

International Day of Peace

What do you know about the International Day of Peace? Read the article to find out what this special day is all about.

Instructions

Do the preparation exercise first. Then read the article and do the other exercises.

Preparation

Match the definitions (a-h) with the vocabulary (1-8).

Vocabulary	Definition
1. <u>g</u> to have the right to something	a. one of the 24 areas that the world is divided into, each with its own time
2. to suffer	b. a sign, shape or object that we use to represent something else
3. violence	c. to experience physical or mental pain
4. to destroy	d. a white or grey bird
5. a time zone	e. behaviour that is intended to hurt or kill somebody
6. a dove	f. a situation when someone hurts you or makes you feel bad again and again
7. a symbol	g. to expect to be treated fairly, or to have the things that are necessary for life
8. bullying	h. to damage something so badly that it no longer exists

International Day of Peace

Everyone has the right to a safe and happy life, but millions of people around the world are suffering because of war and violence. The International Day of Peace, on 21 September every year, is a day when we try to make a more peaceful world for everyone.

What does 'peace' mean?

Peace means different things to different people. To many, peace means no violence or war. It means living without being frightened or worried. Peace also means being kind to other people and living with them without fights or arguments.

What happens when there is war?

War destroys people's families, homes and lives. Wherever you live, hearing about violence and war can make you feel frightened, sad, angry or worried. If you have these feelings, talk to a parent, a teacher or another adult you trust. Remember that many people are working hard to end the wars and violence happening around the world.

What happens on the International Day of Peace?

On 21 September, at midday, there is a minute of silence. This happens in all the time zones across the world. People take part in lots of other events on this day, for example they play football matches, do yoga, watch films or listen to concerts. The dove is the symbol of peace, and many schoolchildren create artwork and decorations with doves to celebrate. Some children write messages and poems about peace or sing special songs.

What can we do every day for peace?

You can try to bring peace to your own life by saying sorry and making peace with someone you know. Or you can try to help stop arguments among your friends and classmates. Standing up against bullying at school is also an important way to bring peace to the people around you. Small actions add up to great things when they are multiplied by millions of people all over the planet, and we can all help make the world a more peaceful place.

Tasks

Task 1

Circle the best answer.

- How many people around the world are suffering because of wars and violence?
a. hundreds b. thousands c. millions
- When is the International Day of Peace?
a. 21 September b. 25 December c. 21 June
- What's the best thing to do if you feel worried about war?
a. talk to a parent,
teacher or another adult b. watch TV c. look for information
online
- What do people do at twelve o'clock midday on the International Day of Peace?
a. sing a song b. be silent for one
minute c. read a poem
- What can you do to make your school more peaceful?
a. arrive late in the
morning b. forget your
homework c. help stop arguments
and bullying
- What is the symbol of peace?
a. a parrot b. a dove c. a penguin

Task 2

Put the words and phrases in order to make sentences.

1. and happy the right to life. a safe Everyone has
-

2. no war. Peace means violence or
-

3. or worried. frightened It means living without being
-

4. being people. to other kind Peace also means

.....

5. Many people and violence. are working hard wars to end

.....

6. the world make peaceful place. We can all help a more

.....

Write and draw

What can you do to be kind and peaceful to other people? Tell us about it and draw a picture.

Answers

Preparation task

1. g
2. c
3. e
4. h
5. a
6. d
7. b
8. f

Task 1

1. c
2. a
3. a
4. b
5. c
6. b

Task 2

1. Everyone has the right to a safe and happy life.
2. Peace means no violence or war.
3. It means living without being frightened or worried.
4. Peace also means being kind to other people.
5. Many people are working hard to end wars and violence.
6. We can all help make the world a more peaceful place.