

**First Day School
and
Parenting Resources**

1999–2000

A bibliography for Meetings
in New England Yearly Meeting

**First Day School and
Parenting Resources : 1999–2000**

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England Yearly Meeting

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Layout and design :: John Fuller

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About This Book

First Day School and Parenting Resources catalogues the items in the Browsing Library of the New England Yearly Meeting (NEYM) Christian Education Committee. Since the Library grows and changes, the work of this bibliography is ongoing, and we hope to update it periodically.

Purpose

Our purpose is to assist meetings with First Day School materials or parents with Quaker parenting. This is a reference, rather than a catalogue. When the Library is on display (at Yearly Meeting Sessions and by request at monthly and quarterly meetings), this bibliography will help you focus on what you want to peruse, and gives you information for ordering this material. No attempt has been made to determine which titles are in print and where one may find a particular piece.

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How to Find What You're Looking For

You can locate materials three ways:

- by title (alphabetically in the main section);
- by author (in the index beginning on page 87);
- by subject with grade/age correlation (in the subject index beginning on page 97).

For More Copies of This Booklet:

Each Meeting in NEYM will be given a copy. Additional copies are available for \$6.00 (includes shipping) from the NEYM Office, 901 Pleasant Street, Worcester MA 01602.

About the Reviews:

All annotation comes from NEYM Christian Education Committee members. Some are long and opinionated, some are short and factual. This reflects the personal style of the reviewer, not a judgment about relative merit of the material. The reviews were done over several years, and many reviews were not signed; the initials after the text identify the following reviewers:

AL Andy Linn
AV Alex Vanderburgh
CMJ Christel Jorgenson
JAK Jean Kennison
KW Kim Wiegand
LJ Lynda Johnson
LW Lee Webb
NH Nicholas Horton
WCB Wanda Coffin Baker

Many thanks to the CE Committee member reviewers, to John Fuller for designing this booklet, and to New England Yearly Meeting for funding this project.

Where to Find Materials

Quaker Sources:

Friends General Conference Book Service: 1/800/966-4556
1216 Arch Street 2B
Philadelphia, PA 19107 www.quakerbooks.org

Quaker Hill Bookstore: 1/800/537-8838
101 Quaker Hill Drive
Richmond, IN 47374

Pendle Hill Bookstore: 1/800/742-3150
338 Plush Mill Road
Wallingford, PA 19086

Other Sources & Information:

Most bookstores will order in-print books.

For more information about availability,
contact Christel Jorgenson, the NEYM
Youth and Education Secretary, at
1/617/625-4494 or cmjorgens@aol.com
or the NEYM Office at 1/508/754-6760.

Alphabetical List of Materials

Adventures in Peacemaking

Kreidler, William J.;
Furlong, Lisa

Work/Family Directions,
Educators for Social
Responsibility, and
Project Adventure, Inc.,
1995,
345 pages

Subjects: Peace

Grades: 3–5, 6–8, 9–12

Review:

“A Conflict Resolution Activity Guide for School-age Programs.” A lot of material, all presented in activity form with bountiful teacher guidance — a great resource. Builds to Conflict Resolution with Cooperation, Communication, Expressing Feelings, and Appreciating Diversity. Suitable for daily use. —AV

All My Relations

Verrall, Catherine

Canadian Alliance in
Solidarity with Native
Peoples, 1988,
140 pages

Subjects: Religion & Other
Faiths, Nature,
Art

Grades: K-2, 3-5

Review:

“Sharing Native Values Through the Arts.” Storytelling, poems, music, and crafts in a loose-leaf format. Good ideas not very clearly organized, but certainly sufficient for finding some materials for some class sessions. —CMJ

Alternatives to Violence

Bickmore, Kathy; Northwest
Ohio ATV Committee

Peace Grows, Inc., 1992,
126 pages

Subjects: Peace, Social
Issues

Grades: 9-12, adults

Review:

"A Manual for Teaching
Peacemaking to Youth and
Adults." Background,
worksheets, discussion
questions, and many case
studies for doing Alternatives to
Violence workshops or related
group work. -AV

As the Way Opens

PYM Committee on
Children and Young
People

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting,
48 pages

Subjects: Social Issues,
Quakerism, Bible

Grades: all

Review:

A treasure of imaginative ideas
and activities to teach people of
any age, i.e., the content can be
adapted to be appropriate for
any age group. Topics include :
hearing God's call to Christian
service, getting started on a
spiritual journey, and the
careers of John Woolman and
Martin Luther King, Jr. Among
the excellent stories suggested
are the true history of Mary
Fisher and Tennyson's "Visions
of Sir Launfal." -AL

Add'l books needed: no

Bible Heroes I Can Be

Eisenberg, Ann; Schanzer,
Rosalyn, illustrator

Kar-Ben Copies, Inc., 1990,
20 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: Pre-K

Review:

Bright, colorful pictures with only a few words on each page, encouraging young children to think of Old Testament characters and how we can be like them. Pages with the text, "King David played beautiful music. So can I," and a big picture of David and his harp, and a little one of a young girl with her xylophone. All the pictures of the children imitating personalities are girls! That's the only limitation to an otherwise totally delightful book. -LJ

Add'l books needed: no

Bible Songs on Timeless Themes

Navias, Eugene

Unitarian Universalist
Association, 1991,
40 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: 3-5

Review:

Engaging songs to enrich the "Timeless Themes" curriculum (see that entry), some new ones and some traditional.

