

Connect the boards with duck tape so that the poster is 30" x 66" wide

Cut out 3 stencils of heads and a 1" wide eye to be used by the group for tracing

Adult 9" x 6.5", Child 6" x 5.5", Baby 6.5" x 5"

Have pictures of refugees – borrow photos from internet

Have pictures of eyes, noses, mouths – encourage the participants to carefully observe the pictures of refugees and face parts before drawing – they can also look at each other

Instruct the group to choose a sheet of multi-cultural construction paper (can be purchased at Dick Blick)

Choose a head and trace it on the paper with pencil (keep using a pencil until face is totally drawn)

Divide head in half with a ruler or fold paper in half – top-chin – draw Eyes (can have them trace a stencil of an eye and add iris and pupil)

Adult eye will be centered on the center line

Child and baby eye will be below the center line

Divide head (eye to chin) in half again- Nose (nose can be drawn as the letter J, can add sideways U to either side for nostrils)

Divide paper (nose to chin) in half again –Mouth ( make line for center of mouth, and draw top and bottom lip)

Add ears –start at eye and stop at nose

Add eyebrows and lashes

Add hair and cut out head

Have participants trace everything with a Sharpie

Use colored markers for features

Place name on back of head

Have a variety of materials available to complete the face

-lay head on a piece of colored paper or printed paper to trace a shawl and cut out inner face

- use yarn or felt for hair

The facilitator can have each person tape their head on the cardboard. The facilitator should then arrange heads in row from back to front keeping families together– overlapping each row – glue heads with tacky glue after workshop.

Staple 2 – 66" x 2 ½" wood firing strips – one to top and one to bottom of cardboard. Add 2 hooks to top for hanging.

Contact Nancy at [ncbunnellstudio.com](http://ncbunnellstudio.com) or [ncbunnell@gmail.com](mailto:ncbunnell@gmail.com) for more information.

**UNHCR—The UN Refugee Agency** has excellent resources for educators to aid in teaching about refugees, migration, and asylum. <http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/teachers-toolkit.html>

**The Choices Program's Teaching with the News** initiative provides online curriculum materials and lessons to connect the content of the classroom to the headlines in the news. Topics cover a range of foreign policy and international issues. See more at <http://www.choices.edu/resources/current.php#sthash.tttMA8PQ.dpuf>

**Annenberg Learner** also offers activities, lesson plans, and other professional development resources to help you with teaching about the refugee crisis and the related topic of immigration. <https://www.learner.org/resources/refugees/>

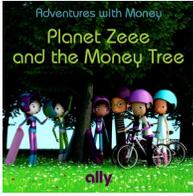
We can't help everyone

but everyone can help.

Ronald Regan



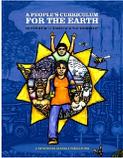
## Resources and Ideas



Ally, a leading provider of digital financial services, has launched a new children's book that uses a fun and futuristic storyline to teach money skills and concepts to kids ages 6-10.

The book, called "**Planet Zee and the Money Tree**," is available for free for download and includes tips and resources to help parents and teachers talk to their kids about money.

The "**Planet Zee and the Money Tree**" digital book is available at [www.allywalletwise.com](http://www.allywalletwise.com) and on Ally's social channels on Facebook and Twitter (@AllyFinancial).



**A People's Curriculum for the Earth Teaching Climate Change and the Environmental Crisis**  
Edited by Bill Bigelow  
and Tim Swinehart

Rethinking Schools 2014  
Paperback: \$24.95

A collection of articles, role plays, simulations, stories, poems, and graphics to help breathe life into teaching about the environmental crisis. The book features some of the best articles from Rethinking Schools magazine alongside classroom-friendly readings on climate change, energy, water, food, and pollution—as well as on people who are working to make things better.

<https://www.rethinkingschools.org/books/title/a-people-s-curriculum-for-the-earth>

From Responsive Classroom:

<https://www.responsiveclassroom.org/store/>

Grades K-6

**Responsive Classroom for Music Art PE and Other Special Areas**  
**Doing Math in Morning Meeting**  
**Doing Science in Morning Meeting**  
**Doing Language Arts in Morning Meeting**

Grades 5—8

**Middle School Motivators!**  
**Refocus and Recharge! 50 Brain Breaks for Middle Schoolers**



**International Day of Peace**  
**September 21, 2017**

The theme for this year's International Day of Peace is "Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All". This poster is available free for download at <http://www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/>

Grades 9—12

**Speak Truth to Power**

**A Toolkit for Action to Create Change in the Classroom and Beyond**

Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights was founded in 1968 to carry on Robert Kennedy's commitment to a more just and peaceful world. Speak Truth to Power (STTP) is a human rights education program that uses real life stories of activists to educate students about human rights. STTP began as a book written by Kerry Kennedy with photos by Eddie Adams, was adapted into a play by Ariel Dorfman, and is now a human rights education curriculum taught to millions of students around the world.

