WHO WILL YOU MAKE PEACE WITH ON 21 SEPTEMBER?

For a media-rich interactive format of this lesson, and over 20 others, visit www.peaceoneday.org/education
One Day One Goal

Background for Teachers:

On his travels Jeremy saw first hand how sport can be used as a unifying influence, and now Peace One Day is using the power of football to spread the message of Peace Day with One Day One Goal (ODOG). The idea is simple: to see matches played on 21 September in all 193 member states of the UN and beyond; this happened for the first time in 2008. These matches unite people from different communities and different cultures. And all you need is a ball and a patch of land. Visit www.peaceoneday.org/one-day-one-goal for more information.

There is a longstanding synergy between sports and peace; before organising an ODOG football match in your school, ask students to explore these two famous examples below.

Christmas Day, 1914, the Western Front: in the midst of the horrific trench warfare of World War I, German, French and British soldiers created a truce of their own. German soldiers began singing carols, leading to other soldiers from all sides tentatively stepping up into 'no-man’s-land', sharing a drink and even taking a group photograph. On 26 December, their solidarity found its highest expression in a game of football, probably using a ball hastily made of straw.

The Olympic Truce is believed to have begun in the eighth century BC and was observed in some form for 12 centuries. The Truce protected participants as they travelled to the games. The spirit of the Truce has been revived since the emergence of the modern Olympic movement, with its ideals to serve peace, friendship and understanding in the world.

UN General Assembly Resolution 55/282 calls on individuals to observe Peace Day. 21 September, therefore, has unique value as a catalyst for global unification and presents an unprecedented opportunity for individuals, particularly young people, to become the driving force behind such a vision.

Purpose of the Lesson:

In this lesson, students will explore the unifying influence of sports and organise a One Day One Goal football match in school that would focus on bringing together people of diverse cultures. This activity could be part of your school’s Peace Day celebration.

Lesson Objectives:

At the end of this lesson, students should be able to
- Actively promote interest in, and appreciation of, sports as a unifying influence and a conduit for fostering a culture of peace and non-violence
- Participate in planning and organising a One Day One Goal football match in school on Peace Day, 21 September
Introducing the lesson:
Present relevant background information, the purpose of the lesson, and the learning objectives.

Teacher/Learner Activity 1 – Organising your One Day One Goal Football Game:
- Hand out Resource A and ask various students to read a paragraph each from the fictitious letter about the Christmas Truce. Ask students to think about the following questions while listening to the words.
  - Think about the first soldier to step up and out of the trenches into no-man's-land.
  - What might he have been feeling?
  - What could have happened to him?
  - Why do you suppose people still talk about this event almost 100 years later?
- Introduce the idea of a One Day One Goal football match, or other sporting event, for Peace Day. What might be some benefits from it?
- Refer to Resource B and Resource C, review and explain to the class. (The whole class could work together on this, or the class could be broken into Action Committees of 4 or 5.)
- Students should discuss and agree on the objective of the Action Committee (to organise a One Day One Goal activity for September 21).
- Students should select a chairperson and a minute-taker.
- Read over with the students Resource D, One Day One Goal Brief, and make sure each student has a role and participates.
- Students should write down any tasks they agree to complete.
- Students should agree on a date, time and location for the next meeting.
- At the next meeting, students should be prepared to develop and agree on a timeline for the project.

Teacher/Learner Activity 2 – Opening Ceremony Speech:
- To help solidify learning and to keep the project in focus, ask students to write a short piece (one to two paragraphs) outlining the reasons for the class's decision to organise a One Day One Goal event to celebrate Peace Day.
- As they write, ask students to consider the history of sport (and sports people) as a unifying influence – sport as a catalyst for intercultural cooperation (the 1914 Christmas Truce, the Olympic Truce, communication and teamwork). The paragraphs will form the basis of the actual speech to be made at the One Day One Goal event, and could also be the basis of other written materials such as articles, posters, press releases, or letters to parents and community.
- Ask volunteers to read out their draft Opening Ceremony Speech. Are any lines especially inspirational?
- Keep all the inspirational lines together for later use in preparing the written materials. They can then be given to the students who are responsible for putting the final written materials together.

Reflection/Ideas to Discuss:
- Review and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the Action Committee.
- Did the students stick to their objectives?
- Ask various students to share their feelings about their participation in the Action Committee.

Review the purpose of the lesson and learning objectives to determine mastery.
ONE DAY ONE GOAL
HIGHLIGHTS
Dear Mum and Dad,

We have been living in these waterlogged trenches for two months. There are more rats now. We lost John Morrison from down Albion Street last week. He popped his head up and caught a bullet in the neck. When people die out here it’s not calm, drifting off into a sleep. John was fighting it all the way. I sat talking to him. He’s crying, calls for his mum. Then his whole body tenses up and I can see the life leaving his eyes. 18 years old. I have seen things here that I never want to see again. It’s not like they said it would be. Not much glory.

The men are in good spirits, though. Something has happened here that I can’t quite believe. Dad, you’re going to love this. This morning, we start to hear singing coming over no-man’s-land. It’s a Christmas carol in German, ‘Silent Night.’ A couple of our boys start singing along, in English though. Then there are shouts of “Merry Christmas” from both sides.