Bible Stories to Read and Color

Araten, Harry
Kar-Ben Copies, Inc., 1991,
31 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: Pre-K, K-2

Review:

14 one-page stories of various Old Testament personalities and events for an adult to read, accompanied by a drawing for the child to color. Topics include : Eve and Adam, Noah, Sarah and Abraham, Moses, David and Goliath, and Daniel.

-LJ

Add'l books needed: no

Book about Jesus

American Bible Society,
1986,
80 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

The approximately 50 stories in this book (1-2 pages each) cover incidents in Jesus' life from the beginning to the end and the new beginning. Special sections include stories of Jesus' miracle-working, helping people, and teaching. In the back of the book is a glossary of terms, notes about Jewish and societal beliefs in Jesus' time, and an index with subject and Bible references. Overall, this book is intended for a younger audience than most of the other Bible books available. -LJ

Add'l books needed: no

But God Remembered

Sasso, Sandy Eisenberg
Jewish Lights Publishing,
1995,
31 pages
Subjects: Bible, Religion
Grades: K-2, 3-5

Review:

"Stories about Women from Creation to the Promised Land." In the Jewish midrash tradition of stories about stories in the Bible, these tell about women from biblical and ancient times that are not well known, but remember and imagine what might have been. A tender, beautiful book.–CMJ

Centering Toys

Randall, Allison
Made by Allison Randall ,
Current
Subjects: Parenting
Grades: Pre-K, K-2

Review:

Not a book, but definitely a resource. If you have children who need to keep their hands occupied to stay centered in Meeting, the cloth work of Allison Randall will help. Cloth rings, cloth books, and simple stuffed dolls are quiet and provide an abstract, interesting visual and tactile focus. –CMJ

Challenges of Daily Life; Helping Friends Respond

Brick, Lynne; Henderson,
Barbara; PYM Religious
Education Committee

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting, 1981,
34 pages

Subjects: Human
Development/
values

Grades: K-2, 3-5, 6-8

Review:

Seven different topics include :
listening, prayer, anger, faith in
the face of evil, helping children
to deal with crisis, teaching
children about aging, teaching
children about death and dying.
The first three topics and the
last two can be included in a
regular curriculum.
Discussions, songs and stories,
as well as Bible references are
included. "Faith in the face of
evil" and "helping children deal
with crisis" are resources to be
used when required. -LW

Child's First Bible, A

Stoddard, Sandol

Dial Books for Young
Children, 1990,
96 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: K-2

Review:

This Bible retells forty Bible
stories for young children, with
large graceful illustrations by
Tony Chen making it a good
read aloud storybook. -CMJ

Child's Life of Jesus

Bohmer, John

Ave Maria Press, 1990,
39 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: Pre-K, K-2

Review:

Simple text with watercolor illustrations tells the story of Jesus's life in the present tense. Could serve as a storybook for younger children, or as the basis for discussion and activities for older ones.

Choices : A Stewardship Study for Teens

Johns, Helen; Leadley,
Robert A.

Brethren Press, Evangel
Publishing House, Faith
& Life Press, Mennonite
Publishing House, 1989,
teacher's guide : 32
pages; also contains 6
pupil sessions, each with
4 pages

Subjects: Social Issues,
Nature, Bible

Grades: 6-8, 9-12

Review:

This study squarely faces choices young people have about how to spend their money and what Jesus teaches about stewardship. Supplementary material details such practical things as making a budget, balancing a checkbook, buying a car, donations, and taxes. There are helpful lesson plans and activities for the teacher, and illustrated activity sheets with articles, financial facts, and Scripture Alerts for the students. -JAK

Add'l books needed: none

Christmas Programs with a Twist

Briggs, Elinor; PYM
Religious Education
Committee

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting, 1989,
29 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: all ages

Review:

Nine non-traditional, informal plays for meetings to use at Christmas. No script need be memorized; rehearsals are for characters to understand their roles. Props and background requirements are low-key. Especially good for meetings that are familiar with plays and acting. -LW

Cobblestone : Quakers

Chorlian, Meg, editor

Cobblestone Publishing,
Inc., December, 1995,
48 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: 3-6

Review:

Cobblestone History Magazine for Young People produced an issue about Quakers that is factual and accessible, covering several aspects of history and current practice, well-illustrated, with a puzzle and word-matching exercise.-CMJ

Color Me Quaker

Friends United Meeting,
22 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: K-2, 3-5

Review:

This is to supplement other curriculum material. The 22 pictures to be colored cover a wide range of Quaker history and help in understanding Quaker testimonies. Individual pictures can be reproduced and used with other lessons

Add'l books needed: Y

Conflict Resolution in the Middle School

Kreidler, William J.

