



A CURRICULUM OF  
HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL  
WORLD

VOLUME XXXI  
ISSUE 1  
WINTER 2017

# A Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Newsletter

## Founder's Message

2017 has started with humankind tiptoeing forward apprehensively, trying to extend the usual New Year feelings of optimism and hope while knowing the reality that this new year will challenge us all. We are facing the uncertainties brought about by significant changes around the world. Changes that have been precipitated in several countries by the individual votes of citizens dissatisfied with the policies and actions of their governing officials and no faith in existing government institutions.

"Once upon a time," as many fairy tales are started, national changes would be contained within the borders of each country and absorbed by whatever countermeasures were needed to maintain national stability. But in 2017, our lives are not based in fairy tales. We are faced with the certainty of gained true scientific knowledge that the survival and flourishing of our planet home, Earth, with its abundant but limited life sustaining resources, is dependent upon every inhabitant's environmental actions. True historical knowledge teaches us that governing political leaders' economic decisions have often knowingly resulted in adverse consequences for the general masses while benefitting the elite. And sadly, today's trends of corruption lead to the same unfair, unjust decisions. Of the utmost importance are political leaders' actions toward nuclear policies with possible dire consequences for all on Earth.

So 2017 is not going to be a year of "business as usual" for any thinking caring person: it's going to be a year of total commitment for each of us. This is the task ahead: first we must be aware and ever mindful of what our political leaders everywhere are espousing, putting forth for approval and even acting on unilaterally. Our political views may be divided, that is not the important issue. Second, we must be alert and focused on learning the true facts of what is happening AND the ramifications that will reverberate locally, nationally and internationally. Then we must be activists for what we believe to be the right thing to do to protect the human rights of all. The most frightening and disconcerting actions are non-actions: we learn of policies boldly put forth that are harmful to any faction of our citizenry; we wait for the outrage to take shape; it is spoken of briefly, then no one makes the commitment to take on and reveal the subterfuge! In each country where the populace is represented by elected officials, the populace, that means us, must call, write, email, tweet, etc. their officials and demand action. Elected officials, afraid of not being re-elected, will respond to constituent pressure. This is a universal known condition: voters have more power than lobbyists if they organize, pressure and threaten! The sad statement of fact is that we do not make the necessary commitment to be effective. Commitment requires making time to do something when there is no time in our busy lives. Coming through time after time, year after year, believing in our individual power to change the results for all. Commitment is the stuff character is made of!

Today we are living what will become tomorrow's history. We, each one of us, are in control of how it will be written. Please believe in your individual power and believe that collectively we can create what will be our future, the future of all mankind. It evolves one step at a time. Remember the three A tasks: Be ALERT and mindful, be AWARE of the truth, and be an ACTIVIST, pressuring your representatives and political leaders to do the right thing. If you are reading this, YOU are a PEACEMAKER. Please believe it and join us in controlling how the history of our time will be written. Keep focused on our name "Hope for a Peaceful World." Where there is hope there is always the possibility for betterment. Be one of the hundreds of millions working everywhere with hope in their hearts as a positive moral compass. May 2017 and beyond bring you feelings of accomplishment as together we support, nurture, and provide comfort and security to everyone we meet: it's what peacemakers do.

Thank you for your continued interest in our work and for your comments and encouragement.

Jeanne Morascini, Founder



The best  
way to  
predict  
the  
future  
is to  
create  
it.

Abraham  
Lincoln



## Be aware, alert and active...

### Keep helpful, hopeful and positive

Believe us when we tell you of the hundreds of millions of people worldwide who are peacemaking every day in their own ways. Through the worldwide web we can be connected as if we are close neighbors. From those in the largest cities and the smallest villages, with those in our surrounding towns as well as faraway hamlets, we can share ideas and resources and work together to help make life better for all. Here are links to a few sites and publications where you will receive good news and factual information from around the globe.

#### Happy News

Happy News believes that virtue, goodwill and heroism are hot news. They share up-to-the-minute news, geared to lift spirits and inspire lives.

<https://www.happynews.com/>

#### TED

TED is a nonprofit global community, welcoming people from every discipline and culture who seek a deeper understanding of the world. They believe in the power of ideas to change attitudes, lives and, ultimately, the world.

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

#### Good News Network

Since 1997, people have turned to the Good News Network® as an antidote to the barrage of negativity experienced in the mainstream media.

<http://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/>

#### South Africa Good News

The Good News is a news website that highlights the positive developments in South Africa and has good news for everyone.

<http://www.sagoodnews.co.za/>

#### Good News Agency

Published in English, Italian and Portuguese, this newsletter carries positive and constructive news from all over the world relating to voluntary work, the work of the United Nations, non governmental organizations and institutions engaged in improving the quality of life.

<http://www.goodnewsagency.org/en/home.php?mt=en>

#### Culture of Peace

The culture of peace and non-violence is a commitment to peace-building, mediation, conflict prevention and resolution, peace education, education for non-violence, tolerance, acceptance, mutual respect, intercultural and interfaith dialogue and reconciliation.

<http://en.unesco.org/cultureofpeace/>

#### Daily Good

DailyGood promotes positive and uplifting news around the world to more than 100,000 subscribers through daily and weekly newsletters. Readers receive a news story, an inspiring quote, and a suggested action that each person can take to make a difference in their own lives and the world around them.

