

## Website resources - Peace

**Intro** - In Galatians 5 we read that the fruits of the spirit are for everyone and Peace is one of them. Jesus is the prince of peace and God gives us his peace in our lives.

As a church we need to consider how we enable and encourage people to be peacemakers in the world, sharing God's peace in practical ways.

### Resources for specific Age groups

- Resource for work with children under 11



### Peace Week

Each year as part of the international day of peace in September, the Quakers release a pack to encourage schools to spend a week celebrating and exploring peace. It is a fantastic collection of resources to use with children enabling them to come together as one community and learn about, experience, and celebrate peace. The material is useful outside of a school context.

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/resources/free-resources/peace-week-resources>

**Peace Babies - (SPCK) Assemblies.org.uk**

To celebrate peace and peace-making by *The Revd Alan M. Barker*

Suitable for Whole School (Primary)

## Aims

To celebrate peace and peace-making.

## Preparation and materials

- You will need a packet of Bassett's Jelly Babies.
- You will need to display the words 'Happy are those who work for peace: God will call them his children!' found in Matthew 5.9.

## Assembly

1. Produce the packet of jelly babies. Identify the different colours and flavours: strawberry, lime, blackcurrant, lemon, raspberry, and orange. Which are most popular? You could conduct a quick opinion poll.
2. Explain that 'jelly babies' were first launched in 1918 to celebrate the end of the First World War. They were called 'Peace Babies' and quickly became popular. During the Second World War production ceased because of a shortage of ingredients. They were 'reborn' in 1953, renamed 'Jelly Babies'.
3. Invite the children to consider why the sale of Jelly Babies was a good way to celebrate peace. Reflect that the Peace Babies marked a new beginning (babies). They showed that life was returning to normal and could be fun again (jelly sweet).
4. Explain that in 1989 each of the six 'babies' was given a name and an identity. Refer to the illustrations and descriptions on the Bassett's packaging. Pink Baby Bonny wears a nappy and frilly bonnet. She is always crawling into mischief! Boofuls is soft-hearted and cries a lot, even when he is happy! Bumper is orange, wears a bum-bag, and bumps into things! Bubbles has her hair in a ponytail and is yellow. Bigheart is grey and always puts his friends first. Brilliant is the red leader of the gang.

Peace is enjoyed when people of different ages, interests and appearances live together in harmony. (Wouldn't a bag of jelly babies be dull if the

sweets were all one colour and flavour!)

5. Suggest that there's a sense in which we all can be 'Peace Babies'. Display this saying of Jesus:

'Happy are those who work for peace: God will call them his children!'  
(Matthew 5.9, Good News Bible)

Invite everyone to consider how they can 'work for peace'. You may wish to record the suggestions using different coloured pens. Some ideas might include: trying to listen and learn from other people instead of arguing; counting to ten before responding; finding out about different ways of living.

Refer back to the bag of sweets. Working for peace doesn't mean being soft (like a jelly baby). It calls for a strong commitment to friendship, fairness, being ready to share, and celebrating the good things of life together.

Pass the sweets around and invite everyone to enjoy a peace baby!

### **Time for reflection**

Loving God,  
help us to work for peace,  
and to pray for peace,  
believing that all people are your children.  
**Amen.**

### **Craft and reflective activities to follow the assembly.**

**make bracelets using the colours mentioned above on white cord and a dove could also be added with the beads.**

- **Peace symbols and signs - make peace posters**

- Give peace a chance- stand in a space remove the headphones and mobile devices and listen to what you hear.

What can you hear? Birdsong, rustle of trees and plants, traffic, water, the wind how often do we stop and make time to listen to what is around us, breathe in and out and see if you feel more peaceful.

- Peace for me is... How would you answer the questions have white postcards and allow people to answer the question and decorate their card as they want?

Suggestions may be peace for me is a good book

Sitting watching the sea

Drawing

Cycling

Cooking

Being outside /inside

A version of idea could be written out of pictures of places for people to choose and explain why this for them is peace.

- Resource for work with young people aged 11-18



**#WhatIf Game 11-15s**

£25 from Youthscape

<https://www.youthscape.co.uk/store/product/whatif>

**#WhatIf?** Is an interactive tool containing four interactive games to help teenagers identify and cope with their own anxious thoughts and feelings.