Educators for Social
Responsibility, 1994,
324 pages

Subjects: Peace, Social
Issues, Teaching

Grades: 6-8

Review:

This is a curriculum and teaching guide for grades 6-8. Twenty-six lessons are presented in detail. Lesson plans are quite detailed, vocabulary and concepts carefully developed for a unit lasting about 5 or 6 weeks. Handouts are included. Lessons could also be used individually, making modifications in the plans if the children will not have had exposure to the other lessons. -LW

Creative Conflict Resolution

Kreidler, William J.
Scott Foresman & Company,
1984,
216 pages

Subjects: Peace, Social
Issues, Teaching

Grades: K-2, 3-5

Review:

“More than 200 Activities for Keeping Peace in the Classroom” Group leaders and teachers working with children K-6 will find the methods for peace in the classroom in this book very valuable. Knowledge of methods recommended by the author will change an adult leader’s approach to a group. Use of activities in the book will help the leader try and resolve conflict among members of the group. I feel the book would be most useful if the adult leader has the book available and is familiar with both the book’s philosophy and type of activities. -LW

Add'l books needed: none

Dictionary of Friends Terms

Kimball, Beatrice; Holden,
Joyce

Friends United Press,
Undated,
41 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: all ages

Review:

Literally a dictionary. Could be used to make word to definition exercises. Also cites references, for example, for “Christ Within”, it cites John 1 : 9, Romans 8, Revelation 3 : 20, Faith and Practice (London Yearly Meeting) 229, and The People Called Quakers.

Discover The World

Hopkins, Susan; Winters,
Jeffrey

New Society Publishers,
1990,
158 pages

Subjects: Peace, Human
Development/Val
ues, Social Issues

Grades: K-2, 3-5

Review:

“Empowering Children to Value Themselves, Others, and the Earth.” Many ideas to stimulate awareness and response to self, others, the environment, other cultures, the world. A good reference for special calendar days to celebrate, many hands-on activities.

Discovery Play : Christmas

Snyder, Mary

Quaker Cottage Industries,
Current

Subjects: Bible

Grades: Pre-K, K-2

Review:

This attractive kit contains hand carved wooden figures to be used while telling the Nativity story which is provided in a simplified form. LS

Discovery Play : Shepherd and Sheep

Snyder, Mary

Quaker Cottage Industries,
Current

Subjects: Bible

Grades: Pre-K, K-2

Review:

This is a set for use with young children. Included in the small canvas bag are simple wooden figures, a felt "ground" and a sheet of suggested uses. The sheep set is for teaching the 23d Psalm, or any of the many sheep stories in the Bible. This set has great appeal. LS

Discovery Play : Quaker Figures

Snyder, Mary

Quaker Cottage Industries,
Current

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: Pre-K, K-2

Review:

Lovely, set of simple wooden figures for telling Quaker stories with young children — can be purchased singly or as a set. —CMJ

DK Illustrated Family Bible

Costecalde, Dr. Claude-
Bernard, consulting ed.

Dorling Kindersley, Ltd.,
1997,
384 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: 3-5, 6-8, 9-12,
adult

Review:

For use at home or for a small group of children at meeting, this Bible takes NIV translation text and arranges it to make continuous story lines. Sidebars with cultural, historical, and biblical reference material makes it a good learning tool for children and parents. Vivid illustrations break up pages in interesting ways to make it more approachable. -CMJ

Doctor Seuss for First Day Schools

Brick, Lynne; Henderson,
Barbara; Sweeney,
Donna; PYM Religious
Education Committee

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting, 1989,
37 pages

Subjects: Human
Development/
values

Grades: K-2, 3-5

Review:

Using beloved Dr. Seuss stories (books not included), this loose-leaf curriculum fashions 18 lessons with questions and activities, Bible, story and song references. -CMJ

Add'l books needed: Need Dr.
Seuss books

Does God Have a Big Toe?

Gellman, Marc

Harper Collins Publishers,
1989,
88 pages

Subjects: Bible, Religion &
Other Faiths

Grades: all ages

Review:

In Jewish tradition, scripture can be explained by means of "midrashim" or stories about stories in the Bible. This delightful collection of modern midrashim sprinkled with good humor brings the Bible to life for children (and adults) of all ages.

-CMJ

Doubleday Illustrated Children's Bible

Stoddard, Sandol

Bantam Doubleday Dell
Publishing Group, 1983,
383 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: 3-5, 6-8

Review:

This paraphrased Bible uses graphically clear, simple text to tell major stories in a continuous flow. It features clarity of speech and print and beautiful illustrations by Tony Chen.

