

BE THE CHANGE

<p>Grade: Kindergarten—Grade 2</p> <p>Curriculum Area: Social Studies: Demonstrate a Positive Attitude Towards Themselves and Others, Relationships, Rules and Responsibilities, Features of Communities Around the World</p>		<p>Topic: Rehabilitation and Care, Cared For, Education and Play</p> <p>Title: Cultivating Peace: Accepting and Celebrating Difference</p>
<p>U.N. Rights of the Child Article(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children who come into a country as refugees should have the same rights as children born in that country. (Article 22) • Children in war zones should receive special protection. (Article 38) • Governments should respect children's right to a name, a nationality and family ties. (Article 8) • All children have a right to relax and play, and to join in a wide range of activities. (Article 31) 	<p>Teaching Strategies</p>	
<p>Information Studies: Overall Expectations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analyze and evaluate the nature and importance of information in personal life and society • transfer information skills and knowledge to enrich personal life and contribute to society 	<p>Session 1</p> <p>Read the book <i>Playing War</i>. Discuss the student's reactions. Ask: how do you think Sameer felt when the group decided to play war? what do you think the group thought and felt when Sameer shared his story? why did Luke decide not to play war after all? Discuss the right of a child to live in peace and safety, referring to <i>For Every Child</i>. Ask: how can our day to day choices be peaceful and respectful ones, like Luke's decision to not play war? How can our choices respect the rights of every child and person? Refer to sections of <i>Peace Begins With You</i>.</p> <p>Session 2</p> <p>Read <i>Whoever You Are</i>. What is the message of the book? Discuss how although we may be different, we still have the same needs and same rights (as described in <i>For Every Child</i>). Read <i>It's Okay to Be Different</i>. What is the message of the book? Discuss how one way to make peaceful choices is to accept and celebrate differences, to treat others with equal respect, regardless of difference. As a class brainstorm what it would be like if everything in the world was the same. What would it be like to live in this world? Leave the students with a thinking question: ? what other differences do I see around me? Do I accept them as okay? (an optional resource, illustrating similarities and differences between children around the world (recommended for Kindergarten) is <i>My World, Your World</i>)</p> <p>Session 3</p> <p>Celebrate the diversity in your classroom: have each child trace and decorate their hand with pictures / designs that illustrate how they are uniquely different, how they are just who they are. Post the hands so that they interlock around the classroom, school, or a bulletin board.</p>	
<p>For specific grade-level expectations, refer to <i>Information Studies: Kindergarten to Grade 12</i> (OSLA 1999).</p>		
<p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Playing War</i> • <i>For Every Child</i> • <i>Peace Begins With You</i> • <i>Whoever You Are</i> • <i>It's Okay to Be Different</i> • <i>My World, Your World</i> (optional) (recommended for kindergarten) 		
<p>BE THE CHANGE... Suggestions for Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat others around you with respect. Brainstorm as a class some everyday peaceful and respectful actions. Keep this list on the wall as a reminder. Choose one (or three!) actions you can take today. • Create a class book based on the format of <i>It's Okay to Be Different</i>. Share your book with a friend, family member, or another class • Create a "Celebrate Diversity" wall in your classroom or home. Write and / or illustrate ways people are different (a positive thing!) and put them on the wall. 		