

Life-Link Peace Education Programme: Action Projects

Name of organization:
Life-Link Friendship-Schools Association



Life-Link Friendship-Schools Programme

An inspiration for youth and schools world-wide.

A choice among more than 50 concrete care and peace actions/projects that will benefit your school's International Curriculum and promote a Global Classroom

As of March 2007, 501 schools in 74 countries profit from the peace education programme: "Youth Caring and Sharing Peace Actions at Schools Worldwide."

Proposed peace actions (care actions, peace lectures, short projects) are listed below, and a manual as well as the Web site www.life-link.org offer guidelines for each of the proposed peace actions. Your class or some classes together or a youth club can at low costs perform peace actions either within the schools curriculum or during a few hours' extracurricular activities.

The Life-Link programme has two interrelated parts:

1. **Peace Actions (projects, lectures).** Youth, age preferably 12 – 19, in cooperation with teachers, and if possible also parents and community resource people, perform one or several "2 hours" or part-day peace actions as proposed in the Life-Link Manual. (www.life-link.org, resources, Life-Link manual). The peace actions/projects can be chosen from a list of more than 50 actions within the themes of *Care for Myself*, *Care for Others*, *Care for Nature* and *Lets Get Organized*. The actions should take place at or around your school or within your community, and can be initiated by a class or a club at your school. Each performed peace action should be summarized to Life-Link on a short Report Form by letter mail, fax or e-mail, or directly from www.life-link.org.

For new schools: By sending the first accepted Peace Action report, your school will be welcomed and your school will be listed on www.life-link.org in practice: *Schools & Actions*. The Life-Link programme needs no specific application form or entrance fee! Just join by performing local peace actions! Your school must cover the financing for performing peace actions, usually possible to run at a low cost! A Life-Link manual chapter on project management gives ideas on fundraising at the school.

2. **School-Linking or Partner-Schools collaboration.** When your school and your performed actions are reported and listed on www.life-link.org, you can study if other schools in the world have performed similar peace actions. Search on the specific peace action of your interest such as tree planting (action 3:06) or community service (action 2:12). Your class/club/school might be interested to contact other schools in order to

exchange protocols and experiences on your specific peace actions of interest. You are allowed to make such contacts directly using any available means of communication. Life-Link stresses the importance of proposing a time-limited partnership in your first contact with an other school, perhaps two months, and also describe what communication you want to carry out. A partner-schools collaboration benefits from good planning and excellent project management. Prolonged collaboration and projects can of course be the result of your first contact. Individual pen-pal contacts can grow out from early partner-schools contacts, and continue after the programme is finalized.

Life-Link Programme – Ethics

The Life-Link programme is built on natural and social sciences. Life-Link has neither political nor religious ties. The basic ethical value is to **Care**, to take personal *responsibility* and to *behave* within a Global Citizenship commitment.

The Life-Link concept of “peace” is to develop sustainable relations and behaviour on three interrelated levels:

- ❖ **Care for Myself** – The relation with myself including my attitudes and my concern for a healthy lifestyle.
- ❖ **Care for Others** – My relation with other people, including the traditional definitions of “Peace,” “Conflict Resolution,” “Reconciliation,” ”Human rights,” and “Security with others – Common Security.”
- ❖ **Care for Nature** – My relation with nature, the “environment”; A relation and “Reverence for Life” to be built in accordance with sustainability, “sustainable development” within Planet Earth’s limited resources.

The Life-Link programme also stresses the importance of project management, specifically **Lets Get Organized**. Any performed peace action or school-linking project must be carefully planned. Failing to plan is planning to fail!

Performing small peace actions locally and at the same time involving a thinking and feeling of global partnership is in accordance with a behaviouristic pedagogic and psychologic strategy. People must adapt their behaviour within our common “living-room” on Earth.

Life-Link has partnership with the UNESCO Culture for Peace programme, and has been awarded the “World Aware Award 2000” by the Council of Europe. Life-Link is registered in Sweden as a nongovernmental organization (NGO), an association with regulated and controlled finances and regular board meetings and protocols. The official working language internationally is English. The Life-Link Manual is translated into Russian and Spanish, and since 2005 also Arabic languages. A revised edition of the Life-Link Manual was presented in January 2007. The Life-Link present programme is built from a base of more than 1,500 peace actions proposed by 179 schools in 55 countries year 1999, an initiative taken for the new millennium in 2000.

Benefits: We believe that this programme with a holistic peace concept, will benefit youth, teachers, schools, communities, states and finally but not least the Earth. Some specific beneficial points and consequences are listed below.