<http://www.dailygood.org/>

#### sunny skyz

<http://www.sunnyskyz.com/good-news>

I will never understand all the good  
that a simple smile can accomplish.

Mother Teresa



# Caring For Our Planet



## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repurpose!

Repurposing, also known as upcycling, is a great way to be creative and keep waste out of landfills. Here are just a few of the simpler ideas you can find on internet—perfect projects for a cold winter day. The website **Upcycle That** has some incredible ideas and stories about people around the world who are giving items that are no longer being used a second life and a new purpose. <http://www.upcyclethat.com/>

### Make An Earring Tree

All you need is a picture frame with the glass broken out of it. String picture wire across the area where the glass used to be. You can make as many rows as you want and space the rows to accommodate different sizes of earrings.



From Kevin and Amanda

<http://www.kevinandamanda.com/tutorial-shabby-chic-dangly-earring-display/>

### Turn Old Keys into Hooks

Bend old keys and turn them into wall hooks.

From Popular Mechanics

<http://www.popularmechanics.com/home/how-to-plans/how-to/g2343/smart-ways-to-reuse-old-junk/?slide=4>



### Old Sweaters = Infinity Scarf

All you need is a couple of old sweaters, a hot glue gun, some painter's tape, scissors that will cut fabric, and a piece of card stock. Use the cardstock to create a size template, cut the rectangles out of flat pieces of sweater, and glue them together, creating a scarf. You then glue the two ends together.



<http://www.brit.co/sweater-circle-scarf/>

### T Shirt into Tote Bag

You don't even have to sew to turn an old t-shirt into a reusable, washable grocery bag. You can put a piece of cardboard in the bottom to make it sturdier. <http://www.momypotamus.com/no-sew-t-shirt-tote-bag-tutorial/>



Or try this idea for a bag with fringe!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gj-B\\_-qiLj8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gj-B_-qiLj8)

## And just for teachers....



Spray paint old cookie sheets with bright colors and use them for magnetic letters and numbers.

<http://blog.maketaketeach.com/how-to-paint-a-cookie-sheet/>



Repurpose laundry detergent tops or even frosting containers into pencil holders adhered to desks with Velcro.

Frosting containers also make great storage for bulletin board borders!



Use paint stirrers and ABC stickers for classroom libraries.



Glue pompoms onto dry erase markers to make built-in erasers.



Use Home Depot aprons for chair pockets.



Turn binders into clipboards.



## Human Trafficking

In Iceland, 85 anonymous women from all walks of life joined forces, in what came to be called “Operation Big Sister.” The sisters created an innovative, grass roots campaign to end human trafficking. As a result of their effort, the Icelandic government assigned 25 million Kronur to build a special police task force to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of prostitution and human trafficking. The Reykjavik Police closed down 13 brothels posing as champagne clubs. The “Snow Club,” a multi-million dollar international child and adult pornography conference to be held in Iceland, was blocked at the border.

According to the UN Office of Drugs and Crime, human trafficking is growing faster than the arms trade and drug trade, and is expected to surpass the drug trade as the number one criminal enterprise worldwide. It is estimated that there are 31 million trafficked slaves in the world, mostly women and children.

The Fryera Foundation is collaborating with the Big Sisters to tell their story in a feel-good feature film about one of the world’s worst feel-bad subjects. The film, a companion documentary, and an educational curriculum will be produced to help stop human trafficking worldwide.

<https://www.crowdrise.com/operationbigsister>

## What’s Going On in Mexico Related to Refugees

According to what has been said, the new U.S. President Mr. Trump will be sending back to Mexico thousands of immigrants and there is no way to solve this problem, mentioned Ms. SANA GÜEZMES GARCÍA, United Nations Representative in Mexico.

Besides what she mentioned there are some other problems; one is there are no funds to establish more shelters and there are hundreds of Haitians and Africans in Tijuana waiting to cross the border and Tijuana does not have more space for them. The other problem is that migrant women are traveling by themselves as heads of the family looking for better economic conditions (UN Women in Mexico)

Next year Mexico will present its 3rd report as a country to the UN Committee with reference to laborers and their families and also will report before the Committee of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) who supervises the compliance of this.

The State of Jalisco, Guadalajara City (where I live), has established a shelter for migrants who are on their way to the U.S. and they are just waiting for the train that goes to the border (Nogales). This shelter offers to a maximum of 80 people, food, rest, clean clothes, a telephone call to their families, medical and legal advice. They may stay three or four days while some others may stay for months according to their law procedures. In this shelter there are about 140 volunteers who are giving special attention to the migrants all through the year.

## Water

The “Hippo Water Roller Project” was established in 1994 in response to needs of rural women and children across Africa.

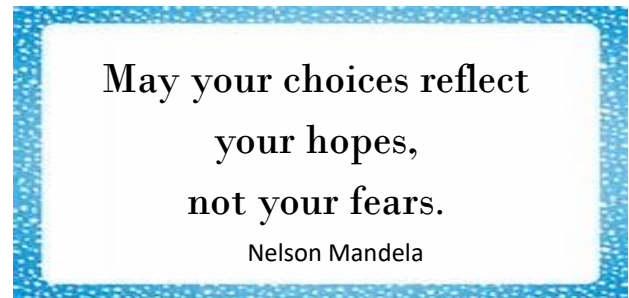


The impact of this project has been felt in more than 20 countries, with a total distribution of 50,000 Hippo Water Rollers, has reached close to half a million people.

