Peacemaker Activities

Developed by Dawn Shirk

Discussion Questions

After reading the stories on page 6-7, take some time to discuss these questions about peace and what it takes to be a peace leader.

- 1. What qualities do people who work for peace have in common?
- 2. Some of these leaders had a lot of formal education, some are self educated. What role, if any, does educational background play in becoming a peace leader?
- 3. Could your home, your community, the world be more peaceful? What one thing can you do to create peace? Can you think of any-thing that you and your classmates could do together?

Class Project

The Internet is full of information on people who have worked for peace. Choose one of the people from the following list and try to learn more about that person's life. Start at the Peacemakers Gallery: <www.peacemakersguide.org/peace/ Peacemakers/index.htm>.

Look for answers to these questions:

- Where is he/she from?
- What is his/her family and educational background?
- How and why did he/she begin to work toward peace?
- What contributions has he/she made to the peace movement?

Jane AddamsMartin Luther King, Jr.Cesar ChavezWangari MaathaiMarilyn ClementMother TeresaKim Dae-jungOscar RomeroDorothy DayDesmond TutuMahatma GandhiEdith Villastrigo

Peace Organizations

Many organizations are also working for peace. Some build peace through justice work. Others are committed to teaching nonviolence. Still others are firmly anti-war. Throughout history, many organizations that work for peace have also been involved in creating large peace movements. Sometimes organizations with similar missions join together to mobilize their members and a movement grows. Here is a short list of some organizations that work for peace and/or are involved in the peace movement now. Find out more on their Web sites:

Alliance for International Conflict Prevention and Resolution www.aicpr.org

American Friends Service Committee www.afsc.org

Buddhist Peace Fellowship www.bpf.org

The Carter Center www.thecartercenter.org

Fellowship of Reconciliation www.forusa.org

International Day of Peace www.internationaldayofpeace.org

Pathways to Peace www.pathwaystopeace.org

Peaceful Tomorrows www.peacefultomorrows.org

United for Peace with Justice www.unitedforpeace.org

Volunteers for Peace www.vfp.org

Veterans for Peace www.veteransforpeace.org

Iraq Veterans Against the War www.ivaw.net