You are welcome to perform at least one peace action at your school. You surely have several activities ongoing at your school that qualify for reporting, and such reports will be an

inspiration for other schools worldwide. A minimum of four reported actions during a year will merit a Life-Link Certificate for your school.

The *Green School Garden* action (3:10) is open for campaigning 2007-2008; more information on www.life-link.org.

The *Water for Life* (3:08) and *RRR Reduce-Reuse-Recycle* (3:05) campaigns will be promoted 2008. A peace action discussing *Human Trafficking* is prepared for introduction on the Life-Link agenda.

Uppsala Sweden April 2007 Hans Levander
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Who Benefits From the Life-Link Programme, and How

Youth

- Self-esteem, health concerns, and hope for the future
- Learning through practical projects and problem-solving
- Language and communication training
- Collaboration

Teachers – Educators

- Global classroom and global education
- Pedagogics for teaching-learning through problem solving
- Theory into practice
- Conflict resolution and mediation skills
- Interaction with community experts

Schools

- International curriculum
- Quality – attractive reputation
- Peaceful relations

Community

- Favourable interaction: school-parents-community
- Campaigns – clean up, water, tree planting, anti-drugs, etc.
- Non-violence
- Caring and sharing society

States and Countries

- Building confidence across borders
- Dialogue among civilisations
- Building common security
- From culture of war to culture of peace

Our Planet Earth

- Reverence for life and biology on earth
- Biological security
- Behaviour in Favour of sustainable development

Proposed “2-Hour” Actions and Projects Overview

Care for Myself

- 1:01 My Thoughts – Visions – Beliefs – Attitudes – Behaviour
- 1:02 State of Mind – “Have a Rest”
- 1:03 Green Medicine Day
- 1:04 Healthy Food and Healthy Eating Habits
- 1:05 Voice of the Youth
- 1:06 Religions and Peace
- 1:07 Art Expression and Peace
- 1:08 Massage
- 1:09 Self-Confidence – “3 Small Actions a Day”
- 1:10 Drugs – Alcohol – Cigarettes – Steroids -
- 1:11 Violence – Effects on My Body and Mind
- 1:12 Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- 1:13 Global Citizenship – Taking Responsibility
- 1:14 Social Addiction – Gambling, Computers etc
- 1:15 Sport & Peace - Get on the Move!

Care for Others

- 2:01 From a Culture of Violence to Culture of Peace/Care
- 2:02 Constructive Collaboration
- 2:03 Peer Mediation and Conflict Resolution
- 2:04 Land Mines and Guns
- 2:05 First Aid
- 2:06 Democracy
- 2:07 A Kindness Day and One Daily Action of Random Kindness
- 2:08 Multiculturalism
- 2:09 Children and War
- 2:10 The Rights of the Child
- 2:11 Contact Day
- 2:12 Community Service
- 2:13 Women Day – Men Day; Gender Equality
- 2:14 Handicapped People in Society
- 2:15 Anti-Harassment Program
- 2:16 Fair Trade
- 2:17 My Family
- 2:18 Poverty and Wealth

Care for Nature

- 3:01 SOS – Switch Off Something; Energy Resources and Sustainability
- 3:02 (IDEAS - reported actions will be registered under the topic 3:03 Clean Up)
- 3:03 Clean Up the World Campaign
- 3:04 Endangered Animals and Plants - Biodiversity
- 3:05 Passing the Message: “RRR; Reduce-Reuse-Recycle”
- 3:06 Tree Planting Action
- 3:07 Dramas – Art – Music – Writing - Poetry; about the Environment
- 3:08 Water for Life
- 3:09 Transports At and Around Our School
- 3:10 Green School Garden
- 3:11 Chemicals and Nature
- 3:12 Bushfire and Forrest Fire Prevention
- 3:13 UNESCO World Heritage Programme
- 3:14 Biodiversity – Agenda 21
- 3:15 Contact with Nature

Lets Get Organized

Inspiration, Project Management, Fundraising actions.

- 4:01 Hope and Joy. “Jumpstart Hurray – Let’s Do It!”
- 4:02 Party for the World – Creating Public Awareness
- 4:03 “What’s Up” – E-mail and Website Reporting
- 4:04 Fundraising, Dances and Services
- 4:05 Teamwork Through Games and Challenges
- 4:06 Project Management
- 4:07 Eco Club
- 4:08 Festival of Music and Poems
- 4:09 Media Project
- 4:11 Life-Link Campaign – Forthcoming Actions and Agenda at Our School
- 4:12 Model Parliament – Students School Council
- 4:13 United Nations and Intergovernmental Organisations
- 4:14 Economy and Financing

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Internet Homepage

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