<http://rfkhumanrights.org/what-we-do/speak-truth-power/>

“Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home—so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person; the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerned citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world.”

Eleanor Roosevelt  
The Great Question, 1958

## Opportunities



### International Literacy Association's Annual Conference Literacy Reimagined

*What do you get when you combine imagination, innovation, and an exploration of the ever evolving definition of literacy? Expand what you know about literacy and learn how to bring it to your practice.*

July 15—17, 2017

Orlando, Florida

<http://www.literacyworldwide.org/conference/>

### Caring For Our Common Home The Environment

August 12, 2017

9:00—11:30 a.m.

Our Lady of the Snows Shrine

Belleville, Illinois

To register call:

618-384-6270

or email

[Programs@snows.org](mailto:Programs@snows.org)

### Circle, Song, Ceremony

with

Quanita Roberson, Tenneson Woolf,  
and Barbara McAfee

*A leadership retreat for those who believe it is time to wake up individually and together*

September 15—17, 2017

Carondelet Center

St. Paul, Minnesota

<http://circlesongceremony.weebly.com>

2017

### Holocaust Educators Workshop

October 30, 2017

8:30 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic  
Studies

University of Hartford

Free to all teachers!

email Susan Gottlieb

[sgottlieb@hartford.edu](mailto:sgottlieb@hartford.edu)

The **Global Education Conference Network** is a collaborative, inclusive, world-wide community initiative involving students, educators, and organizations at all levels. Activities are designed to significantly increase opportunities for connecting classrooms while supporting cultural awareness and recognition of diversity and educational access for all. The next online conference will take place November 13-16, 2017. The event is free and takes place entirely online. You can access Keynote presentations of the 2016 Global Education Conference on YouTube.

<http://www.globaleducationconference.com/>

Summer is a great time to participate in a **Responsive Classroom** workshop:

<http://www.responsiveclassroom.org/workshops-institutes>

## Peacemakers At Work



Congratulations to **Sarah Harrison**, a sophomore at Bunnell High School in Stratford, CT who was named the national winner of Doodle 4 Google 2017 competition. Sara's drawing for the prompt "What I see for the future" focused on promoting equality and tolerance. She drew kids of various skin colors lined up with arms over each others' shoulders, with six of the eight wearing T-shirts that spell Google, with religious and other symbols substituted for letters. You can see Sarah's work at <https://www.google.com/doodles/doodle-4-google-2017-us-winner>.

Kudos to **David Young** who founded a volunteer-run organization, Capstone Community Gardens, in the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans to support low income city residents who are still impacted by the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Gardens have been created in more than 30 abandoned lots and grow a variety of vegetables that are accessible to the community for free. In addition, the gardens are homes for honeybees, which have been rescued from the dilapidated buildings and homes using a low suction vacuum and relocated to hives in the gardens. Capstone also uses a herd of goats to eat the weeds in unkempt local lots. Food bags, which include eggs supplied from Capstone chicken coops, are delivered to people in need. Young states, "If we all did our part, if we all did what we could for our community, to help one another, to help the environment as much as we could, could you imagine how peaceful — how wonderful life would be?" <https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/man-creates-oasis-unwanted-bees-people-citys-poorest-district/>.

**This I Believe**

I can be a vessel of peace.

I am a Peacemaker:

when I have a positive attitude and am grateful for what I have,  
 when I share myself, my time, my bounty, my hope, and my love,  
 when I compliment someone, hold a hand, listen to a concern,  
 or shower someone with my joyous spirit,  
 when I am concerned for those less fortunate and am generous to them,  
 when I understand that we are all one family,  
 and when one of us is diminished, we are all diminished.

I realize my enormous potential:

even my one small voice is essential to improving life for all of mankind.

Yes! I am a Peacemaker.

Jeanne Morascini, 2004

If you would like to receive a color PDF version by email, please contact

Linda Shea, Subscription Manager [hshea@snet.net](mailto:hshea@snet.net)

Curriculum of Hope is a Standing Committee of Alpha Kappa State Connecticut.  
 Our intent is to promulgate resources and information, not to endorse products.

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