



P.E.A.C.E. News for December 2021

***Peace Educators Allied for Children Everywhere, Inc.
(P.E.A.C.E., Inc.)***

***Please contribute to our future as we support the
peaceful world we and children need to thrive.***

[Visit our new donate page!](#)

Donate

Ways to DONATE to P.E.A.C.E.

- 1** Through the P.E.A.C.E. website peaceeducators.org
DONATE
One time or monthly
- 2** *the birthday plan*
Honor your birthday, or that of another, by asking for contributions to be made to P.E.A.C.E. directly or on your Facebook page.
- 3** *Consider your IRA*
If you have an annuity or IRA, you may consider donating it, or the distributions, to P.E.A.C.E. If you are not in need of the funds held in this account for your retirement, this may be a way you can help support the work of P.E.A.C.E. Please contact your financial advisor, tax advisor, and/or the company to request information to help you make appropriate financial plans. P.E.A.C.E., Inc. is recognized as a charitable Section 501(c)(3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code and all donations are fully tax-deductible.

Action Alerts

Persuade the Senate to Restore Child Care for American Families!

There was good news last month when the House passed the President's Build Back Better Bill, which will, if the Senate agrees, restore child care and other Government support for young children and their families to something better than our pre-COVID levels. But our/your Senators are still struggling to convince a few reluctant holdouts to muster a majority to pass the Bill. Now, more than ever, they need your calls (to (202) 224-3121), e-mails, letters, and visits (at their home offices or in DC), to convince them to make a deal and move on, so that President Biden can sign the Bill and start to restore child care, etc. Please help now! And thanks much for your daily efforts to keep children safe and engaged.

Repeal the President's Authority to Wage Undeclared War & Other Pentagon Waste!

Every year Congress passes a Bill to give the Pentagon mostly a blank check to defend the country. This year's Bill, already passed by the House, has a provision of interest to those of us who want peace. It repeals an authorization, given to the President almost 20 years ago, to wage war without having Congress exercise its Constitutional right and duty to Declare War. Several Presidents have misused that authority, including the wanton killing of unarmed women and children in Syria, so we support that part of the Bill.

In addition, during the Senate debate amendments are likely to be introduced to reduce the bloated budget for failed defensive systems and for unnecessary modernization of nuclear weapons. Please contact your Senators to ask them to support the repeal of the President's Authorized Use of Military Force, and to cut the wasteful and harmful bloated Pentagon expense proposals.

Support Kids Privacy Act, HR 4801

Our friends at [Fairplay](#) have alerted us to the Bill now in the House of Representatives, to extend the protections of privacy under current law to adolescents ages 13-17, prohibit surveillance advertising and other harmful uses of data on sites likely to be used by children, and require companies to consider the best interests of young people when designing their platforms, and to conduct risk assessments to determine potential harms of them to children and teens. Please ask your Representative to support this Bill.

Please Get Vaccinated ASAP!



It's good for your health, it's good for the health of the children in your care, and it's good for their families too. The more eligible people we can get vaccinated, the easier it will be for life to return to normal for all of us. Kids from the ages of 5 to 11 are now eligible for vaccinations.

Resources

International Children's Peace Prize 2021 Recipients

Vihaan (17) and Nav (14) Agarwal



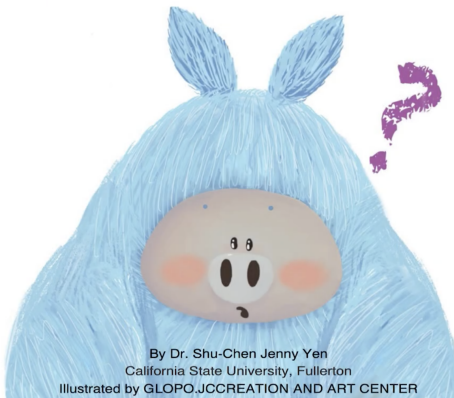
Picture courtesy of kidsrights.org

Two brothers have won this year's *International Children's Peace Prize* award. Vihaan and Nav Agarwal started an organization in their hometown of Delhi, called *One Step Greener*. While growing up in this city, the brothers often were not able to play outside due to the bad land as well as air pollution. Growing up with asthma, they started this initiative to organize waste pickup drives, in order to make the city cleaner (Kidsrights.org, 2021). *One Step Greener* has now become an organization that collects waste from over 1000 households city-wide and partakes in the recycling process to reduce the amount of waste that reaches the landfills. [Read more on this story...](#)

Annual P.E.A.C.E. Interest Forum and Meeting November 2021 NAEYC Virtual Conference

SOMETHING STRANGE HAPPENED IN MY CITY

A social story about the coronavirus pandemic for children



P.E.A.C.E. conducted their Annual Interest Forum and Meeting on November 8th, which was attended by 28 participants. The meeting started with an introduction to *Social Stories for Young Children*, presented by Dr. Sandy Baba and Eric Yen, son of Dr. Shu Chen “Jenny” Yen. Sandy and Eric shared the ongoing collaboration the Asian Interest Forum has with our organization, and the advocacy their Forum provides regarding

the topics of Covid, Racism, and Trauma. We all listened to [Something Strange Happened in My City](#), a story about fear and confusion felt by young children during the Pandemic. This story has been translated in many different languages and is [available for free on their website](#).

