

## PEACE POETRY ACTIVITIES FOR PEACE DAY



**The UN International Day of Peace (“Peace Day”) is observed world wide with diverse activities on and around September 21. Use the week in which Peace Day falls to engage in poetry for peace!**

**Share your poems at [contact@peacedayphilly.org](mailto:contact@peacedayphilly.org) or on our Facebook page.**

### **HAIKU**

5-7-5 syllables, generally uses images from nature

#### Example:

Butterflies kiss buds  
Fluttering, chasing, floating  
“Peace” their wings whisper.

**Free verse:** free verse: no rhyme but uses some kind of rhythm, and includes personal themes.

#### Example:

Peace is sharing,  
Peace is caring,  
Peace is harmony. Peace is love;  
The symbol is a dove. Peace is our freedom, Peace is our friendship.

4) Again using free verse, use the senses – touch, smell, hearing taste – to describe what you feel about peace.

#### Example:

Peace is soft purple like the middle of a sunrise  
Peace tastes like warm waffles with fresh strawberries  
It smells like fresh linen out to dry  
Peace looks like clear pool waters  
And sounds like a lullaby  
Peace feels like a smooth people in your hand.

## **THEMES FOR PEACE POEMS**

- What is Peace?
- How is it created?
- How is it negatively or positively impacted?
- Describe an experience that brought you feelings of peace.
- Describe what peace would look like.
- How can you contribute to peace in your world?
- Consider/describe one or more aspects of peace: inner, family, community, environmental, global.
- What does justice have to do with peace?
- What does it feel like when you are at peace?
- What dreams do we as human beings all share?

## **EXTENSION ACTIVITIES**

- Share poems, identifying what aspects of peace the poem is about: inner, family, community, environmental, global.
- Have students draw one image that they think of when they think of peace. Take all of the peace words from the small groups and the images and create a group collage.
- Copy the poems and put them together in a booklet that students can take home and share with their school classroom.

**For many more Peace Day activities for children and youth, go to <http://www.peacedayphilly.org/what-can-you-do/>.**