



A CURRICULUM OF
HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL
WORLD

A Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Newsletter

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Founder's Message

A very exciting phenomenon is taking place. There is a groundswell of HOPE across the world being led by committed, passionate young activists. They have been educated to believe scientists when they cite global crises and they understand that it is their own future that is at stake. Millions across the globe are in instant communication with each other; they are dedicated to issues of global importance, and are firmly convinced that solutions are within human capability. While world leaders talk and meet, discuss and debate, the youth of the world have stepped up and are ACTING! I am referring to them as THE GENERATION OF HOPE!

For several years, students of all ages have been involved in activism on behalf of various causes. We haven't been particularly aware of them because, after all they are "just children." Yet while we have become demoralized and complacent, sometimes negative and angered by the daily, even hourly bombardment from media and politicians with a long list of grievous conditions, these young activists are in motion demanding action.

We know of 17-year-old Greta Thunberg, Swedish environmental activist who has spoken bluntly to the UN Assembly and to leaders around the world, rallied 7 million followers and is TIME magazine's Person of the Year, 2019. She has awakened intense interest in the climate crisis. We are familiar with Malala Yousafzai, just an Afghanistan youngster when she started a foundation that educates girls in her country and other third world nations so they can have a career instead of being forced to marry at age ten. Then there is the group of students who survived the unthinkable horror of a mass killing at their high school in Parkland, Florida. Led by classmates Cameron Kasky, Emma Gonzalez, David Hogg and other articulate leaders, they organized the global Never Again Movement to demand gun control and stop gun violence everywhere, an initiative still going strong. Have you ever heard of Clinton Hill who, at the age of 10, started Kids Saving Earth to focus on pollution solutions? He couldn't understand how we could poison the earth and air with toxic waste so he started a club at his school in Minnesota. Tragically, Clinton died at age 11 from cancer, but his parents developed and continued his project which now has hundreds of thousands of young members in over 100 countries dedicated to saving our home, Earth. There are hundreds more child activists passionate about a myriad of causes and intent on making life more equitable for all. Read about more of them on pages 2 and 3. You will be amazed!

This GENERATION OF HOPE is the most real hope we have had in decades. It is genuine. As peacemakers we must follow the examples set by these young leaders and accept their challenges as our own.. We must continue to set goals each day, and stay focused, as they do, on the solutions, not the problems. Dare to accept that children have power: they do! They do because they believe that together we the people can do anything we set our minds to do. Most importantly, they understand that the future of the world depends on their commitment and activism. They are frustrated by and impatient with those who do nothing. They are fearless, determined not to be deterred by any naysayers or paralyzed adults who are afraid to disturb current accepted practices. Peacemakers are doers, so let's get going in 2020 and make it a memorable year—each of us becoming an activist—encouraging, supporting and joining the GENERATION OF HOPE.

Jeanne Morascini, Founder



Generation of Hope



Girl Up is a global leadership development initiative, positioning girls to be leaders in the movement for gender equality. With resources in five languages and 2,500 Girl Up Clubs in more than 100 countries, 40,000 girls

of all backgrounds have been trained to create tangible change for girls everywhere.

Girl Up provides leadership training and gives girls tools to become gender equality advocates and activists. Through their programs, girls broaden their social impact skill set, benefit from a platform to tell their stories, and apply STEM learning for social good. Girl leaders create real policy change at local and national levels, help raise millions of dollars to support United Nations programs that reach tens of thousands of girls around the world, and build community-based movements. Girl Up was founded by the United Nations Foundation in 2010, and continues to work across a global community of partners to achieve gender equality worldwide. Find out more and discover how you can get involved at www.girlup.org.

“Help young people.
Help small guys.
Because small guys will be big.
Young people will have the seeds
you bury in their minds,
and when they grow up,
they will change the world.”

– Jack Ma

www.azquotes.com/quote/824021



Delaney Anne Reynolds, of Miami, Florida is the author of several children’s books on environmental topics, founder of **The Sink or Swim Project**, an educational and political advocacy organization, and is a public speaker and advocate. “Our planet’s warming climate,” she says, “is the most important challenge that our generation will ever face.” Delaney has been awarded the National Geographic Society’s Inaugural Teen Service Award and The George Eastman Young Leader’s Scholarship from the University of Rochester, and was inducted into CLEO Institute’s Leadership Council. Young people all over the world have reached out to her to ask for help. She’s shared PowerPoint presentations with teens in the U.K and sent boxes of her comics, toy bears and penguins to teens all over the world to use in making their own presentations. Delaney helped make a documentary film with two girls in Asia about climate change. She also successfully lobbied the mayor of Miami-Dade County for what is now a \$1.7 million annual budget for sea level rise mitigation funding where there previously was none at all, and will be lecturing at New York City’s Columbia University. You can watch her TedX Youth Talk at www.youtube.com/watch?v=kP5nY8IzURQ&t=4s.