Dr. Sandy Baba also shared other stories, including a story on racism as well as stories regarding trauma. Please visit their website, [The Social Story Center](#), to look at these stories as well as additional resources for families and educators.

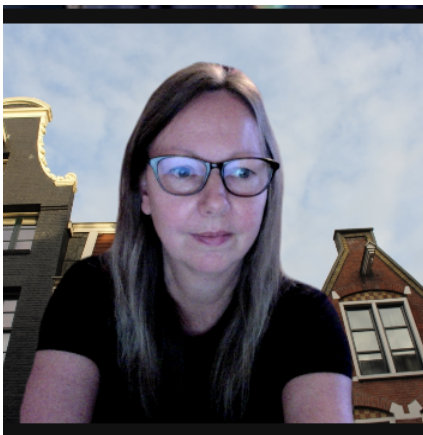


PEACE Interest Forum & Meeting participants, NAEYC Conference 2021

Besides the social stories, we discussed topics such as the upcoming Peace Projects, reports on membership, finances, social media, and participation as well as future proposals for the upcoming 2022 NAEYC National Conference.

This year, two people were awarded with a **Peace Award**. Here are the two recipients:

Karin Pavelek, Professor, Child Development & Educational Studies, Fullerton College, CA



A Leader for her Community Building Peace for all Ages

“Karin, your leadership and teaching are continuing the peace activism which Fullerton has known since the founding of the Orange County Peace Camp and the role Chris Lamm played focusing on peace education with the early childhood educators at Fullerton College. Your commitment to your students and the work for peace is boundless. With your persistent attention our monthly P.E.A.C.E. Newsletter is kept on track and on time, and filled with rich materials, many from your programs and writing. Thank you for taking on this added responsibility in the midst of your busy life! And thank you for raising Natasha to be the peace activist who has just become our Social Media intern! You bring your special energy to all our work for peace. We are grateful!”

Donna Satterlee, Professor, Department of Human Ecology, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, MD

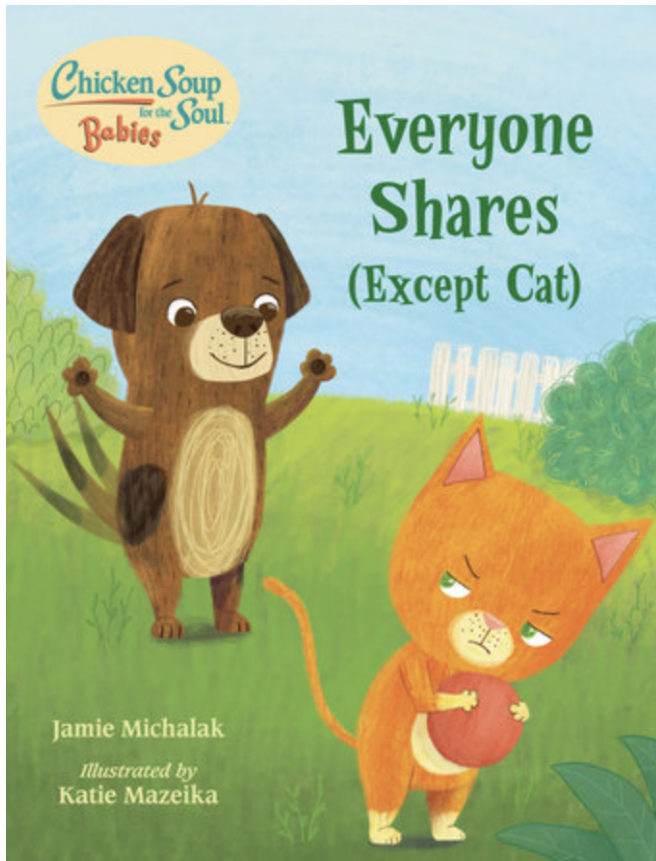


She brings together peace and her love for nature

“Donna, we are grateful that you have joined us, traveling from your special world of the Eastern shore of Maryland and bringing your creative teaching ideas based in your natural environment. You are encouraging your students, children and their families to find the beauties of the world around them and the peace it brings. As a collaborator in writing The Olive Branch for the Newsletter, and working for P.E.A.C.E as an organization, your perspectives let us see things in different frames and broaden our practice in the work for peace. Your teaching becomes three dimensional

when your carpentry skills create puzzle boxes to encourage children and adults to solve problems including working together. How fortunate we are to have you with us. Thank you!”