-CMJ

Dreaming God's Dream

Sehested, Ken, editor;
McGinnis, Kathleen,
Family Activities Guide

Baptist Peace Fellowship of
North America, 1989,
134 pages; Family
Activities Guide : 86
pages

Subjects: Peace, Social
Issues

Grades: all

Review:

"Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." Family Activities Guide has background history, activities for all ages, recommended reading, quotes from King, songs, chronology, etc. Study Materials for Church, Home and School has learning-based activities for six age groups (preschool to adult) and lesson outlines, plus outline and activities for a day long intergenerational workshop. Appendix includes quotes, litany and group prayers, personal/family pledge, and chronology. -WCB

Earthcare for Children

Farley, Sandra Moon; Egly,
Diana Gail; Farley,
Thomas Baxter

Friends Committee on Unity
with Nature, 1998,
122 pages

Subjects: Nature

Grades: K-2, 3-5

Review:

This is a very beautiful and helpful guide to teaching first day school classes, with enough specific guidelines and hints to make it a comfortable resource for those who may be hesitant to teach. There are 13 chapters, each with enough material for two class sessions. Each chapter includes biblical text as well as references to Quaker or other religious basis for earth care. A very extensive bibliography includes Internet sources and song sources. Highly recommended. LS

Eco Art

Carlson, Laurie

Williamson Publishing,
1993,
158 pages

Subjects: Teaching, Nature,
Art

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

“Earth-Friendly Art and Craft Experiences for 3- to 9-year-olds.” Using trash, making your own art and craft supplies, growing things, wreaths, weaving — so many ideas, so little time! There’s bound to be something you can use in a lesson. —CMJ

Experiencing the Bible with Children

Furnish, Dorothy Jean
Abingdon Press, 1991,
137 pages

Subjects: Bible, Teaching

Grades:

Review:

This book, an excellent guide for teachers, is divided into three parts : The Bible, The Children, and The Methods. The Bible section looks briefly, but very adequately, at the development of the Bible and lists descriptions of how one might view it. The author, who believes that the Bible can become real to our children, talks about “teaching the Bible experientially.” The Methods of “feeling into the Bible”, “meeting with the Bible”, and “responding out of the Bible” are “Creative Drama, Story Telling, and Dance”, “Dialogue” and “Deed”, which are carefully explained. I recommend the book as a good reference for the Christian Education library — and hope teachers read it. —JAK

Exploring My Friends' Beliefs

PYM Religious Education
Committee

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting, 1997,
165 pages

Subjects: Religion & Other
Faiths, Quakerism

Grades: 6-8, 9-12

Review:

"A Study of Judeo-Christian Faiths in One's Neighborhood for Grades 7-12." The full curriculum takes a full year and is built around actual visits to other churches. It's designed by Friends for use in First Day School, and includes background information, activity suggestions and discussion topics.

Faith of Parents, The

Harris, Maria

Paulist Press, 1991,
106 pages

Subjects: Parenting,
Religion & Other
Faiths

Grades: parents

Review:

A concise approach for discovering one's own "spiritual parenting" style. The book has three parts :

- Helping parents remember their experience of church, religious education, God, and childhood in general;
- Reflecting on roles as parent, model, women and men, and the adult;
- Identifying resources — art & sport, story, spirituality, and community.

The short chapters adapt well to being a workshop, with "focusing", "discussion", and "further exploration" sections.

-CMJ

Family of Friends

Sebens, Jeff, ed.; Sebens,
Patricia, ed.

North Carolina Yearly
Meeting of Friends,
1987,
several hundred pages

Subjects: Quakerism, Social
issues, Human
Development/
Values

Grades: 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Review:

Testimonies of Friends Study for Youth" Introduces students to some of the basic ideas and concepts that have been the cornerstones of the Religious Society of Friends. Constructed in sixty lessons, each composed of cards, student sheets, and teacher's materials. Topics include equality, simplicity, Quakers and the world, living together, Christian education, experiential Christ, family, outreach, peace, celebrations, and history of Friends. -NH

Fighting the Invisible Enemy

Webster-Doyle, Terrence
Atrium Publications, 1990,
164 pages

Subjects: Peace

Grades: 3-5

Review:

"Understanding the Effects of Conditioning" This book has a series of stories and exercises arranged in chapters for use by teachers and counselors. It is meant to have the children think about what they do and why. It gives specific alternatives to fighting and other conflicts. I'm not really comfortable with the sections on karate, which I think of as a form of aggressiveness, though he doesn't present it as such.

-KW

Fire in The Valley

Fager, Chuck

Kimo Press, 1992,
86 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: 3-5, 6-8

Review:

“Quaker Ghost Stories.” Six stories that could be used with just a few children, given to take home, or told in First Day School around Halloween. For children who assume all Quaker history is dry, this might reawaken interest. -CMJ

Follow the Drinking Gourd

Winter, Jeannette

Alfred A. Knopf
(Dragonfly), 1988,
44 unnumbered pages

Subjects: Social Issues,
Quakerism

Grades: pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

Introduction to such things as concern for others, how Quakers helped in the Underground Railroad, or simply a story and picture book to read aloud. It includes words and music of the song, “Follow the Drinking Gourd.” -JAK

Free the Children

Fitzell, Susan Gingras
New Society Publishers,
1997,
185 pages

Subjects: Peace, Parenting,
Teaching

Grades: all ages

Review:

“Conflict Education for Strong and Peaceful Minds.” This resource explores conflict resolution skills for pre-K through grade 12. Not a curriculum, it is a “moral support for significant adults, laying out typical dilemmas at each age and what adult/parental attitudes and actions can be effective. Its analysis is concise and on target, making it extremely useful to parents and teachers.