Sink or Swim <http://miamisearise.com/> is worth a visit. Kids Korner has special items to help children of all ages learn more and get involved in solving the problem of sea level rise. There are also many links to more information, infographics, as well as Delaney’s Blog which is an interesting read.



The WE Charity, formerly Free the Children, is a nonprofit started in 1995 by then 12-year old Craig Kielburger. When Craig found out about the death of a 12-year-old Pakistani, former-slave and human rights activist Iqbal Masih, he, with the help of his seventh-grade classmates and brother, Marc, started Free the Children. Today, Craig Kielburger is the co-founder of a family of organizations dedicated to the power of WE, a movement of people coming together to change the world. WE Charity, which provides a holistic development model called WE Villages, has helped to lift more than one million people out of poverty in Africa, Asia and Latin America. In the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, WE Schools and WE Day provides service learning programs to 18,000 schools, engaging 3.5 million young change-makers. Craig’s work has been seen on Oprah, 60 Minutes and the BBC. He has won numerous awards including the Nelson Mandela Freedom Medal and the World’s Children’s Prize.

www.we.org

Inspiring Kids to Care

Kid-friendly stories can help children develop understanding of the issues of poverty, homelessness, and philanthropy and the power of action:

- * *Cooper's Tale* by Ralph da Costa Nunez with Willow Schrage
- * *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein
- * *Have You Filled a Bucket Today? A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids* and *Bucket Filling from A to Z: The Key to Being Happy* by Carol McCloud
- * *The Invisible Boy* by Trudy Ludwig
- * *Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Peña
- * *Maddi's Fridge* by Lois Brandt
- * *Mango's Quest* by Ralph da Costa Nunez with Robyn Schwartz
- * *Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed* by Emily Pearson
- * *Saily's Journey* by Ralph da Costa Nunez with Karina Kwok
- * *Stone Soup*, a folk tale retold by many authors
- * *Those Shoes* by Maribeth Boelts



Get ideas and see what others are doing at **DoSomething**—the largest not-for-profit exclusively for young people and social change, DoSomething's millions of members represent 131 countries and every US state. DoSomething members use a digital platform to become a part of volunteer, social change, and civic action campaigns to make an impact on issues they care about. <https://www.dosomething.org/us>

Help youth to understand the needs in your local community by conducting a **donation drive**. Donation drives are especially good opportunities for groups. Find out the specific wishes of places in your community. Collect items at a safe central location. Pass out flyers, hang up posters, and connect on social media to let everyone know. Make sure you have a way to transport what you have collected. You might contact a local business and collect in partnership with them. Animal shelters, food banks, homeless shelters, veteran's groups and woman's shelters may all appreciate your donations.

The Power of Kindness Video:

If you haven't seen this one check it out.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PT-HBI2TVtI>

Pay it forward around birthdays and holidays

Help your child learn to celebrate themselves and their life by making someone else's life better. This can happen in a myriad of ways—from helping a neighbor to taking up a collection/asking for donations or doing a service project for a cause your child cares about. Starting small is okay, what is important is that your child receives the gift of giving.

“Our children are calling us
to account.
They have the power so often
inherent in youth:
to see the world anew;
to reject old constraints.”

—Barak Obama

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2018/04/19/obama-praises-parkland-students-time-magazine-our-children-calling-us-account/532604002/>

Create a giving jar

Giving jars can also be a powerful way to build compassion, gratitude and generosity. Families (and groups like offices) can decorate an old jar, coffee can or other container, and decide when money will be added. Put the jar in a central location. Determine who will receive your contributions, label the jar, and decide when you will count and distribute the money.

So when do you add money? Celebrate good things that happen. Add change at the end of the day. Contribute change you find in the wash. Have children put in part of their allowance and match their donations. Have a family meeting once a week and add money for things you are grateful for.

After the money is distributed, involve everyone in the decision to repeat a collection.