Conversation is facilitated with light-hearted question and answer cards which open up the floor for deeper discussion, before a 'know', 'play', 'explore' game structure allows greater understanding of how we can identify these feelings and cope with the physical symptoms and thought processes anxiety brings.

## **Peace be with you resource      JPIT**

This set of four interactive bible studies are designed to be used by Christian youth groups to enable discussion and reflection on peacemaking and Christianity

<http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/peace-resources-for-youth-groups/>

- **Resource for work with young adults aged 18-25**

**The Peace and Justice Forum** is an initiative of the four churches to equip, engage and empower young people to be agents of change in their churches and communities. It is a collection of young adults aged 18-25, who campaign and speak out on issues of peace and justice. "We believe that inequality in all of its forms, poverty and violence and the misuse of natural resources should be brought to an end." Join us as we campaign on issues ...

<http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/action/pjf/>

- **Resources for Church together, Community or families**

**Peacebuilders**



## The United Reformed Church Peace Fellowship

This is a group of United Reformed Church people who accept God's call to human beings to live in peace and who are committed to discerning and obeying the urgent call of God to pursue Peace with Justice in the world.

<https://urc.org.uk/our-work/peace-fellowship.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/urcpf>

### UN international day of Peace - 21<sup>st</sup> September annually

There are lots of free resources and ideas to help you to celebrate peace at least one day a year and challenge ourselves to be peacemakers.

<http://www.peaceday.org/education>

### Creative ideas on Pinterest.

Always check out Pinterest for lots of creative ways to explore and experience peace.

[https://www.pinterest.co.uk/search/pins/?q=peace%20craft&rs=typed&term\\_meta\[\]=peace%7Ctyped&term\\_meta\[\]=craft%7Ctyped](https://www.pinterest.co.uk/search/pins/?q=peace%20craft&rs=typed&term_meta[]=peace%7Ctyped&term_meta[]=craft%7Ctyped)

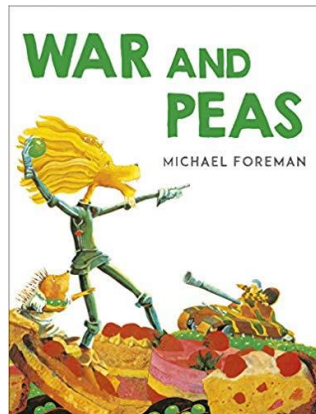
### Messy church

[https://www.messychurch.org.uk/search?search\\_api\\_views\\_fulltext=peace&type=All&=Apply](https://www.messychurch.org.uk/search?search_api_views_fulltext=peace&type=All&=Apply)

The Messy Church website has the facility to search for key themes and get practical ideas for your own work. There are lots of ideas for exploring Peace intergenerationally. My favourite idea was breaking a load of crockery then using it to make a giant cross mosaic.

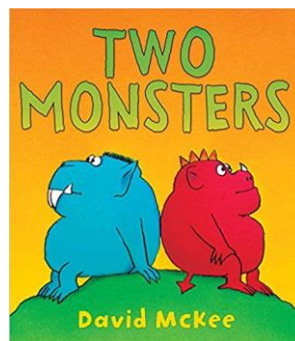
**Modern Parables** Story and picture books with a message about peace

### **War and Peas - Michael Foreman**



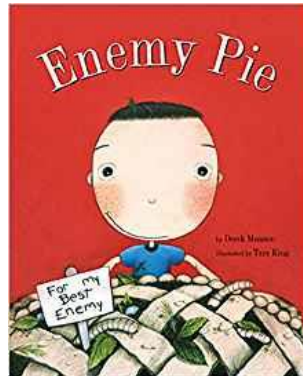
King Lion is sad because it has not rained in his country for too long, and now not only will nothing grow, but also the land is too hard to dig. He decides to ask his rich (fat) neighbour for help. But he is mistaken for a beggar and a robber and is pursued home by Fat King and his army ...and his supply trucks. The soldiers in their trucks are so heavy, that they leave deep ruts in the land, and when it finally rains the land is well prepared for seeds. It's War, but not as we know it - or should that be Peace? Or even peas?!!