–CMJ

Friendly Classroom for a Small Planet

Prutzman, Priscilla; Stern,
Lee; Burger, M. Leonard;
Bodenhamer, Gretchen

New Society Publishers,
1988,
131 pages

Subjects: Peace, Teaching

Grades: K–2, 3–5

Review:

Builds a basis for conflict resolution. Can be used to introduce the subject to teachers as well as to students. Can be used for a day-long or weekend retreat program, or to enhance lessons. Deals with aspects of creative response to conflict, but includes teaching ideas and exercises. Has annotated bibliography and resource list. Includes chart on applying techniques to curriculum areas.

–WCB

Friendly Story Caravan

Lacey, Margaret, ed.

Pendle Hill, 1990,
112 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: 3-5, 6-8

Review:

This collection of 18 stories revolves around Quakers. Although they all have a moral, the moral is well developed in the story to allow for discussion and thoughtful questions from listeners. -KW

Friends through Time

Miller, Harmony

Friends United Press, 1988,
20 pages (teacher's
manual), plus children's
handouts for each lesson
of 4 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: K-2, 3-5

Review:

This structured curriculum is designed to help children examine sensitive issues and make enlightened decisions within a searching yet supportive Quaker environment. The lessons use a children's story (not included) and the experience of a contemporary or historical Friend to examine topics addressed by many of the Quaker queries. Each lesson includes ideas about opening and closing the session, an activity, information about the book for the lesson, discussion guides, and Quaker insights.-LJ

Add'l books needed: yes

Friends Make Choices

Barker, Barbara; Meredith,
Dortha

Friends United Meeting,
1989,
32/ student + teacher
loose-leaf pages

Subjects: Quakerism,
Human
development/
values, Bible

Grades: 3-6

Review:

Focuses on various aspects of making choices : personal choices, God's help in making choices and consequences of our choices. Each session includes an activity about choosing, a Bible learning section, a cartoon which helps children look at their own and others' feelings and worship suggestions. Some of the 13 sessions also include art or drama activities, songs, or a sharing project. -JK

Friends Way

Jones, Richard

Friends United Press, 1982,
53 pages

Subjects: Quakerism, Bible

Grades: 3-5

Review:

This gives 13 very structured lessons that bring Quaker beliefs and the Bible together using Quaker history and personalities. It is very discussion oriented with many suggested additional readings.
KW

Gently Lead

Berends, Polly Berrien
Harper Perennial, 1991,
172 pages

Subjects: Parenting,
Religion & Other
Faiths

Grades: parents

Review:

“How to Teach Your Children about God While Finding Out for Yourself” The holy in the everyday, capturing the teachable moment, and growing spiritually with your child : these principles guide the author in putting together an anecdotal, readable combination of dialogue, poetry, stories, and scripture. Chapter headings include : Spiritual Seeing; What Dies and What Doesn’t; Love Thine Enemy; The God of All Creativity

–CMJ

George Fox : Four Lessons Based on the Book George Fox : The Man Who Wouldn’t

Fahs, Sophia

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: K–2, 3–5

Review:

Read a chapter of the book each week, or paraphrase the story, since the chapters are long (8–9 pages) and a bit wordy. Four lesson themes (Equality, Worship, Truthfulness, Non-violence) and several suggested additional activities for each week — 17 activity sheets in all (which may be duplicated) : pictures to color, messages to decode, hidden words, a maze, etc. (Note : one message had two errors in coding, and there was a typo leading the reader to the wrong Bible verse.) The four themes are basic to understanding Quakerism, and can be appreciated by elementary age children. The variety of work sheets and activities is a helpful resource that can also be used with other lessons and projects. –JAK

George Fox, The Man Who Wouldn't

Fahs, Sophia

Friends General Conference,
1971, 1989,
37 in book, 20 in Lesson
sheets pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: 2-6

Review:

This storybook of four stories about George Fox are accompanied by "George Fox; Four Lessons based on George Fox : The Man Who Wouldn't by Sophia Fahs for ages 7-11." Good source for teaching about equality, worship, truthfulness, and peace as exemplified by stories from the life of GF. Lessons give exercises and discussion questions.

Add'l books needed: Could use extra books.

God's Love is Like

Buckley, Ray

Abingdon Press, 1998,
32 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

Five stories that set Jesus' parables in diverse cultural settings featuring children. Charming illustrations enhance the short, simple, easy to read stories. -CMJ

God's Quiet Things

Sweetland, Nancy

Wm. B. Eerdman's
Publishing Co., 1994,
30 pages

Subjects: Nature, Religion

Grades: Pre-K, K-2

Review:

Rhyming text on each page
describe quiet aspects of nature.
Excellent pictures. -LS

Godly Play

Berryman, Jerome W

Harper San Francisco, 1991,
172 pages

Subjects: Teaching, Bible

Grades: all ages

Review:

"A Way of Religious Education." An inspiring educator, J. Berryman "invites religious educators to consider spiritual development as a playground where the playfulness of the creative spirit is alive in the spiritual development of both young and old and shows how the language of religion can be associated with the creative process to foster religious growth and awareness." A good prep for using "Teaching Godly Play." A method but not a curriculum. -CMJ

Good News Goes a Long Way

Kimball, Beatrice M;
Stanley-Green, Della
Friends United Meeting,
1988,
22 pages

Subjects: Quakerism, Bible

Grades: 6-8, 9-12

Review:

“A Friends Mission Storybook”
Teacher’s guide introduces
Quaker mission work in
Ramallah, Cuba, Jamaica, and
Kenya. Includes scripture
verses, background
information, and ideas for
music and activities. Separate
storybook has twelve stories.

