Kind, Creative & Connected In The Age Of COVID-19

We hope the below activities will help foster peace with our children, inspire fun with our families and shine a healing light of love upon our world.

ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

Put Our Peace Pledge Into Action

Download Peace Pledge Checklist

I pledge to use my words to speak in a kind way.

- Write notes of friendship that will be attached to each toy that is given to a child in need as part of <u>The Great Toy Giveaway</u> program. <u>Learn</u> more!
- List all the things that make you happy.
- Send <u>Peaceful Pen Pal</u> letters to other kids. Sign up <u>here</u>.
- Send cheer to a senior citizen who can not receive visitors due to the COVID-19 situation.
- Hold gratitude circles at dinnertime.
- Call or FaceTime friends, Grandparents, or Grandfriends just to say hello.
- Make up a poem with a positive message.
- Write positive messages on Post-It Notes and place on mirrors in your house.
- Make Peace Rocks. Paint rocks with kind words and place them around

I pledge to help others as I go throughout my day.

- <u>Surprise delivery drivers with a gratitude gift</u>. Place a note and a gift of food, water, gift cards, a toilet paper roll, etc. in a basket by your front door. #ThankYourDeliveryDriver.
- Create a "<u>Take what you need. Leave what you can</u>" container for your neighborhood.
- From our friends at <u>The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation</u>, post these <u>notes</u> and offer to help your neighbors! (Please don't interact directly; just leave the note on the door.)
- Sew facemasks for nurses and doctors.
- Do household chores without being asked make your bed, pick up your toys, clean your room/bathroom.
- Let's show our healthcare workers how much we appreciate them with #AppreciationPizzas!
- Whenever possible, avoid time with people outside your family to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Offer to pick up mail or run errands for elderly neighbors and leave shopping bags on their doorstep. Use the <u>Random Acts of Kindness</u> Foundation form or give your neighbors a call.







ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS CONT'D

I pledge to care for our earth with my healing heart and hands.

- Check out the one-click actions from our friends at Roots and Shoots.
- Take a hike or visit the beach and pick up litter along the way (remember to keep the 6 feet distance from others!) #SixFeetOfKindness.
- Learn about recycling in your community and discover something new.
- Water your plants, pick weeds.
- Harvest seeds from fruits and replant them.
- Learn about composting and practice in your own garden.

I pledge to respect people in each and every land.

- Show compassion to end harassment towards Asians who might be experiencing racial discrimination because of COVID-19 fears.
- Discover something new about a different culture or a different country.
- Listen to music from different parts of the world.
- Pick at least one country from each continent and discover their favorite food/dish.

I pledge to join together as we unite the big and small.

- Let's safely celebrate birthdays with a <u>Happy Birthday Party Parade</u>! Click <u>here</u> for step by step tips on how to coordinate a successful and safe car parade.
- Send letters or cards to Senior Homes, Memory Care, Hospice facilities since they are not able to have visitors at this time.
- Spend time taking care of your pet feed them, brush them, walk them, clean up after them.

I pledge to do my part to create PEACE for one and all.

- Chalk your walk.
- Stay strong and healthy with this <u>One Month PE Challenge</u> created by Coach K, the PE teacher from Reynolds Elementary in Oceanside, CA.
- Design your own string of peace flags using old clothes, paint, or whatever materials you have available at home.
- Create a kind rainbow.
- Practice mindful breathing exercises.
- Do <u>yoga</u>.







FUN ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

- Let's unite, bring hope and set a Guinness World Record with our <u>Linked By</u> Love longest paper chain ever!
- Take a Breather Break 5 deep breaths to calm and comfort.
- Check out our <u>One-Minute Wonders</u> and keep your family moving with a simple circuit workout!
- Celebrate Earth Day with our **COVID Cardboard Creations**.
- Jot down what you are missing the most and add it to your <u>Someday Soon Jar</u>.
 Soon you will be able to enjoy it again!
- Stay safe and spread some smiles with an <u>Undercover Smiles Facemask</u> project!
- Organize a <u>Happy House Hunt</u> or a <u>fun scavenger hunt</u> at home.
- Create a Covid-19 Time Capsule from Long Creations.
- Send a Hug to your loved ones.
- Safely celebrate birthdays with a Happy Birthday Party Parade! <u>Learn more and</u> see the joy!
- Download our <u>Great Kindness Challenge- Family Edition checklist</u> and complete as many items as possible from home.
- Join our <u>Happy Heart Hunt</u>. Let's blanket our world with LOVE! It's simple! Just make a heart from any object and tape it to a street-facing window to send your love out to the world. Encourage all your friends to do the same. Then, in a few days, take a family walk to search for other hearts on houses. How fun it will be to watch the love grow! <u>Learn More</u>.
- Host Family Game Night get out the board games, decks of cards, chess sets and puzzles.
- Create an obstacle course with things from your home.
- Have a spontaneous dance party! Crank the tunes and DANCE!!
- Play charades.
- Clean your closets together. (Seriously!) Put on some fun music and then joyfully declutter. Keep only the things that are useful and spark joy.
- Create a family "masterpiece" out of recycled items from your decluttering.
- Listen to a podcast: "Wow in the World".
- Learn on-line together.
- Teach your child a skill or a share a talent. Teach them to cook, change a tire, sew on a button, balance a checkbook, play the ukulele, etc.
- Go on a <u>scavenger hunt.</u>
- Explore nature. Continue to spend time outdoors. The fresh air is good for kids, and for us as parents. But please do this as a family rather than meeting up in groups.
- Create a <u>family vision board</u>.











VIRTUAL PLAYDATES AND CONNECTIONS

- Use a free video platform to connect with other kids. Zoom, FaceTime, Skype, WhatsApp and Google Hangouts are some of our go-tos.
- Lego Masters Create a LEGO challenge amongst a group of friends. Give the kids a timeframe to create. Send pictures of final creation on a video platform.
- Start a virtual book club for kids.
- Take a <u>Virtual Museum Tour</u> together.

HELPFUL TIPS FOR PARENTS

How to talk about COVID-19 with your children

- Meet children where they are.
- Help them feel like they're in control.
- Be realistic about them getting sick.
- Provide reassurance.
- Keep up a normal routine.

Sources/learn more:

Little Tiger - Health Crisis Answers for Children by Steve Doherty

How To Care For Your Kids' Mental Health During The COVID-19 Pandemic

Social Distancing - a PSA from Carlsbad High School Students

A cool way to show kids how easily germs travel from one child to the next!

https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/28/809580453/just-for-kids-a-comic-exploring-the-new-coronavirus

 $\underline{https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/how-to-talk-to-children-about-the-coronavirus-2020030719111}$

https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/hope-resilience/202003/how-talk-your-kids-about-covid-19

https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-coronavirus

Self-care Ideas

We must remember to take care of ourselves so we can take good care of our children!

- 1. Seek accurate information from legitimate sources & set limits around news on COVID-19.
- 2. Look after yourself exercise & meditate.
- 3. Reach out to others and support people around you.
- 4. Maintain a sense of hope and positive thinking.
- 5. Acknowledge your feelings.
- 6. Take time to talk with your children about the COVID-19 outbreak.
- 7. Ask for professional support.
- 8. Remember you are not alone.

Sources/learn more:

https://www.mhe-sme.org/covid-19/

https://www.verywellmind.com/managing-coronavirus-anxiety-4798909