Resources

Roots of Action

We have featured this site before, but if you are a parent, a school, or a community group looking for research-based resources on developing kindness and empathy in youth this site is packed with ideas for all ages.

Roots of Action was founded in 2011 by Marilyn Price-Mitchell, PhD. *“as a way of helping parents, schools, and communities nurture positive youth development—the growth of successful young people ready to become caring family members, innovative workers, engaged citizens, and ethical leaders in the Digital Age.”*

<https://www.rootsofaction.com/art-kindness-teaching-children-care>

Kids Doing Great Things!

From Scholastic: <https://www.scholastic.com/parents/books-and-reading/raise-a-reader-blog/5-books-about-kids-who-do-great-things.html>

- * *Catch the Spirit* by Susan K. Perry
20 teen volunteers share their stories about how and why they made change in their homes and communities.
- * *Real Kids, Real Stories, Real Change: Courageous Actions Around the World* by Garth Sundern
30 true stories of kids around the world who used their heads and hearts to help others make change.
- * *The Kids' Guide to Service Projects* by Barbara Lewis
An easy-to-read guide to hundreds of service projects that kids can do—today!
- * *The Giving Book* by Ellen Sabin
A kid-friendly book of all things giving that will inspire and enlighten.
- * *Girls Who Rocked the World* by Amelie Weldon
Famous girls who made huge changes in the world before they turned 20 years old.
- * *Boys Who Rocked the World: Heroes from King Tut to Bruce Lee* by Michelle McCann and the editors of Beyond Words Publishing
46 boys who began changing the world in their teenage years or earlier.



“When you take stories of adversity and flip them into stories of glory—of how the human spirit is able to overcome, even in the worst of circumstances—there is power that our students stand to get from that.”

Barbie Garayúa-Tudryn

<https://www.tolerance.org/topics/rights-activism>

What better way to get students to recognize and become inspired to speak out and take actions against injustice than to study it throughout history?

From Teaching Tolerance

Selma: The Bridge to the Ballot

This film tells the story of a courageous group of students and teachers who, along with other activists, fought a nonviolent battle to win voting rights for African Americans in the South. Grade Levels 6-8 and 9-12

Do Something!

Check out these student performance tasks designed to encourage social activism and community engagement. There are 34 tasks for all grade levels.

Youth United!

This series of three mini-documentaries features young people shaping their own futures and being the change they want to see in the world. [Think Before You Type](#) focuses on online bullying.

<https://www.tolerance.org/topics/rights-activism>

Zinn Education Project

Another great source for history and injustice resources: <https://www.zinnedproject.org/>.

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

—Winston Churchill

Caring For Our Planet



Green Fashion

About thirty years have passed since the beginning of the Green movement. After oil, the fashion industry is the second highest producer of pollutants on earth. While we all want to find a shopping bargain, the making of clothes has damaging effects on our planet. It begins with farming and the creation of materials such as cotton, polyester and nylon. Then we need to consider the chemicals and processes used in dyeing and printing, and then the waste produced from the leftovers of those materials. Finally we need to remember the disposal of clothes we no longer want. And if we reflect on child labor, and the packaging and shipping of clothes made across the world, we begin to understand why as consumers of clothing, we need to educate ourselves and become more responsible consumers.

Green Fashion Week promotes sustainable fashion producers. The ninth Green Fashion Week was held at the beginning of November 2019 in the south of Portugal. Leading designers and brands in the sustainable fashion industry showed their collections, focusing on the message of how to combine luxury with sustainability. The materials used and the production processes of Green Fashion Week's designers are sustainable from both an environmental and a social point of view. Green Fashion Week selects the designers that comply with the largest number of Sustainable Development Goals provided by the 2030 Agenda, signed in 2015 by the 193 United Nations member countries. The next Green Fashion Week will be held in May of 2020 in Andermatt in the Swiss Alps. Go to the Green Fashion Week website and click around. There is a lot to learn!

<https://www.greenfashionweek.org>

Green Burial

There is a groundswell of people giving consideration to environmentally-conscience burials. For a burial to be green, no embalming fluids or only biodegradable fluids are used. Caskets are made of simple wood or perhaps there is even just a shroud, and there are no vaults or fancy headstones. The grave would be dug by hand, rather than with machinery. If the burial takes place in a "green cemetery," there may be other policies or restrictions.