<https://www.hipporoller.org>

## Oceans

Bryan Slat founded The Ocean Cleanup at the age of 17. Today he is working on the first feasible method to clean up the ocean garbage patches. Based on the idea that coastlines catch plastics, the company is developing floating barriers attached to the sea bed that would act as a trap for ocean plastic. [www.theoceancleanup.com](http://www.theoceancleanup.com)



May your choices reflect  
your hopes,  
not your fears.

Nelson Mandela

Hilda Díaz Y Borbolla  
Guadalajara México

*Maria Katharina Heimbach wrote to us regarding an interesting program for refugees .*

## **Closlieu - Paint and Play - An Integration Project of Delta Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Germany**

“Closlieu” (from the French "clos", meaning enclosed or enclosure, and "lieu", place).

Arno Stern was born in Kassel/Germany in the summer of 1942. At the age of nine he was forced to leave Germany together with his parents. The persecution and murder of Jews under the Nazis gave the family no other alternative but to flee, first to France. For ten years the family faced the risk of detection. The family was then held at a detention camp in Switzerland for three further years. In 1946, at the age of 22, robbed of his childhood and early youth, Arno Stern was assigned to a home for war orphans in Paris. His job was to look after the children. He let them paint.

Aware of the special nature of his assignment, Arno Stern went about creating the conditions necessary for the children to be able to paint. In due course he created the so-called “palette table,” offering an array of special Gouache paints and brushes and a “protective ambience,” first in 1949 in his living-room, and then around 1950 in a studio in St. Germain des Pres. This was the room where the children, with the help of paint and brush, were able to give free and playful expression to their inner needs. He created a space – the “Closlieu,” a place to paint, where there was no criticism, no evaluation, no grading. What’s more, the pictures stayed in the room and were kept in folders. The aim here is not the picture itself but feeling good within the secureness of the room. After 60 years of experience with the Closlieu and a wide range of fieldwork with nomads in Africa, Peru, Mexico, Niger, Afghanistan, Guatemala, Ethiopia, New Guinea, Arno Stern refers to “Formulation,” a universal capacity that activates people’s ability to play and allows them to find a form of expression emanating from organic memory. This is where painting/playing children, young people and adults can enjoy moments of tranquility by expressing themselves on paper. Here, they are at one with themselves. In recent years research in neurobiology and embryology has drawn on the results of Arno Stern’s work. There are over 500,000 filed samples.

The initiative to develop an integration concept based on Arno Stern’s Closlieu has evolved as a result of the growing number of refugees coming to Europe. The idea is that refugees together with non-refugees, primarily women and children, discover anew within the sheltered ambience of the Closlieu their ability to play, without evaluation or criticism, and to find expression for their inner needs by drawing on organic memory. “A stroke of the brush, a chance moment to express innermost needs enables someone to find his true self again.” (Arno Stern). Being together helps bring down language barriers and offers the opportunity not only to overcome traumata but also to regain dignity and identity. A “sponsorship contract” between refugee and non-refugee women/children guarantees that a part of the annual costs are covered, and it caters to mutual responsibility. The “sponsorship contract” opens up opportunities for other activities offered to refugees, such as learning to deal with the new language. The paint-play concept not only helps deal with traumata and fears, it also bolsters self-esteem. And this all provides a long-term motivation to learn the German language. A regular group structure offers orientation and a sense of security. This again supports the notion of helping people to help themselves within the family and within society. Other forms of help involve medical and therapeutic care, filling in forms, leisure activities, etc. Most of the refugees are male. This integration model is intended to give refugee women and children an opportunity to integrate and partake of education.

Committing to attending the Closlieu at least once a week for one year creates an opportunity for the paint/play concept in the Closlieu to make an impact. According to Arno Stern people need a specific length of time to feel the benefits of this form of painting. One year creates the opportunity of getting to know each other. Voluntary interpreters, therapists and doctors are there to support the project.

The Closlieu has been established in association with the Oldenburg School of Art, an officially supported facility. The Oldenburg School of Art provides room and overhead costs. Delta Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Deutschland is responsible for providing equipment and materials, for personnel (voluntary work of DKG members) and transportation of refugee participants. Helga Reinders, retired art teacher and member of Delta Chapter, attended an intensive, educational two-week course in Paris with Arno Stern. Helga is the manager and leader of the project.



# Be An Agent for Peace in 2017 for Gun Violence Prevention By Becoming A Sandy Hook Promise Leader In Your School and Community

Work for peace in our world must include work for gun violence prevention. With homicides, accidents, and suicides killing at least 1 child in the U.S. every other day in the first 6 months of 2016 and 33,000 Americans a year, as well as countless people world-wide, we must be vigilant and relentless in preventing further gun related tragedies.

In the United States, Connecticut is one of the leading states in gun violence prevention and has the fourth lowest rate of gun deaths. The massacre of 20 first graders and 6 staff at Sandy Hook Elementary School, in Newtown, Connecticut in 2012 was impetus toward common sense legislation being enacted. Senator Chris Murphy from Connecticut has been an advocate and leader in this necessary work for smart gun laws that prevent unnecessary deaths.

