

ACTIVITY #02

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE: PROTECT PEACE

Key concepts

- Interdependence
- Images and perceptions
- Social justice
- Conflicts and their solution
- Change and future

Objectives

- To encourage creativity and helping to develop the capacity of artistic expression.
- To develop an attitude of commitment towards peaceful coexistence.
- Raising awareness about the importance of violence prevention.
- Celebrate the School Day of Non-violence and Peace (30 January).

Evaluation

- Degree of reflection and personal involvement.
- Creativity in the search for solutions.

Required materials

- Annex 1: Template. A happy village.

Resources

(Available at www.enredate.org/descargas)

- Video: *Qué bueno*. The Kids Band.

30 JANUARY
School Day of
Non-violence
and Peace

1. Introduction

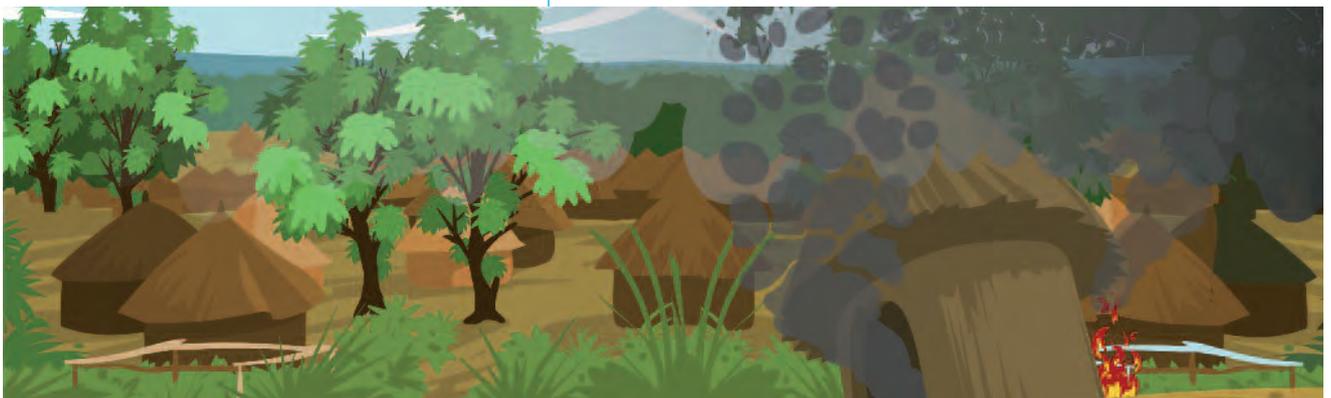
We will use artistic expression to reflect a bit more closely on violence, the need to prevent it and the consequences of armed conflict, some of which are irreparable.

2. A happy village

We colour in the template and we invite our students to complete it by drawing anything that would make the village more prosperous and merry: people working, animals, flowers, crops, etc.

3. War is coming

to the village. Some children will not want to mess up their drawing: it is advisable to encourage them to give free rein to destruction and havoc -- fires, buildings collapsing, crops being destroyed, stolen or dead animals, victims among the population, etc. We can also create a martial climate with certain music (with the prominent role of percussion and metal, like Wagner's *The Ride of the Valkyries* or the *Imperial March* from *Star Wars* soundtrack, for example).



4. How do we continue?

Now we ask them to solve the problems that the war has caused. This is a good opportunity to encourage any of those that have resisted pressure of group trying to protect their drawing of the destruction. They can draw on top, delete, or convert the drawing to try to eliminate the traces of the violent conflict.

5. Final Reflection

- Are there any problems caused by violence that cannot be solved?
- Do you think what has happened in your village is happening around the world?
- You did not initially want to destroy your drawing. What convinced you?
- What is the difference between acting before or after violence?
- What can we do with regard to the conflicts that affect us personally? Can we prevent them?
- Is there any reason that justifies giving free rein to violence in order to resolve conflict? Why?

6. Peaceful March

The origin of the School Day of Non-Violence and Peace is to remember the peaceful action of Gandhi in defence of his ideas. We therefore invite students to participate in a peaceful march to demand non-violence as a form of conflict resolution.

Some of the reflections involved in the activity can serve as a basis to generate peace and non-violence slogans that we can display next to the drawings at the next day of peace. The drawings and slogans can also be secured with pencils or rods as a protest poster or pasted onto one sheet of continuous paper to form a giant banner that we exhibit at a peaceful march on 30 January.

To top this off, we can share the video *Qué bueno* (The Kids Band). An invitation to peace and peaceful coexistence that we can sing together during the march to commemorate the School Day of Non-Violence and Peace.



You can take pictures of the event or record a video and interview the participants to develop a story for the school's blog or newspaper. You can also publish the news at www.enredate.org/blog to share your experience with other schools working with UNICEF.



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ANNEX 1. TEMPLATE: A HAPPY VILLAGE