We see a white sheet being waved over the top of the German trench and before you know it one of their boys has climbed up and is standing in no-man’s-land calling us over. We could have shot him easy but we don’t. Suddenly Harry Higgins turns to me and he says, “You coming, Tommo?” And he starts to climb up! Well, I don’t know what to do! I mean, we’ve been shooting at these boys for months. Then from up on top I hear, “Come on, Tommo, it’s Christmas!”

Without thinking, I follow Harry towards the middle of no-man’s-land where there’s a half a dozen German boys chatting and laughing. All down the line our lads are climbing up. My heart’s pounding. I’m terrified but somehow I know it’s all right.

You know, the German boys are the same as me. They miss their home, their friends and family just like we do. Lucky they spoke good English. We talked and laughed for about twenty minutes. One of their boys brought a cake. We showed one another photographs of home.

Then Harry pulls out a camera and we take some photos, us with their helmets on and them with ours. Then one of their boys produces a football, only it’s made of straw and tied together with string. Still, it’s a football. So there we are, two armies kicking a ball around in no-man’s-land with helmets for goalposts. Do you know what, Dad? There wasn’t a single word spoken in anger the whole time we were up there.

Soon, some of the officers from both sides came over and started giving orders to break up the game; and it wouldn’t do to disobey an order, as you know.

As I write this it’s nighttime. It feels strange. There’s not much anger for the ‘enemy’ tonight, but the order to fire will come again. There are candles all along the tops of both trenches as far as you can see.

I’ll write again soon. Merry Christmas to all. I hope you’re both well and happy.

Your loving son,

Tom
AS A STARTING POINT FOR ORGANISING YOUR OWN PEACE DAY ACTIVITIES, THIS STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE WILL HELP YOU ESTABLISH AN ACTION COMMITTEE AND AN AGENDA FOR YOUR EVENTS.

GETTING STARTED

1. Select a Chair and Minute-taker.
2. The Chairperson directs the meeting.
3. The Minute-taker makes notes.
4. Agree on what the meeting is for: the objective.
5. Agree on all the other roles.
6. Make an agenda, a list of points or tasks to complete.
7. Discuss each point on the agenda.
8. Agree on actions by votes.
9. Agree on a date for the next Action Committee meeting.

REMEMBER
Speak one at a time. Make positive contributions and listen to others.

ACTION COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

OBJECTIVE:

CHAIRPERSON:

MINUTE-TAKER:

MY ROLE:

AGENDA/ ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. ACTION:
2. ACTION:
3. ACTION:
4. ACTION:

NEXT MEETING DATE:

HOMEWORK

- Reflect on the meeting and write up what went well and what could be improved next time.
- Write a plan of what you will do next: e.g., if you plan to take photographs, what kinds of photos will you take? Where will you take them? How will you get hold of the equipment? Do you need to get the photos developed?
- Implement the plan before the next Action Committee meeting.

Resource B – Action Committee Guidelines
**Commitment Countdown Diary**

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### Preparation Activities

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### Completion Activities

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ONE DAY ONE GOAL BRIEF

USE THIS WORKSHEET TO ORGANISE YOUR ONE DAY ONE GOAL EVENT FOR PEACE DAY. THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE BASED ON A FOOTBALL MATCH; HOWEVER, YOU MAY WANT TO ORGANISE A RUGBY MATCH, TRACK AND FIELD DAY, OR SOME OTHER SPORTING EVENT. READ THE ‘GETTING STARTED’ SECTION FIRST TO THINK ABOUT WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE AND WHAT YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE. YOU MIGHT WANT TO ESTABLISH AN ACTION COMMITTEE AND RECORD YOUR IDEAS AND TASKS USING A COMMITMENT COUNTDOWN DIARY.

GETTING STARTED

There’s more to football than the game! What needs to be done?
- How many teams will be involved?
- Is it one game or a mini-tournament?
- Are the teams made up of players from your class or are you looking for volunteers from the whole school?
- If your school has a ‘house’ system, perhaps each house puts a team forward.
- Do you want to organise a game or mini-tournament with another school?
- Who will be captain of each team?
- Each team needs a name. Ideas could be voted on by the class, house, or team.
- Perhaps each team could take on the name of a national team.
- Are there local sport grounds that may wish to host a game or mini-tournament? Who will contact them?

TRAINING

- Teams could train in Physical Education classes or at the football club. Do you need to set up a separate training programme? Who will do that?
- Invite local professional football players to help with training. Who will contact them?
- Would the science department like to run a sports science/nutrition class?

LETTING PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT THE GAME

- Who will put together promotional materials, posters, press releases, school magazine articles, etc.? Promotional materials need to explain the reason behind One Day One Goal, i.e., Peace Day, 21 September, and Peace One Day.
- Who will contact the local newspapers, radio stations, etc.?
- Talk to your teacher about inviting parents to the game.
- Can you make an announcement in assembly to help build interest?

THE DAY OF THE GAME

- Who will referee?
- Who will write the speech for the opening ceremony? Who will read it out? The Head Teacher?
- Will the teams wear special jerseys to raise awareness of Peace Day? They could be designed in school.
- Do you want to make badges or medals for everyone involved? Who will make them?
- Is the winning team awarded a trophy? Where can you find a trophy? A local sports shop may want to donate one in return for some publicity.
- Who will arrange for refreshments for the teams and how will they be paid for?
- Do you want to find cheerleaders?
- Find a game photographer and someone to film the game. Where can you find the camera?
- Will there be refreshments available for the spectators?