The greatest hope for gun violence prevention is educating youth beginning with preschool. Providing students with conflict resolution skills, developing a sense of self-worth and an understanding of others, can potentially reduce gun violence.

SANDY HOOK PROMISE offers a no-cost downloadable violence prevention program that is easy to implement, and in the upper grades is student-led. START WITH HELLO, a program for 8—18 year olds, promotes social inclusion and community connectedness. SAY SOMETHING, a program for 9 year olds to adults, teaches students to look for warning signs and threats, especially in social media, from an individual who may be a threat to themselves or others, and to say something to a trusted adult. There are 3 simple components to each program. Anyone can become a Promise Leader and take the message to family, educators, houses of worship, YMCAs, Scouts, and camps.

Join over 2,000 people who have been trained and you will receive ongoing support, turnkey instruction and tools to take actions in your community, be invited to join our online Promise Leaders discussion group, receive quarterly newsletters packed with tips and ideas, and receive invitations to participate in events and trainings. SANDY HOOK PROMISE is sponsoring a week designated "Start With Hello," February 6 -10, 2017. Registration for your community/school is free and stickers and complete digital resource guides, with activities and events to ensure sustainability and integration into the school culture, will be available.

Investigate this opportunity and a chance to make a difference in gun violence in 2017 and beyond at [http://www.sandyhookpromise.org/promise\\_leaders](http://www.sandyhookpromise.org/promise_leaders) and <https://www.facebook.com/SandyHookPromise/>. You can also watch KNOW THE SIGNS on YouTube.

Commit to the promise: "I promise to do all I can to protect children from gun violence by encouraging and supporting solutions that create safer, healthier homes, schools, communities."

Karen Dibala,( KDibala@gmail.com)  
Member-DKG, Theta Chapter, Alpha Kappa State, CT  
Planning Team "Step-Up Step-Out to Prevent the Culture of Violence"  
Asylum Hill Congregational Church, Hartford, CT

**"Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an Ocean."**

~ Ryunosuke Satoro ~



## Resources

### *Elementary School*

#### **The Smallest Girl in the Smallest Grade**

Justin Roberts, Author  
Christian Robinson, Illustrator  
2014  
Scholastic, Inc.

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

A read-aloud with a great message on how one child can begin a chain of change.

#### **Perfect Pairs**

#### **Using Fiction & Nonfiction Picture Books to Teach Life Science in Grades 3-5**

Melissa Stewart & Nancy Chesley  
2016  
Stenhouse Publishers

[www.stenhouse.com](http://www.stenhouse.com)

Next Generation Science Standards partnered with ELA Common Core lessons designed to help children understand life science concepts in a way that is literacy-based and highly engaging.

#### **Dream Walkers**

#### **Mentor Texts That Celebrate Latino Culture**

Ruth Culham  
Foreword by  
Pam Muñoz Ryan  
2016  
Stenhouse Publishers  
[www.stenhouse.com](http://www.stenhouse.com)

A wide-variety of ideas to teach the six traits of writing using high quality, culturally diverse children's books. Eleven original essays by the authors of some of the books are included.

#### **Each Kindness**

Jacqueline Woodson, Author  
E.B. Lewis, Illustrator  
2012

Nancy Paulsen Books

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

Another powerful story about bullying and kindness, by the author of **The Other Side** and **Locomotion**.

#### **Discovering My Identity**

A lesson from **Teaching Tolerance** in which students will describe aspects of their identities such as race, gender, class, age, ability, religion and more. They will watch two video clips featuring Marley Dias, an eleven-year-old girl who started the #1000BlackGirlBooks campaign, a book drive with the goal of collecting 1,000 books featuring African-American girls. After learning about the campaign, students will review illustrated books in their classroom and school library and analyze whether the characters in the books reflect their own identities or the identities of their families and friends. Finally, students will write a book review on one of the books and examine how the book's characters are similar to or different from them.  
<http://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources>



### *Middle School/High School*

#### **Progressive City Planners**

In this lesson from **Teaching Tolerance** students create their own imaginary cities, deciding where to place amenities such as parks and libraries, as well as drawbacks such as environmental hazards. Then they will compare their cities to the real world – where resources and hazards often aren't distributed fairly.

<http://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources>

#### **The New Mad Men**

"The New Mad Men" explores how changing demographics in the United States have changed the face of advertising. In particular, the focus is on the purchasing power of the 54 million Latino people currently living in the United States. The episode visits the headquarters of LatinWorks, an advertising agency in Austin, Texas, with a specialty in multicultural advertising. <http://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources>

#### **An Olympic Dream: The Story of Samia Usuf Omar**

Reinhard Kleist  
2016  
SelfMadeHero  
[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

The compelling story of a female Somalian athlete determined to flee to Europe for better opportunities for training, but she must rely on human traffickers to get her there. Her journey is rough and dangerous, and there is no happy ending. It emphasizes the need for immigration reform and personalizes the plight of refugees.

#### **Dramathemes, Fourth Edition**

2014  
Larry Swartz  
Stenhouse Publishers  
[www.stenhouse.com](http://www.stenhouse.com)

#### **Caring Hearts & Critical Minds**

Steven Wolk  
2013  
Stenhouse Publishers  
[www.stenhouse.com](http://www.stenhouse.com)

This book shows teachers how to integrate inquiry learning with contemporary literature in order to teach social responsibility across the curriculum. Five full units are included as is a guide to designing inquiry-based literature units on topics that students will care about. It includes recommended resources. A free companion website is offered.

