



Journeys in the Spirit

Children's work

October 2018

Topical Activity

Remembering for peace



Children often participate in Remembrance events at school. These generally focus on lives lost and sacrifices made in war. Children in upper primary study WWI and with the commemoration of its centenary there has been a lot of focus on WWI poetry, red poppies, and the battlefields of Belgium or France. This can be a powerful introduction to the horror of war. It also risks glorification. There is little focus on the militarism that fuelled its outbreak or on the question of how we can avoid war and build a more peaceful future.

Games

At the beginning of the session spend some time catching up with each other and welcoming any new comers. You could use game no.2 from the new *Journeys in the Spirit* games supplement available on request from: cypadmin@quaker.org.uk or to download here: www.quaker.org.uk/journeyschildren

To introduce the topic use one of the following suggested introductory activities:

Memory game:

Have a tray with items referring to World War I. Explain the items and then remove one at a time, who can remember what has been removed?

Suggested items:

- Photos from the war
- Red and white poppies
- A white feather
- Bandages
- Any artefacts of your own

Remembrance match game

Use this simple sheet to match up different symbols with what they commemorate.

<http://www.quaker.org.uk/documents/inspire-remembrance-symbol-match-worksheet>

or use the PowerPoint version here:

<http://www.quaker.org.uk/documents/inspire-remembrance-symbol-match>

Background

November 2018 marks the centenary of the end of World War I. Quakers in Britain are taking part in INSPIRE, a national project which hopes to encourage reflection upon the horror of war and lives lost, but also to inspire action for peace. Venues across Britain, from St Paul's Cathedral in London to the Temple of Peace in Cardiff will hold ceremonies. Stories will be shared of young people acting courageously as peacemakers and peace builders and children will be challenged to grapple with the question of what it'll take to make this a century of peace.



One of the stories shared will be the life of Sadako Sasaki. Sadako became seriously ill from the radiation caused by the bomb dropped on her home town of Hiroshima in Japan on 6 August 1945. Whilst sick she began making origami cranes. After she died her classmates and friends continued to make the paper birds which have become a symbol of peace. Children attending INSPIRE events will be encouraged to make a symbol of remembrance, such as one of these cranes, or a white poppy. Peace cranes will be dropped from the dome of St Paul's Cathedral and will decorate the large meeting house at Friends House in London, where we'll be hosting our own INSPIRE event on 9 November.

Read and make

Read 'The Complete Story of Sadako Sasaki' the Sadako story and make origami peace cranes. CND Peace Education can provide you with a free pack containing the story and how to fold the cranes, there's also YouTube videos and animations available. You'll probably want to display these cranes in your meeting house as they're really beautiful, but if you can make any extra we'd really appreciate them to help us decorate the main meeting house for our INSPIRE event on 9 November. Send peace cranes to: Isabel Cartwright QPSW Friends House 173 Euston Road NW1 2BJ. For your CND peace pack go to <https://cnduk.org/education/free-teaching-resources/sadakos-cranes/> <https://cnduk.org/education/>.

The Complete Story of Sadako Sasaki' Masahiro Sasaki and Sue DiCicco is available from the Quaker Bookshop www.quakercentre.org.uk

Get involved with INSPIRE?

- Is there an event happening near you? Check the map at <https://www.oasisinspire.org/>

If you want to take a group of children contact: Catriona.Martin@oasisuk.org

- Why not encourage a local school to host an INSPIRE event? Schools engaging with these events will be provided with a package of age-specific 'remembering for peace' resources and stand-alone assemblies, full of ideas to introduce peace and conflict resolution education to the classroom. Children can create pledges for action and initiate child led peace building in their communities.

<http://www.quaker.org.uk/documents/simple-inspire-event-guide>

- At Remembrance we often spend 2 minutes in silence. Ask your children what they'll be thinking about: A person? A memory? A hope or wish?

Download a video prompt: <http://www.quaker.org.uk/documents/inspire-remembrance-for-peace-2min-silence-video-prompt>.

- For resources to help organise your own event contact Izzy Cartwright or Ellis Brooks for help/resources. Email: isabelc@quaker.org.uk or ellisb@quaker.org.uk

- Order your free copy of our *#everydaymilitarism* poster from the Quaker Centre. Available in English or Welsh. <http://bookshop.quaker.org.uk/Everyday-Militarism-Poster EVERYDAY>. Explore the poster in your children's meetings/class. An online interactive version also available, plus ideas for discussion: www.quaker.org.uk/resources/free-resources/teaching-resources-2.