-NH

Growing Friends

Robertson, Rosamond

Quaker Home Services,
London, 1990,
89 pages

Subjects: Quakerism,
Nature

Grades: K-2

Review:

This small book balances stories
that bring an awareness of need
for reflection and mediation,
with creative activities. KW

Growing in the Light

Reichhardt, Dorothy;
Henderson, Barbara

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting,
125 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades:

Review:

An excellent compendium of information about Quakerism and ways to teach it to children : our view of creeds, outward sacraments, the "sense of the Meeting", the importance of silence, the testimony of simplicity, and many others. Good activities for children are included. -AL

Guide for Ministry with Elementary Children

Miller, Lee

Cumberland Presbyterian
Church, 1988,
26 pages

Subjects: Teaching

Grades: 1-6

Review:

A condensed teacher's primer about characteristics of elementary age children and a collection of ideas to help leaders as they minister. A resource to use for teacher training. -CMJ

Guide for Ministry with Young Children

Schroer, Ann

Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 1988,
24 pages

Subjects: Teaching

Grades: Pre-K, K-2

Review:

A condensed teachers primer about age level characteristics, suitable classroom activities, and broadly-graded teaching. Much helpful advice in a small package. —CMJ

Help! I'm a Junior High Youth Worker!

Oestreicher, Mark

Youth Specialties, 1996,
63 pages

Subjects: Teaching

Grades: 6–8

Review:

"50 Ways to Survive and Thrive in Ministry to Early Adolescents." Incredibly readable pep talk and overview of the importance of early adolescent youth ministry. Great information on just what is going on in junior highers' minds (in case you've repressed it), easily digested advice, and wonderfully telling quotes from youth themselves that shows the wonderful craziness of this time between childhood and adulthood. Arranged in six super-short chapters, Oestreicher presents "axioms" of early adolescent youth ministry, and then gives down-to-earth ways to put them into practice. Brief mentions of other works on adolescence.

Add'l books needed: none

Helping Children Grieve

Huntley, Theresa

Augsburg Fortress, 1991,
78 pages

Subjects: Parenting, Human
development/
values

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

“When Someone They Love Dies.” This small book should probably be read before a situation presents itself. How to talk to children, what behavior to expect, and how to relate one’s faith to facts about death are some of the topics covered.

–CMJ

Helping Children to Understand Homelessness : An Instructor’s Guide

Peacock, Donna

Pinellas County (Fla.)
Cooperative Extension
Service, 1989,
18 photocopied pages

Subjects: Social Issues

Grades: 3-5, 6–8

Review:

A curriculum packet with statistics, background information and four lesson plans. Statistics are ten years old, so current local information would be good to add. The background info for the teacher is good and would, I think, get students thinking about homelessness and even to get to some depth. –WCB

Add’l books needed: no

Helping Families Care

McGinnis, James

Institute for Peace & Justice
and Meyer Stone Books,
1989,
151 pages

Subjects: Social Issues,
Parenting

Grades: all

Review:

“Practical Ideas for Intergenerational Programs” Set up to speak to the needs of individual families, as well as to the whole human family. Not based on any one religious tradition. Sessions are greatly adaptable. Some chapters are devoted to conducting intergenerational programs, program planning, child care, food. Resources are very well annotated, though dated.–WCB

Add'l books needed: some activities require additional materials

Homelessness Awareness Patch Program

Girl Scouts of Greater
Philadelphia,
17 photocopied pages

Subjects: Social Issues

Grades: 3–5

Review:

This resource for use by Girl Scouts contains some activities that would be helpful in designing a lesson or event. There is a reading list of books for older girls which is useful.
–WCB

Add'l books needed: yes

Homelessness Curricula : Five Exemplary Approaches

Pennsylvania Homeless
Student Initiative,
21 photocopied pages

Subjects: Social Issues

Grades: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Review:

This booklet describes itself as a resource tool for teachers and school districts. It gives examples of curricula or programs that are being used and might be helpful in leading a teacher or leader on to another curriculum or program.-WCB

Add'l books needed: yes

Homelessness : Activities about People Who Are Homeless

Foppe, Jean; Munson,
Bonnie; Lersch, Jean;
Lersch, Phil

Brethren House Ministries,
1987

Subjects: Social Issues

Grades: 3-5

Review:

These activities are not overpowering, but get the students thinking and probing. The activities do not appear to be dated, although some of the addresses and statistics may be.
-WCB

Add'l books needed: no

How to Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen So Kids Will Talk

Faber, Adele; Mazlish,
Elaine

Avon Books, 1980,
234 pages

Subjects: Parenting

Grades: parents

Review:

The authors use exercises, dialogue, and cartoons to help parents recognize the communication skills that build family relationships. Parents help children develop personal responsibility and integrity by using these opportunities available on a daily basis.