Something to think about—according to the national Green Burial Council, traditional casket-and-vault burials in the U.S. annually account for 4.3 million gallons of formaldehyde-containing embalming fluid, 20 million board-feet of hardwood, and 60 tons of steel. Something else to think about — cremation saves space and the ashes can be placed in a biodegradable container. Cremation is the disposition choice of almost half of Americans today. <https://www.greenburialcouncil.org/>

Green Voting

If climate action is important to you, check out the 2020 Presidential Voter's guide at <https://voteclimatepac.org/>. The guide gives all debate-qualified, Democratic and Republican candidates a climate calculation – a score from zero to 100. For detailed information on each candidate, click the green + sign to the left of their name. You can also find information on "Climate Heroes" and "Climate Zeroes" running for the house and senate.

Green Pets

Here are Green America's top five high-impact ways to green your dog or cat:

1. Put your pet on a diet that has a low greenhouse gas footprint.
2. Use re-purposed doggie bags like the plastic bags used to package your clothing, food, or newspapers.
3. Perhaps the best option, however, is to forego the bag altogether and actually compost your pet's waste. You don't want to add dog or cat waste to the compost pile destined for your garden, because it can contain pathogens that aren't safe on your food.
4. Choose better litter— natural, non-clay litters to avoid silica dust, or If you'd rather not buy cat litter made from a food crop, try Feline Pine, which is made from reclaimed pine shavings and guar bean gum, or Yesterday's News, made from recycled newspaper.
5. Prevent fleas naturally by giving your pet a flea comb weekly and using nontoxic shampoos like the organic, ayurvedic products from Dr. Desai Soap.
6. You can buy collars and leashes made from hemp or dog and cat toys from organic fibers, organic pet beds, and even reclaimed cotton dog sweaters.

Find out more at <https://www.greenamerica.org/greenvourpet>.



Resources

Global Kids

50+ Games, Crafts, Recipes & More from Around the World

by Homa Sabet Tavangar and illustrated by Sophie Fatus

Ages 5+ | 50 cards + 8pp booklet

Barefoot Books, 2019

Global Kids is a resource for building global competence.

The cards feature 50+ crafts, food, games, festivals and community service activities from around the world.

You can purchase these cards on Amazon—or check out the Barefoot Books website which features diverse and inclusive books and has some interesting lesson ideas.

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

Educating for Empathy

by Nicole Mirra

Teacher's College Press

Columbia University, 2018

A resource for educators exploring how literature can be used to teach empathy to students in grades K-12. Each chapter has discussion questions for school wide professional development. Available at Amazon for Kindle and as a print book.

www.amazon.com/Educating-Empathy-Literacy-Learning-Engagement/dp/0807759147/ref



These gorgeous peace rocks are made by talented artist **Alison Ciarlante**. *"It all started on April 1st, 2009. I was having a bad day, so I decided to paint a picture to make it brighter. I took a rock and painted a Peace symbol on it. It felt really good to paint it and I gave it to my husband to put somewhere to make someone's day. By the time he got back I had painted another 20 Peace rocks and declared that I wanted to spread a million Peace Rocks all over the world. I started to number them to keep track and also started this blog so people know what to do when they find a Peace Rock."* Alison continues to paint and spread peace rocks and so far she has painted 18,500. She also paints mandala rocks, and creates rock necklaces, rock magnets, mini mandala paintings and more.

<https://sasa-peace-rocks.blogspot.com/p/rock.html>

<https://www.etsy.com/shop/InnerSasa>

Museums and Sites of Persuasion: Politics, Memory and Human Rights

edited by Joyce Apsel and Amy Sodaro

Routledge, 2020

Available in paperback and also for Kindle

Museums and Sites of Persuasion examines the concept of museums and memory sites as places that strive to promote human rights, democracy and peace. Museums and Sites of Persuasion will be important reading for those working in the fields of museum studies, memory studies, and genocide studies as well as museum practitioners and anyone engaged in the study of history, sociology, political science, anthropology and art history.

<https://www.amazon.com/Museums-Sites-Persuasion-Politics-Memory/dp/1138567817/>



You can spread peace and help **CITYarts** by going to their website purchasing these beautiful postage stamps.

CITYarts has set some impressive goals for 2020 including:

- * Providing 25 New York City schools with Pieces for Peace workshops
- * Engagement for 1000 more youth
- * 12 more murals in NYC
- * Expanding CITYarts Pieces for Peace Project from the 93 countries they are currently partnering with, by adding 25 more countries, coming closer to the goal of partnering with all 193 countries represented under the UN flag.