### **The 2 monsters - David McKee**



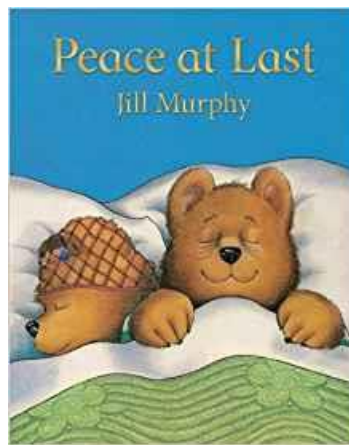
Two monsters live on either side of a mountain. Sometimes they talk through the hole in the mountain, but they never see each other. One evening, they get into a silly argument about whether day is departing, or night is arriving, which escalates into a rock throwing fight, which eventually destroys the mountain, and enables the monsters to see each other's point of view and live together as friends.

## Enemy Pie - Derek Munson



It was the perfect summer. That is, until Jeremy Ross moved into the house down the street and became neighbourhood enemy number one. Luckily Dad had a sure-fire way to get rid of enemies: Enemy Pie. But part of the secret recipe is spending an entire day playing with the enemy!

## Peace at last - Jill Murphy



The hour was late, and Mr Bear was tired. But he could not sleep - however he tried and wherever he tried.

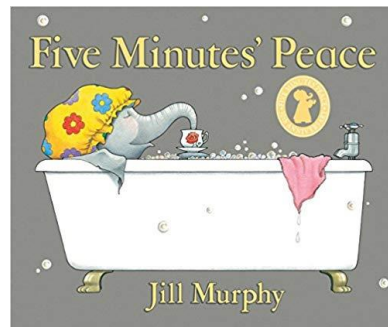
Snore, snore went Mrs Bear.

Tick-tock, tick-tock went the clock.

Would he never get to sleep? Will he ever find peace?



## 5 Minutes Peace - Jill Murphy



Mrs Large the elephant - just needs five minutes of peace and quiet away from her boisterous children! So, taking refuge in the bathroom, she fills herself a hot, foamy bubble bath and takes in a tray of her favourite breakfast and the morning paper. But there's never a dull moment with the Larges, and it soon becomes clear that mum's quiet time is to be very short-lived!

- **Reflection (5 Minutes' Peace)**

### Peace perfect peace

"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27

As the journey of Lent has begun we are given reflections to the peace Jesus attempts to gain peace in the wilderness - it appears not. Peace to commune with his father often interrupted by the disciples informing him yet again of the needs and requests of others. No peace to be found as he clears the cheats and impostors from the Temple. Jesus who is scolded by his closest friends Mary and Martha for not supporting them on the death of Lazarus, the peace Jesus had often enjoyed within their home absent...and yet the peace that Jesus offered brought Lazarus out of the tomb.

There was no peace as he entered Jerusalem, and yet Jesus chose to enter on a donkey as the 'Prince of Peace'. He peacefully washes the feet of his disciples in the upper room, yes even the feet of Judas with a different piece in mind, thirty to be exact. Jesus prayed for peace within the Garden of Gethsemane at a time when peace was ever greater, still he is struggling to find peace. Then the horror of Easter commences no peace, yet the soldiers they gamble for a piece of the clothing that was Jesus'.

Peace arrives with the joy of Easter Sunday that morning in the garden when they ask the gardener if he knows where Jesus' body has been taken. Peace turns to jubilation but also to the fear of having to be certain, sure, that Jesus is alive.

This is the time that as children and youth workers everyone wants a piece of our time and our skills. Easter worship, school visits to churches and, or, assemblies. The need to discern the real message of Easter in between the chicks, rabbits, chocolate and lambs it can become all-consuming not helped in part that Easter is late this year so blink and we're into summer prep too.

I hope that we can follow the words of Christ and in the midst of all we offer, plan, and deliver know His peace filling us with the skills, confidence and wisdom at this busy time, that we too may know his love in our lives afresh, and that our hearts will not be troubled in all we are asked to do, nor will we be afraid as we step out in the assurance that Jesus walks alongside us. So, enjoy, pause and reflect upon the road that is Lent and celebrate the joy of Easter possibly with a little bit of chocolate too.

God of the strong and weak walk alongside us,  
and grant us your perfect peace,  
So that we can reflect ever more upon  
all your son Jesus Christ offered to us,  
life eternal and Love everlasting,  
Amen

Hannah Middleton March 2019

- **Good News Story**

Contact centres - Churches as a neutral space for families who are separated to have contact