

LESSON PLANS & STUDENT ACTIVITIES

PEACEKEEPING: MAKING A PEACEKEEPER DOLL

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Understand what peacekeeping is and Canada's role in history as peacekeepers
- Understand that small acts of kindness make a difference to those in conflict zones
- Participate in an interdisciplinary fibre arts activity
- Have fun!

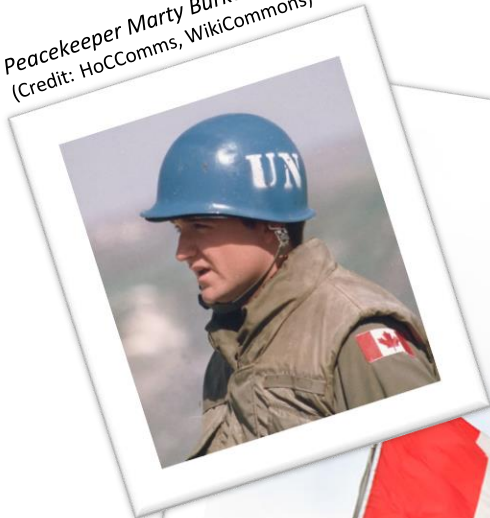
ACTIVITY:

- Read (project, print or verbalize) the information about peacekeeping and Izzy Dolls included below. Discuss the questions provided as a large group or by using an alternative discussion strategy such as "think, pair, share."
- Gather all supplies in advance and lay them out so that students can easily find what they need
- Ensure all students have access to the Peacekeeper Doll instruction sheet and necessary supplies to make their own Peacekeeper Doll.

MODIFICATION:

- Encourage students to think about and share ideas for ways that they could be helpful to people living in conflict zones. Act on these ideas.

Peacekeeper Marty Burke in 1976
(Credit: HoCComms, WikiCommons)



Peacekeeping Memorial, Ottawa
(Credit: Ken Banks, WikiCommons)

Objectives:

Our Intention is to educate Canadian Citizens so that they:

- » *Appreciate the role of our military heritage in protecting Canadian interests, values and beliefs.*
- » *Understand the role our military history has had in shaping our country and the world.*
- » *Are inspired to be engaged and well-informed participatory citizens of Canada.*

Historical Era: 1956-Present

Intended Student Body:

Grades 4 – 8

(with adult support)

* *Activity could be modified for all grades and ability levels.*

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

- Peacekeeping reading & Craft instructions (provided)
- Craft supplies (see below)

PEACEKEEPING: HOW TO MAKE A PEACEKEEPER DOLL

Peacekeeping is a way of supporting the transition from war to peace. Peacekeepers can play many roles including protecting civilians, promoting human rights, supporting elections, and disarming former combatants. The United Nations (UN), a global organization that maintains world peace and security, decides when and where peacekeeping missions will take place. Peacekeepers are often identified by their blue berets or helmets. Blue is the colour of the United Nations.

There are three guiding principles to peacekeeping:

1. All fighting parties must agree to having peacekeepers present.
2. Peacekeepers must not favour one side over another.
3. Peacekeepers must not use force unless in self-defence or defence of the mission.

Peacekeeping is exceptionally difficult and has not always been successful. It raises complex questions about when and how to intervene in conflict, and when peacekeepers can use deadly force. Because of these difficulties, the number of Canadian peacekeepers has been decreasing since the 1960s.

In 2018, Canada sent ~250 peacekeepers to Mali, a mission known as MINUSMA (Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali). Canadian peacekeepers in Mali play a role in medical evacuations, transporting goods and supporting other peacekeepers.

During a mission in Croatia, a Canadian Peacekeeper named Mark Isfeld saw a doll on the rubble of a bombed building. It was then that he realized how deeply children in conflict zones are affected by war. He wanted to help by providing children with a toy that they could call their own. His mother, Carol, made woolen dolls that her son then distributed. Sadly, Mark Isfeld was killed in action on June 21, 1994. After his death, his regiment continued to hand out “Izzy Dolls,” named in Mark’s honour. Since then, people have continued to make them, and more than a million dolls have been given to children in need. The pattern for a knitted Izzy Doll can be found at izzydoll.ca.