Book Reviews



Chicken Soup for the Soul Babies: Everyone Shares (Except Cat)

Jamie Michalak (Author),
Katie Mazeika (Illustrator),
Charlesbridge, 2021
[Board book, 24 pages]

Chicken Soup for the Soul Babies series imparts good values through heartwarming and humorous storylines to help kids navigate their world.

Everyone Shares (Except Cat), book presents a gentle rhyming text with five young animals sharing a variety of objects and experiences:

“Mouse shares with Bear.
Dog shares the rug.
Duck shares a chair.
Bear shares a hug.”

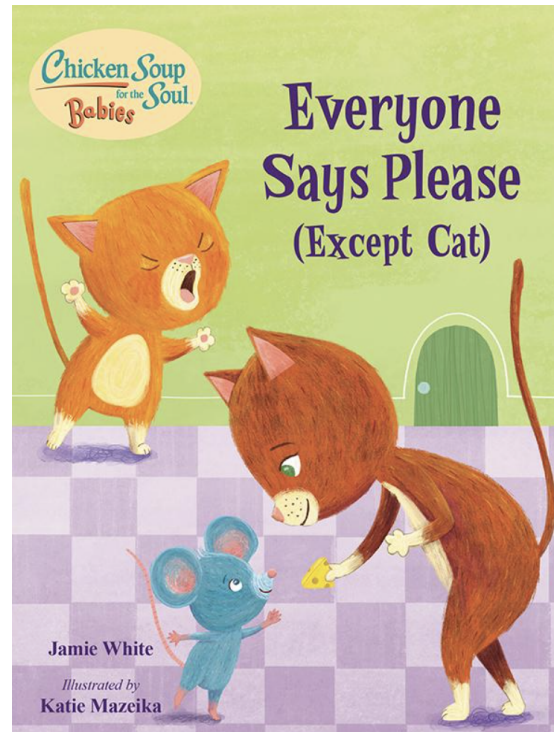
Cat is a charming grouchy character. All the animals at the playground like to share, all except Cat. Why won't Cat share the seesaw? Maybe he can be convinced to give it a try? Cat refuses to share the seesaw when the other animals want to play, but learns that this is the wrong item to control by yourself. Maybe sharing can be even more fun than being the boss. Cat eventually understands the rules of sharing.

The message about sharing is simple and relatable for toddlers/young pre-K and the teachings are easy to grasp. There is enough humor to keep it fun and light while still being meaningful.

***Chicken Soup for the Soul Babies:
Everyone Says Please (Except Cat)***

Jamie Michalak (Author),
Katie Mazeika (Illustrator),
Charlesbridge, 2021

This book reflects concerns about Cat's refusal to say the 'magic word'. The animal characters from the first book act as series players and acknowledge that saying please gets them what they want and need. Toddlers may relate to the epic temper tantrum that Cat throws midway through this story. It is only when Cat sees Mouse say the 'magic word' to Mama cat and copies this action that the kitty finally gets the desired cheese.



Valuable information of these “life lessons” are included at the end of the books for caregivers. For example, “Teach your toddler to notice the color of people’s eyes so that they can practice making eye contact.” Children will enjoy watching Cat work out his ‘bad behavior’. Sweet and silly, *Chicken Soup for the Soul Babies* make lessons easy and fun for the littlest learners. Young ones often learn manners when they are the object of impoliteness, they can reason the value of good manners such as sharing. Cat does not share and your child will see the injustice of this.

Both *Chicken Soup for the Soul Babies* titles feature bright paintings of toddler-shaped animals. The illustrations are vivid, detailed, adorable and child friendly. The artwork helps a child see the value of good manners. Both books could be fun in a one-on-one or small group reading, to talk about what the young reader actually observes. Also, used at a circle time, each book could prompt useful discussions. I believe these board books are a solid addition to a home library!

[Jamie Michalak](#) is the author of nearly forty books for children. She lives with her family in Rhode Island. [Katie Mazeika](#) holds a BFA in Illustration from the Columbus College of Art and Design She currently lives in Northern Ohio with her family. Amy Newmark is the editor of the *Chicken Soup for the Soul Babies* series.

