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 anything 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 Addams  Martin Luther King, Jr.
Cesar Chavez  Wangari Maathai
Marilyn Clement  Mother Teresa
Kim Dae-jung  Oscar Romero
Dorothy Day  Desmond Tutu
Mahatma Gandhi  Edith 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

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