Simple, engaging strategies for exploring literacy in new and innovative ways show how to weave picture books, novels, poetry, scripts, photographs, and other interactive strategies into effective literacy instruction.



## Two Wolves

One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, “My son, the battle is between two wolves inside us all. One is evil—it is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.

The other is good— it is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy generosity, truth, compassion and faith.”

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather

“Which wolf wins?”

The old Cherokee simply replied,

“The one you feed.”

A Cherokee Story

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)

Our newsletter can be found online at: [HTTP://dkgct.weebly.com](http://dkgct.weebly.com)

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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# A Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Newsletter

“Let your  
words be seeds  
of life and  
healing,  
instead of  
bullets of hurt  
and  
destruction.”

[http://parenting  
thetruth.com/  
parenting-2/](http://parentingthetruth.com/parenting-2/)

## Editor's Message

I've been thinking a great deal about words lately and maybe you have been too. There seems to be a preponderance of disrespectful, hurtful, callous, unfounded, and damaging words infiltrating our lives. Perhaps it is because every word can be shared with the world in an instant, we are hearing and reading many more words than we ever have before. Social media, tweeting, blogging, news reporting, and even texting make words immediately available, with no take-backs. It seems like it is becoming normal to speak without thinking, without a filter. Are we experiencing a downward shift in mankind's moral compass? I don't know about you but it makes me feel uncomfortable, and often appalled.

The Founder of Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World, Jeanne Morascini, has reminded us in her messages many times, that when our world seem to be out of control we need to focus ourselves on what is in our control. We each control our own words, our own listening, and the thoughts and ideals within our own hearts.

We need to make a conscious effort to use our words for something good every day. Author Gary Chapman, in his book, *Love as a Way of Life*, states that words are either bullets or seeds. Words that are bullets condemn, demean, and tear down. Words that are seeds support, love, and build up. Think of all the good we can do with our words. We can express gratitude; we can say thank you. We can show appreciation and bestow compliments. We can inspire and encourage. Our words can make someone's heart a little happier.

We need to be careful not lose our ability to listen. We do not want to become complacent, as complacency will not lead to change. Within our own relationships we must practice active listening, and work to understand what someone's words are saying, not just hear them.

We need to accept our humanity. Being human means we make mistakes. Our own personal filters come off; we say something that we wish we hadn't said. When this happens we need to say I'm sorry, and we need to forgive others when it happens to them. When someone's thinking comes out into the open, recognize it as an opportunity for dialogue to understand your diversity and to value your differences.

We need to nurture our children. We must teach children to use their words to express empathy and caring, to be kind, to use accountable talk when disagreeing, and to be tactful and respectful. As adults we need to be models, and our words must motivate children and make them feel safe.

Our words are our human power. Use words for seeds to effect change in these bewildering and confusing times. Focus on using words with a mindfulness that reflects forethought and kindness. Let the words that connect us be the fuel to spark the goodness inherent in all of us.

Janice McKusick  
Editor



## Ideas

### The Power of Positive Posting

Help students combat cyberbullying with **Posting Positive**. Posting Positive is posting a positive comment on social media, a photo of an act of kindness, or a video of someone helping. "It's a movement to stand up, share and feel the good in all of us instead of using digital space to complain, criticize, gossip or even make an insensitive comment". Challenge children to take a moment to celebrate someone in their life, creating a new normal on social media.

<http://postingpositive.org/>  
<http://yllub.org/>

### Accountable Talk

Even young children can be taught to use accountable talk, which is a way to talk to and with each other politely and respectfully. When students use accountable talk they listen to each other and respond with respectful statements of agreement or disagreement. Go to this video to see accountable talk in action:

<https://www.teachingchannel.org/videos/speaking-respectfully-nea>.

More information can also be found at:

<http://www.theteachertoolkit.com/index.php/tool/accountable-discussions>  
[http://ifl.pitt.edu/index.php/educator\\_resources/accountable\\_talk/podcasts/2](http://ifl.pitt.edu/index.php/educator_resources/accountable_talk/podcasts/2)

### 35 Activities Students Can Do To Learn Respect

Dr. Michele Borba, educational consultant, parenting expert, author, and international speaker shares 35 activities students can do to learn what respect and respectful actions look and sound like, helping them to incorporate these behaviors in their daily lives. There is one (and a few more) for each day of the month. <http://www.micheleborba.com/Pages/BMI05.htm>

### Middle School Kindness Challenge

#### Fostering Kindness in America's Middle Schools

A project of **Stand for Children**, the goal of the **Middle School Kindness Challenge** is to make sure all children feel safe and accepted at school. Through a series of classroom activities and schoolwide events, students practice kind behaviors, such as the acceptance of differences and active listening. Teachers and administrators foster and celebrate kindness. During the Challenge, teachers and school staff implement one of three research-based, themed pathways with students: Strengthening Peer Relationships, Developing Positive Mindsets, or Fostering Empathy. "The research and evidence are conclusive: Teaching, fostering, and celebrating kindness in schools not only improves students' sense of well-being, but also their success in school and life." Visit the site and find out more about how your school can join the 211 schools nationwide who are participating.