Chapter headings include :

- Alternatives to Punishment
- Helping Children Deal with Their Feelings
- Engaging Cooperation

–CMJ

Hunger Learning Kit

Brethren House, 1988,
numerous resource
sheets plus teacher's
book has 41 pages

Subjects: Social Issues

Grades: K–2, 3–5

Review:

I would not use this kit for all ages, but I think it would be effective for grades 3–5 and maybe grade 2. Some of the statistics may be dated, but the exercises are not. The exercises are simple and the point is easily seen. It is a “kit”, not a set of lessons. The teacher designs lessons from the many resources included. Also has a list of organizations and addresses that might be helpful.

–WCB

Add'l books needed: no

I Wanted to Know All About God

Kroll, Virginia L.

Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 1994,
15 pages

Subjects: Religion & Other Faiths, Nature

Grades: K- 4

Review:

Attractive pictures and lovely text, with each page providing some new idea of evidence of God all around us. Good source of discussion. -LS

I Am A Friend

Briggs, Elinor

Friends United Meeting,
1990,
52 pp. Teacher, 13
sessions Students pages

Subjects: Quakerism, Social Issues, Peace

Grades: K-2

Review:

A very good introduction to Quakerism. Each lesson has a theme, Bible references and Friends references. Theology is taught without dogmatism. Material is age-appropriate (using hand puppets, for instance), interesting, and informative. . Most lessons include a Bible reference, Friends reference, activity suggestions, story, and closing. You need both the Teacher's Guide and Student Handouts. -LW/ LJ

In and Out the Silence

Brimelow, Elizabeth

Quaker Home Service, 1989,
110 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: adult

Review:

Elizabeth Brimlow has written this book for Quaker parents and other adults who are interested in the spiritual nurture of children, particularly as it relates to Quaker unprogrammed worship. She suggests many possible approaches to work and worship with young people of varying ages. -LJ

In God's Name

Sasso, Sandy Eisenberg

Jewish Lights Publishing,
1994,
31 pages

Subjects: Bible, Religion

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

A beautiful large picture book that celebrates all the names of God. -CMJ

In Our Image

Swartz, Nancy Sohn
Jewish Lights Publishing,
1998,
32 pages
Subjects: Bible, Nature
Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

“God’s First Creatures” An imaginative retelling of the Genesis creation story, with the animals taking an active role this time! The illustrations are beautiful and the story is told in an uplifting way, emphasizing the harmony of all living things.
-CMJ

It’s Our World, Too!

Hoose, Phillip
Little, Brown and Co., 1993,
166 pages
Subjects: Peace, Social
Issues
Grades: 6–8, 9–12

Review:

“Stories of Young People Who Are Making a Difference” Gives a history of young people as activists, stories from kids who are activists, and a “how-to” handbook with tactics you can use to bring about change. Some bibliography. Could be used for youth group, First Day School, lessons given outside the meeting. You would have to develop your own lessons using this as a resource. -WCB

Add'l books needed: none

Jesus : Who Was He?

Snyder, Mary

Friends General Conference,
1991,
126 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Review:

A great curriculum to introduce Jesus, making liberal use of projects, drama, art, and creative writing. It is geared for use by those who are Bible experts or beginners. Junior Meeting uses semi-structured worship-sharing to help young Friends with use of silence. The Quaker orientation of the curriculum is helpful for those uncomfortable with more evangelical Christian sects.

Add'l books needed: Bibles

Jesus the Carpenter's Son

Fahs, Sophia L.

Unitarian Universalist
Association, 1990,
160 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: 5-9

Review:

An imaginative modern biography of Jesus' life, including historical setting.-LS

Jesus, the Man Who Changed History

Doney, Meryl
Lion Publishing, 1988,
40 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: 3-5, 6-8

Review:

An excellent book about Jesus and Christianity, with a contemporary flavor enhanced by color photographs, appealing cartoons, and a newsy kind of writing style. Very well organized, with main ideas highlighted and interesting background information that helps make the character and times of Jesus come alive. Presents the character of Jesus and his followers in a very genuine way; for example, Jesus is frequently shown in photographs from movies, and the picture of "Jesus Now" is a photograph of twenty-four children from the same school who all speak different languages.