*An authentic Izzy Doll
(Credit: izzydoll.ca)*

Discussion Questions:

1. What role should Canada play in the world? Should Canada support peacekeeping? Why or why not?
2. Should peacekeeping continue to be an important part of Canadian identity?



*Canadian Peacekeepers in Egypt, 1962
(Credit: LAC, MIKAN 2846175)*



*Canadian Peacekeepers in Egypt, 1962
(Credit: LAC, MIKAN 2846175)*

How to Make a Peacekeeper Doll:

CRAFT SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Yarn (odds and ends of all colours)
- Skin tone felt (a variety of skin tones is desirable) cut into 1" x 3" rectangles
- Light blue felt cut into 2" squares
- Optional: other colours of felt for clothing (white, brown, deep green, etc.)
- Scissors
- Cardboard or firm card stock cut into 4" x 6" rectangles (see template below)
- Ruler
- At least one thin point black felt pen (can be shared by the class)
- Glue (glue gun is best, but quick dry tacky glue works)
- Needles and thread can be used instead of glue



Note: All sizes and lengths are flexible! Alter the instructions and templates as needed.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Gather all of the supplies needed to make your Peacekeeper Doll.
2. Cut 6 ~20 cm pieces of yarn and set aside. It is possible to use any colour of yarn, but a skin tone colour looks most realistic.
3. Loosely wrap your yarn ~40 times the long way around the cardboard or cardstock rectangle. Gently slide the yarn off of the rectangle. This will make the head and body of your doll.
4. Using the 20 cm piece of yarn you cut earlier, tightly tie a double knot around the top of the looped yarn to make a head.
5. Loosely wrap your yarn ~15 times the short way around the rectangle to make arms. Slide the yarn off the rectangle and tie a piece of yarn around each side to make hands.
6. Slide the arms into the large loops of yarn forming the body and tie a knot underneath to make a waist.
7. Cut the loops at the bottom of the body. Make legs by dividing the yarn into two pieces and tying yarn around the bottom to make feet.
8. Trim any pieces of yarn sticking out of the body and considering trimming the feet.
9. Cut out a 1" x 3" piece of skin tone coloured felt. Wrap it around the doll's head and use glue to connect the overlapping pieces. It is also possible to use a needle and thread to sew the felt together.
10. Draw on eyes and a mouth using the fine tip black felt pen.
11. Create hair for your Peacekeeper Doll by wrapping yarn around a ruler, business card, or stack of small post-it notes, etc., ~40 times. Slide the loops off and tie a knot around one side of the loop. Cut the yarn across from your knot and spread the yarn into a circle



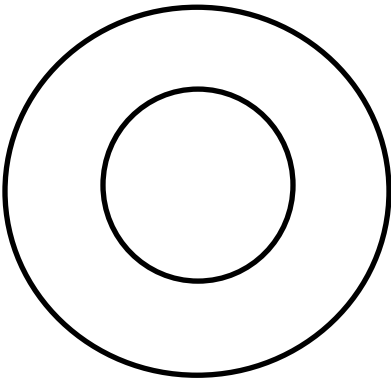
around the knot. Glue the “hair” to the top of the Peacekeeper Doll’s head and trim it to the length you would like. The hair does not need to be perfect because it will be mostly covered with a beret.

12. Cut out the beret template and trace it onto light blue felt. Carefully put a thin line of glue around the edge of the bigger circle and glue the small circle to it. You could also use a needle and thread to sew the two pieces together. Glue or sew the beret onto the Peacekeeper Doll’s head.
13. Optional: create clothing for your Peacekeeper Doll.
 - a. Create sleeves and pants by cutting out felt rectangles long enough to cover the doll’s arms and legs. Wrap, then glue or sew the felt around the arms and legs. Use the shirt template below to add a shirt AFTER putting on doll’s sleeves and pants.



Clothing Templates:

Beret: Cut out two circles using the template below as a guide. Cut out the middle circle from ONE of the circles.



Shirt: Cut out felt the same size as the box below and cut along the dotted lines to make arm holes. Consider folding and gluing the felt on the top corners to form a collar.