“Watch your thoughts, for they become words.  
 Watch your words, for they become actions.  
 Watch your actions, for they become habits.  
 Watch your habits, for they become character.  
 Watch your character, for it becomes your destiny.”

Frank Outlaw

Late President of the Bi-Lo Stores

### Word Walls of Kindness

A word wall is a collection of words which are displayed on a wall, bulletin board, or other surface in a classroom. The word wall is designed to be an interactive tool for students and contains an array of words that can be used during academics. Why not create a word wall of kindness in your classroom or for your whole school?

### World Kindness Day

November 13, 2017

- [www.randomactsofkindness.org](http://www.randomactsofkindness.org)
- [www.spreadkindness.org](http://www.spreadkindness.org)
- <https://www.edutopia.org/blog/film-festival-kindness-empathy-connection>
- <http://www.doonething.org/calendar/kindnessday.htm>

## Resources

From Stenhouse Publishers  
[www.stenhouse.com](http://www.stenhouse.com)

### Word Nerds

Teaching All Students  
to Learn and Love

Vocabulary

Brenda J. Overturf,

Leslie H. Montgomery, and Margot  
Holmes Smith

Grades K-6

Shows how the authors weave  
vocabulary into high poverty  
school classrooms using art,  
literature, movement, games,  
writing, test taking skills and  
technology.

2013 \$21 184 pp/paper



### Choice Words

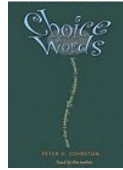
How Our Language  
Affects Children's  
Learning

Peter H. Johnston;  
Forward by Richard

Allington

Grades K-8

Provides examples of the words,  
phrases, and uses of language that  
are pivotal in the classroom. Ground-  
ed in a study of accomplished literacy  
teachers, the book  
demonstrates how the things we say  
(and don't say) have consequences  
for the literate lives of our students.



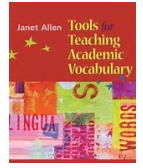
### Tools for Teaching Academic Vocabulary

Janet Allen

Grades 4—12

Centers on four com-  
ponents of effective vocabulary  
instruction to teach general  
academic vocabulary, discipline  
-specific vocabulary, topic-  
specific vocabulary and passage  
-critical vocabulary.

2014 \$15.00 flipchart



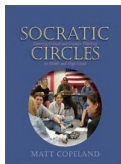
### Socratic Circles

Fostering Critical and  
Creative Thinking in Middle  
and High School

Matt Copeland

Grades 6—12

A coaching guide to use the  
Socratic Circle Strategy to enhance  
reading comprehension, improve  
listening and speaking skills and  
build better classroom community.



From Teaching Tolerance

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

**Teaching Tolerance** has updated their website to include new tools to help  
educators create welcoming environments.

#### The Moment

Timely resources  
to teach about  
current events.

#### Teaching the Movement

Resources for  
teaching about the  
modern civil rights  
movements.

#### Frameworks

The keys to what it means  
to "teach tolerance,"  
starting with the Teaching  
Tolerance Social Justice  
Standards.

You will also find more than 500 lessons created by  
the Teaching Tolerance staff and a **Learning Plan  
Builder** that provides essential questions, leveled  
texts, teaching strategies and student tasks.

#### Critical Practices for Anti-bias Education

Strategies that set the  
stage for culturally  
responsive and  
inclusive instruction.

### Teaching A People's History

Zinn Education Project

A Collaboration Between Rethinking School and Teaching for Change  
Middle and High School

<https://zinnedproject.org/>

Looking for resources to go deeper and present a more accurate, complex, and  
engaging understanding of United States history than your history book? You  
can search by time period, theme, reading level, and/or resource type.

### Do Something A Global Movement for Good

<https://www.dosomething.org/>

5.5 million young people in 131 countries are making positive change, both  
online and off. Help your students to see the power they have to make a  
difference. Here are some examples:

- *Diversify My Emoji* powered the petition that convinced Apple to create emojis representing people of color.
- *Teens for Jeans* donated over 800,000 pairs of jeans in one year, enough to clothe half of all homeless youth in the US.
- *Game-Winning Drive* ran the largest youth-led sports drive and collected 70,304 pieces of gear for kids in underserved communities.

"By words we learn thoughts, and by thoughts we learn life."

Jean Baptiste Girard

## More Resources



### Peace Songbook, Environmental Songs for Children, Multicultural Songs for Children

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

The Children's Music Network celebrates the positive power of music in the lives of children by sharing songs, exchanging ideas and creating community. Membership includes full-time and part-time performers, songwriters, classroom teachers, music educators, librarians, storytellers, record producers, distributors, broadcasters, parents, grandparents, and children. At the site you can find the lyrics and hear songs focusing on anti-bias, bullying, compassion, conflict resolution, fear, global family, grief, justice, nonviolence, and peace.



### This is How We Do It: One Day in the Lives of Seven Kids from Around the World

Matt Lamothe

Chronicle Books (available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble)

Ages 5—12

2017 Hardcover

Inspired by his own travels, Matt Lamothe takes readers around the world to follow the real lives of seven kids from Italy, Japan, Iran, India, Peru, Uganda, and Russia for a single day. This book provides a great opportunity for dialogue and noting our shared experiences and what makes us all different and unique.