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

Visit the **A Mighty Girl** website to find both fictional and biographical stories about remarkable girls and young women. There are hundreds of true stories of women role models in a wide variety of fields, and the world's largest collection of girl-empowering literature for infants through adults. From uplifting picture books for young children to thoughtful novels for teens to captivating biographies for adults, all of the books featured share a special quality: girls and women are not consigned to the role of sidekick or damsel in distress – they are the center of the story.

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

Opportunities



CTAUN

Committee on Teaching
About the United Nations

CTAUN "War No More"

21st CTAUN Conference at the United Nations

Friday, 28 February 2020

The conference day has been designed as a series of thought-provoking conversations, featuring speakers with a wide range of expertise on the conference theme. After a UN welcome, Leymah Gbowee and Gloria Steinem will begin the day! To see a list of the distinguished Diplomats, Peace Education specialists, and young peacemakers, including the NYC Youth Poet Laureate, please see the program outline at 2020 CONFERENCE. <https://teachun.org/> There will also be an InfoFair providing opportunities to meet peace builders from local and international organizations, and to collect valuable resources for the classroom.

Everyone planning to attend the conference needs to register in advance (no later than 16 February 2020) in order to receive a Special Events Pass for access to the UN building. You can register at <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=7kcssleab&oeidk=a07eg13df4q48fb4fdb>.

Coming from out of town? There are special rates for conference registrants, valid any night between 26 February and 1 March, 2020. For more details, or to make a booking, go to <https://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/groups/personalized/N/NYCUNHX-CAC-20200226/index.jhtml>.

Friendly & Fearless

UC Berkeley Campus
or Via Live Webcast
February 21, 2020
9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Price: \$135-\$179

A one-day workshop on combining kindness and assertiveness in important relationships with Rick Hanson, Ph.D., and Daniel Ellenberg, Ph.D.

Attend in-person or via live webcast! In important relationships at home and at work, we need to respect the needs of others while also sticking up for our own.

Find out more at event/
<https://ggsc.berkeley.edu>.

The **Global Competence Certificate** (GCC) program is a graduate-level online certificate program in global competence education for K-16 teachers. World Savvy is now accepting applications for a new cohort beginning in September 2020 in partnership with Southern New Hampshire University. The GCC is a 15 credit Graduate Certificate which includes online coursework, immersive global field work and international travel, and peer to peer collaboration on a capstone project. The coursework is taught by leading faculty and practitioners from around the world, and the program is designed specifically for educators who are interested in embedding global learning into their teaching practice, to prepare students for college, careers and life in a more diverse and interconnected world. You can learn more at <https://snhuvt.org/gcc>.

NEA Grants and Events

To find an up-to-date list of grants, awards, educational observances, and free resources go to <http://www.nea.org/grants/grantsawardsandmore.html>.

New England League of Middle Schools 39th Annual Middle Level Conference

March 9-10, 2020
RI Convention Center
Providence, RI
<http://www.nelms.org/>

Thinking about a classroom or school garden? Find out about grants and resources at: <https://ldggardens.com/grants/>.



The Last Word

“Life is amazing!
And then it’s awful.
And then it’s amazing again.
And in between the amazing and the awful, it’s ordinary
and mundane and routine.
Breathe in the amazing,
hold on through the awful,
and relax and exhale during the ordinary.
That’s just living heartbreaking, soul-healing,
Amazing, awful, ordinary life.
And it’s breathtakingly beautiful!”

L.R. Knost

Award-winning author, L.R. Knost

Little Hearts/Gentle Parenting Resources <http://lrknost.com/>



If you would like to receive a color PDF version by email, please contact **Linda Shea**, Subscription Manager hshea@snet.net

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

Sue Moon
Committee Chair
41 Indian Spring Rd.
Woodstock, CT 06281
sue@racespot.com

Janice McKusick
Editor
102 Chaffeeville Rd.
Storrs, CT 06268
jmckusick@charter.net

Jeanne Morascini
Founder
55 John E. Horton Blvd. Apt. 202
Hebron, CT 06248
1-860-228-9293 Jemora@aol.com

A Curriculum of Hope for a
Peaceful World
55 John E. Horton Blvd. Apt. 202
Hebron, CT 06248

