

Establishing lasting
peace is the work
of education.

- *Maria Montessori*

The essence of peaceful
co-existence probably
still lies in the old adage,
'Your right to swing your
elbow ends where your
neighbor's elbow begins.'

- Margaret Read MacDonald

If we are to reach real peace in the world, we shall have to begin with children. And if they will grow up in their natural innocence, we won't have to struggle, we won't have to pass fruitless resolutions, but we shall go from love to love and peace to peace.

- Gandhi

To find the way to make peace with ourselves and to offer it to others, both spiritually and politically, is the most important kind of learning.

To accept our abilities and limitations, and the differences in others, this is the contentment that gives life its highest value. It frees us to grow without restraint and to settle without pressure.

- Wendy Schwartz

Peace is every step. The shining red
sun is my heart.

Each flower smiles with me. How
green, how fresh all that grows.

How cool the wind blows.

Peace is every step.

It turns the endless path to joy.

- Thich Nhat Hanh

Peace is not the absence of conflict. Conflict is an inevitable fact of daily life—internal, interpersonal, inter-group and international conflict. Peace consists in creatively dealing with conflict. Peace is the process of working to resolve conflicts in such a way that both sides win, with increased harmony as the outcome of the conflict and its resolution. The resolution is peaceful if the participants come to want to cooperate more fully and find themselves enabled to do so.

- Jim and Kathy McGinnis

It is only after we realize that conflict is where the growth occurs that we know what we ought to aim for. It is only after we realize that conflict is good and that it won't go away that we will be able to effectively respond to diversity in early childhood training—and therefore, in early childhood classrooms.

- Janet Gonzalez-Mena

“This is no longer a world of you or me.
We must recognize that it is you *and* me,
and that together we can create the world,
the life that we have dreamed of forever,
a world of peace and goodwill among men.
A world without hunger. A world without
the threat of a nuclear disaster and the
possible extinction of humanity.
Peace is a conscious choice.”

- John Denver

“There is no trust more sacred than the one the world holds with children. There is no duty more important than ensuring that their rights are respected, that their welfare is protected, that their lives are free from fear and want and that they grow up in peace.” - Kofi A. Annan

The single clenched fist
lifted and ready,
Or the open asking hand
held out and waiting.

Choose:

For we meet by one or
the other.

- Carl Sandburg

“We can no longer afford to confuse peaceability with passivity. Authentic peace is no more passive than war. Like war, it calls for discipline and intelligence and strength of character, though it calls also for higher principles and aims. If we are serious about peace, then we must work for it as ardently, seriously, continuously, carefully, and bravely as we now prepare for war.” - Wendell Berry

“If we just worry about the big picture, we are powerless. So my secret is to start right away doing whatever little work I can do. I try to give joy to one person in the morning, and remove the suffering of one person in the afternoon. If you and your friends do not despise the small work, a million people will remove a lot of suffering. That is the secret. Start right now.” - Sister Chän Khöng

At the creek by my house,
I hear the water splashing against my legs.
The water rushes through its path.
A small wave makes a quiet crash.
The water rumbles while I bend down
to feel the cold water.
I hear the minnows swishing while they
swim.
When I go to the creek, I feel peaceful.

- Sierra, 2nd grade