### Girling Up: How to Be Strong, Smart and Spectacular

Mayim Bialik

Philomel (available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble)

Ages 12—17

2017 Hardcover

This *New York Times* Bestseller is written by Mayim Bialik, neuroscientist and actress on the show *Big Bang Theory*. Using scientific facts, personal anecdotes, and wisdom gained from the world around us, Mayim Bialik shares what she has learned from her life and her many years studying neuroscience to tell you how you grow from a girl to a woman biologically, psychologically and sociologically.



“Since words  
carry power,  
make a decision  
to use your  
words as  
building blocks  
not battering  
rams.”

Craig Williams

### 14 Children's Books that Promote a Growth Mindset

<https://selfsufficientkids.com/growth-mindset-childrens-books/>

When you have a growth mindset you believe that through hard work, intelligence can grow and improve. People who have a growth mindset are more successful at work and in life. The opposite of a growth mindset is a fixed mindset, which means you believe that intelligence is determined at birth and impossible to change. We want our children to know that when they have perseverance and determination, they will succeed. Here are 14 books that you can use to share that message. You can find out more about them at the website.



- \* Salt in His Shoes
- \* The Girl Who Never Made Mistakes
- \* What Do You Do With a Problem?
- \* What Do You Do With an Idea?
- \* Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin
- \* Nadia, the Girl Who Couldn't Sit Still
- \* Beautiful Oops
- \* The OK Book
- \* Rosie Revere, Engineer
- \* The Dot
- \* Ish
- \* How to Catch a Star
- \* A Whistle for Willie
- \* Thanks for the Feedback, I Think

# Caring For Our Planet

## Land Recycling

The goal of land recycling is to reuse vacant or underutilized property as a means to sustainable development. By restoring land that has already been used to productive use, and accessing existing infrastructure, land recycling provides economic renewal to urban communities, preserves natural areas, and reduces the carbon footprint of development.

Parcels of empty land in Detroit, MI have been or are in the process of being transformed. Through a partnership between American Forests, the Osborn Neighborhood Alliance, Bank of America, and The Greening of Detroit, the **Osborn Outdoor Education Center**, a space in Detroit's east side, has been transformed into an outdoor education center which combines a shortgrass prairie, a 40-foot gathering space, and a butterfly habitat. It was installed over four days at a cost of \$17,000.

Another project, **Detroit Horse Power**, a nonprofit, was launched through small private donations and grants in 2015. The goals are repurposing vacant land and providing growth opportunities for youth that will build confidence, resilience and empathy. Before kids can ride horses within city limits—a law currently on the books prohibits livestock. DHP founder and executive director David Silver says there's momentum for a new urban livestock ordinance to allow for smaller animals, such as chicken, ducks, goats, rabbits, and honeybees, to be kept in backyards.

<http://www.modeldmedia.com/features/land-education-110716.aspx>

<https://www.cclr.org/land-recycling-101>

## Countries Achieved 2020 Renewable Energy Target

China has reached its 2020 solar power target three years ahead of schedule, after installed capacity topped well over its 105GW target. The Paris Agreement of 2016 requires countries to significantly reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to limit global warming.

## Sustainability Best Practices Framework



<http://www.ca-ilg.org/sustainability-best-practices-framework>

“Sustainable development is a set of ideas and methods that seek to continue the progress and advancement of humanity, while at the same time ensuring that future generations inherit a planet able to support them.”

<https://www.reference.com/science/general-concepts-sustainable-development-94a6141908154004?>

**Gully Branch Tree Farm** has been used as one of Georgia's premier outdoor classrooms since 1994. Students visit Gully Branch each year as part of forestry education field trips rooted in the American Forest Foundation's Project Learning Tree environmental education program. Through conservation activities including woodland management, prescribed burning, cultivation of native plants, and pond management, Earl and Wanda Barrs have created a habitat for diverse wild-life species on their land. In 1994, Gully Branch hosted 100 seventh graders, and this number has grown to include some 700 to 900 students annually. Since 1994, more than 6,000 students have visited Gully Branch as part of forestry education initiative.

<https://www.treefarmssystem.org/earlandwandabarrs>

<https://www.plt.org>

## Campus Sustainability Best Practices A Resource for Colleges and Universities

Published in 2008 by the Leading by Example Program at the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, this PDF primarily focuses on energy and climate change, but also includes topics such as campus waste, food, and water usage.

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/eea/lbe/lbe-campus-sustain-practices.pdf>

## Peacemakers at Work

**Autumn Peltier**, a thirteen year old indigenous Canadian girl, has been nominated for The International Children's Peace Prize, which is awarded annually to a child who fights courageously for children's rights. Autumn gave her first speech advocating for universal access to clean drinking water at eight years old when she represented indigenous young people in Canada at the 2015 United Nations Children's Climate conference in Sweden. Autumn inspired national action in Canada by calling for highways to be shut down for one hour on December 5th, 2016 to bring awareness to the importance of water protection. The Assembly of First Nations Youth Council passed a resolution supporting Autumn's advocacy with the creation of a fund to assist First Nations people across Canada dealing with water crises. Her work continues with talks and presentations to young people and First Nations communities across her territories. Autumn also makes bracelets to raise money for a First Nation community with no clean drinking water. She hopes to finish school, travel and study law and political science so that she can advocate for her people at a higher level in the future.



