

Each year on September 21, millions of people around the world celebrate the United Nations International Day of Peace. Show your support for a peaceful world by teaching your children that we all have the power to be peacemakers. Together with your family, bring peacemaking to life through acts of courage, compassion, and collaboration that create positive change today. Here are eight simple ways to get started.

1

Play Unique Circle

Celebrate your family's similarities and differences by playing Unique Circle. This cooperative game explores how our unique qualities and experiences can bring us closer together. For full instructions, download [Unique Circle](#) on the Digital Activity Center.

For more on how to play Peace First games with your family, check out our toolkit on the [Top 10 Cooperative Games for Families!](#)



2

Read Peace Stories

Reading together can be a great way to learn about peacemakers real and fictional, and to spark discussion with your family. Some of our favorites include *The Peace Book* by Todd Parr (grades preK-K), *One* by Kathryn Otoshi (grades 1-3), and *The Streets Are Free*, by Karuso (grades 4-5).

Looking for some more books to get you started? Peace First has created developmentally-appropriate book lists for each year of our K-5 Peacemaker Skills curriculum ([K](#), [1st](#), [2nd](#), [3rd](#), [4th](#), [5th](#)).



3

Honor Neighborhood Peacemakers

There are peacemakers all around us! Discover them and honor them by hosting a neighborhood breakfast. Invite friends and neighbors, and set up an “appreciation station” where guests can make cards to thank one another for being peacemakers. Ask guests to share what they love about the neighborhood, as well as their hopes for peace.



4

Learn About Youth Peacemakers!

The [Peace First Prize](#) showcases young people ages 8-22 who have confronted injustice, crossed lines of difference, and had the courage and compassion to create lasting change. As a family, [watch videos](#) about some of our Prize Finalists. Talk with your family about what makes these young people peacemakers, and how each member of your family practices [compassion, courage, and collaborative change!](#)



5

Create a Paper Peace Quilt

Creating art together is one way to share your family's collective vision for peace. Trace the hands of each person in your family. Cut out the hand tracings, and ask each family member to write a hope for peace on each of their hand cutouts. Glue each hand onto a square piece of construction paper, and tape all the pieces together into a large Peace Quilt. Invite neighbors or friends to add to your quilt!

For more art activities like this one, [click here](#) or search “Art” in the [activities and games](#) search on the DAC.



6

Create a Wall of Peacemakers

Get inspired by peacemakers around the world! Research peacemakers with your children – past or present, international or local, famous or just friendly. Write and illustrate a one-page biography of the peacemakers. Post them on a wall in your house. Afterwards, gather the pages into a book that you can revisit.



7

Make Peace Bookmarks

Create a gift for peacemakers you know and appreciate. Gather quotes from peacemakers, both famous and unknown. Choose your favorites and write them on pieces of cardstock. Decorate them – make them colorful! Give them out to the peacemakers in your life!



8

Plant a Peace Garden

No matter where you live, September offers time for a fall garden. Buy seeds or small plants, and invite members of your family or neighborhood to help you plant the garden. If you like, you can also post a sign with some markers, and invite your neighbors to share their thoughts and hopes for peace.



Find additional toolkits, lessons, activities and more at Peace First's Digital Activity Center (<http://www.peacefirst.org/digitalactivitycenter/>).