Submitted by Karen Kosko

Days of the Month

December

[December 1 - International Prisoners for Peace Day](#)



Picture Courtesy of Fakurian Design, Unsplash.com

December 1st is dedicated to the Prisoners for Peace Day. For over 60 years, War Resisters' International (of which P.E.A.C.E. is an associate member) have on this day, announced the stories and names of those imprisoned because of their actions for peace. With the goal of refusing to join the military, many are conscientious objectors. Others have taken nonviolent actions to disrupt preparation for war.

This day provides a great opportunity for you to demonstrate your support for those individuals and their movements, by [writing to those whose freedom has been taken away from them because of their work for peace.](#)

December 3 - International Day of Persons with Disabilities



The International Day of Disabled Persons was established in 1992 by the United Nations. This day has become an annual observance day to celebrate and support the rights and well-being of people with disabilities, to raise awareness when thinking about political, social, economic and cultural life involvement.

In 2006, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was adopted, after many years of UN's work in the field of disability. This convention has furthered the rights and well-being for people with disabilities, through the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other international development frameworks,

such as the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action.

Picture courtesy of Danny Nee, Unsplash.com

December 21 - Soyal



On December 21st, the shortest day of the year, the Hopi and Zuni Indians celebrate Soyal: a winter solstice ceremony, *The Peaceful Ones*. This ceremonial ritual is intended to bring the sun back from its long winters.

Per the website, this ceremony is celebrated over a period of 16 days which starts with prayers and supplications and ends with a feast and Kachina Dance. The Native American name for this important ceremony is 'Soyalangwul' from which the term 'Soyal' is derived.

Picture courtesy of Ryan Stone, Unsplash.com

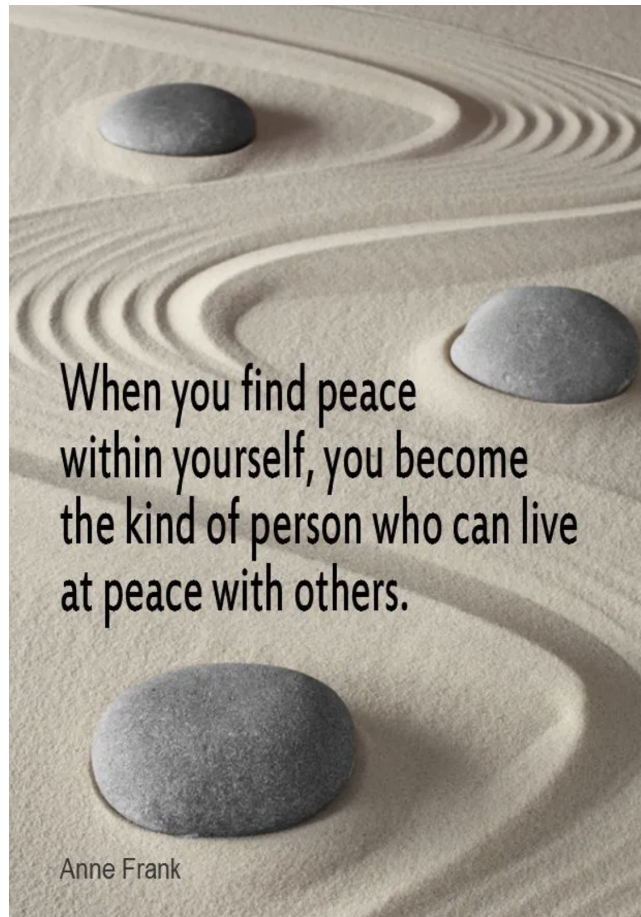
[December 26 to January 1 - Kwanzaa](#)

[Ideas on celebrating Kwanzaa with children.](#)



Picture courtesy of Parent.com

Quote of the Month



You're Important to Us!

Help us keep in touch!

Please contribute to our future as we support the peaceful world we and children need to thrive.

We are eager for new members, and active members. Membership is free, although you're encouraged to help us as you can. Spread the word and let us know how you would like to be engaged at 1peaceeducators@gmail.com.

Join Now

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f Follow us on Facebook

Join the NAEYC Interest Forum

Help bring peace education to the profession and the public!

If you would like to bring P.E.A.C.E., Inc.'s perspective to more teachers on the ground working with young children, there are opportunities both in person and online.

Particularly on [NAEYC's HELLO open forum](#) we have seen opportunities to engage on these issues.

Join actforpeace@googlegroups.com to follow our members' recommended actions and share your own! You can sign up at 1peaceeducators@gmail.com or directly through Google Groups. We hope you will spread the word about the actions by forwarding them on to others.

Visit our Website, peaceeducators.org!