*The Bahrain Declaration on Religious Tolerance*, authored by **King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa of Bahrain**, in consultation with Jewish, Christian and Sunni and Shi'ite scholars and clergy, calls for people of all faiths to show respect for, and protection of, the rights of everyone to practice their religious affiliations in dignity and peace. Arab diplomats from across the Middle East, along with representatives of 15 nations from 5 continents and 300 Interfaith leaders from around the world,

represented Christians, Muslims, Jews, Hindus, Buddhists and Baha'i communities at an historic gathering at the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles in September.

## Opportunities

**CTAUN Conference**  
**at University of North Georgia**  
 February 24, 2018  
 Dahlonega, 82 College Circle  
 "EMPOWERING EDUCATORS:  
 Taking Action Locally and Globally"  
 Held in cooperation  
 with Georgia State University, College of  
 Education & Human Development  
 For Information about this Conference

contact:

James Badger

[James.Badger@ung.edu](mailto:James.Badger@ung.edu)



### 19th Annual CTAUN Conference at the UN

April 6, 2018 9:30—4:00

"Stepping Up to Protect the World's Children"

An all day conference for educators and concerned citizens, focusing on initiatives by the UN and others to help children overcome today's most pressing challenges.

Register at [www.teachun.org](http://www.teachun.org)

Consider submitting a project for the Excellence in Education Award.

For guidelines and an application form go to <http://www.ctaun.org/excellence-in-education-awards/>

### 2018 General & Special Education Conference

Brain-based Science,  
 Learning & Achievement Pre K—21 years  
 March 7-9, 2018  
 Seattle, WA  
 Washington State Convention Center  
 May 2-4, 2018  
 San Diego, CA  
 Town & Country Resort  
<https://rehabseminars.org/>

### The 38th Annual International Conference on Critical Thinking

July 16 -20, 2018

at the DoubleTree Hotel in Rohnert Park, California

You are welcome to submit a proposal for a Concurrent Session or Roundtable Discussion. Proposals from educators, business and government leaders, educational administrators, and anyone advancing a substantive conception of critical thinking with something of significance to share with others is welcome. To submit a proposal, email Jon Kalagorgevich at [jon@criticalthinking.org](mailto:jon@criticalthinking.org). Proposals must be received by Friday, February 26, 2018.

### 2018 NELMS CONFERENCE New England League of Middle Schools

April 5 –6, 2018  
 Providence, RI  
 RI Convention Center  
<http://www.nelms.org/pages/conferences/annual/annual.html>  
 Early Registration before December 1





## Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Newsletter Subscription Information

Dear Readers,

It is that time of year when we ask each one of you for your continued support. We greatly appreciate those of you who are subscribers and patrons. Your dedication to our peace efforts and generosity toward our monetary needs are vital to our continued work on several projects. We have made the move to digital subscriptions which has saved on paper and postage, helping us be more environmentally and fiscally responsible. The PDF version is in color and has live links, making it more convenient to use.

This Newsletter is sent to over 1,400 individuals and organizations in 22 countries and it is often distributed onward to others. The creation and mailing process are done by dedicated volunteers. Copying is done willingly by our State Executive Secretary. The cost of paper, toner and labels is borne by Alpha Kappa State, CT which also contributes 25% of the proceeds from their annual fund raiser. All other expenses are covered by subscriptions and contributions. We are blessed with 25 patrons whose generosity has helped to sustain us throughout the years. As we move into our 32nd year of continuous publication, our distribution continues to increase. If you know of schools or individuals who would benefit from our publication, please let us know.

Please indicate your wishes on the form below and mail to Jeanne Morascini, 9 Old Willimantic Rd., Columbia, CT 06237. Current email subscribers will continue to receive the newsletter until you request to be removed. Any questions or comments, contact Jeanne at [Jemora@aol.com](mailto:Jemora@aol.com) or 1-860-228-9293.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please renew my postal mail subscription.  
My check for \$8.00 payable to Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World is enclosed.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to be a Patron for Peace to support your work.  
Any amount of \$20 or more is greatly appreciated.

\_\_\_\_\_ If you are not currently receiving a PDF version, and would like to be on our subscriber's list, send your email address to Linda Shea, Subscription Manager [hshea@snet.net](mailto:hshea@snet.net). The PDF is in color and has live links to websites.  
Please indicate if you are changing from postal.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please remove my name from your mailing list.





## Four Magic Words

Long ago an Eastern monarch called his wise men together and asked them to invent a motto,  
a few magic words that would help him in time of trial or distress.

It must be brief enough to be engraved on a ring to be ever present.

It must be appropriate to every situation, as useful in prosperity as in adversity.

It must be a motto wise and true and endlessly enduring,

words by which a man could be guided all his life, in every circumstance, no matter what happened.

The wise men finally came to the monarch with their magic words.

They were words for every change or chance of fortune ... words to fit every situation, good or bad ...  
words to ease the heart and mind in every circumstance. The words they gave for the ring were:

*This, too, shall pass.*

<http://www.inspirationalstories.com/four-magic-words/>



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)

Our newsletter can be found online at: [HTTP://dkgct.weebly.com](http://dkgct.weebly.com)

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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