Jubilee Curriculum

Jubilee

Jubilee Project Office, Multi-year,
Varies pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8

Review:

A comprehensive Bible-based curriculum produced by a consortium of peace churches, including Friends. Built as a three-year cycle of three seasons of thirteen lessons each plus summer, this curriculum is comprehensive, age specific (as well as giving you broadly-graded options), and uses sound educational methods. Minimum needed is teachers guide and student packs; story figures, time line, resource pack, and Celebrations pack are separate. Appealing graphics and interesting activities to pull young ones into the Story. Available from Friends United Meeting. —CMJ

**Junior High Talksheets :
Psalms and Proverbs**

Bundschuh, Rick; Finley,
Tom

Youth Specialties, 1994,
112 pages

Subjects: Bible, Family &
Peer Issues, Social
Issues

Grades: 6–8

Review:

“50 Discussion Starters from the Scriptures” One page cartooned worksheets with teacher aids for 50 topics, such as “No Fear” (Psalm 112); “A Wasted Life” (Psalm 127); “Taker or Giver” (Proverbs 11) Bibles needed for reference. –CMJ

Add'l books needed: Bible

Junior High Talksheets

Lynn, David

Youth Specialties, 1988,
112 pages

Subjects: Human
Development/Val
ues, Social Issues,
Bible

Grades: 6–8

Review:

“50 Creative Discussions for Junior High Youth Groups” One page cartooned worksheets with teacher aids for 50 topics, Christian emphasis. Looking up the Bible references could also be educational. –CMJ

Add'l books needed: Bible

Just Do It

Caldwell, Cookie; Bernstein,
Peg
1990
19 pages

Subjects: Teaching

Grades: 6-8, 9-12

Review:

"How to Plan and Staff a Youth Gathering." Practical help for an organizer of junior high or high school overnight functions.

Keeping the Peace

Wichert, Susanne
New Society Publishers,
1989,
100 pages

Subjects: Peace, Teaching

Grades: Pre-K

Review:

"Practicing Cooperation and Conflict Resolution with Preschoolers" Like many other skills, conflict resolution skills — such as careful listening, clear communication, empathy, understanding consequence, cooperation and negotiation, can be learned by even very young children. Keeping the Peace is meant to help parents, teachers and other caregivers create an environment in which the level of conflict is low enough so that the adults can guide the resolution process in such a way that it works for the child and can be used again by the child. -NH

Kids Who Make a Difference

Roche, Joyce M.; Rodriguez, Marie; Schneider, Phyllis

Mastermedia Limited, 1993,
153 pages

Subjects: Social Issues,
Peace, Nature

Grades: 3–5, 6–8, 9–12

Review:

Made up of true stories of youth who made a difference in the following areas : A Better, Safer World : Supporting Kids' Rights; Rescuing the Environment and Saving Animals; Helping the Homeless, Needy and Elderly; Heroism; Caring for Sick Kids. At the end of each story are suggestions for readers of how they might make a similar difference. The stories might be used by a leader as a springboard to discussion. I preferred the somewhat longer stories in Kids with Courage.

–LW

Kids with Courage

Lewis, Barbara A.

Free Spirit, 1992,
173 pages

Subjects: Social Issues,
Peace, Nature

Grades: 6–8, 9–12

Review:

Contains true stories of young people who made a difference by fighting crime, taking social action, saving the environment, and being heroic. Young people could easily pick it up to read one or more stories, which range in length from three to eight pages. A group leader or teacher might read aloud a story as a springboard for discussion. The stories illustrate the power children can wield either singly or in a group.–LW

Add'l books needed: none

Kids' Book of Questions, The

Stock, Gregory
Workman Publishing, 1988,
207 pages

Subjects: Human
Development/Val
ues, Teaching

Grades: K-2, 3-5, 6-8

Review:

If you're looking for an impromptu discussion topic or a way to begin or end a session with personal sharing, here's plenty — 260 questions, actually. Like, "If you had to pick an age to be for your whole life, knowing that you would just stay at that age and never grow older, what age would you pick?" or "If you liked someone who later turned out to be a liar, would you still want to be good friends?" or "If you could see into the future, but not change it, would you want to do so?" See, there's lots of good ones. —CMJ

Kids' Guide to Social Action

Lewis, Barbara A.

Free Spirit Publishing, 1991,
185 pages

Subjects: Social Issues,
Peace

Grades: 6-8, 9-12

Review:

"How to Solve the Social Problems You Choose and Turn Creative Thinking into Positive Action" In the Kids' Guide, you'll find : real stories about real kids who are making a difference at home and around the world; step-by-step guides to social action power skills : letter writing, interviewing, speechmaking, surveying, fundraising, getting and handling media coverage and more; real social action tools, ready to copy and use, including : petitions, proclamations, letters and news releases; an up-to-date resource guide. Written by an award-winning teacher, the kid's guide to social action is designed for kids to use on their own and at their own pace. It's also ideal for schools, clubs, groups, troops and organizations.—NH

Learning by Doing

MacClennan, Carole
Twenty-Third Publications,
1993,
121 pages

Subjects: Human
Development/Val
ues, Religion &
Other Faiths,
Values

Grades: Pre-K, K-2

Review:

“150 Activities to Enrich Religion Classes for Young Children.” Each of the chapters contains Discussion, Discovery Centers, Crafts, Movement, Prayer, Music, Books, and a Parent Page. The Chapters are : Special Me; Family; Friends; Feelings; Sharing; Helping; Thanking; Forgiving; Praying; Loving God’s World. Easy to use, “instant” ideas around these themes. -CMJ

Let Your Light So Shine

PYM Committee on
Children and Young
People in Yearly
Meeting

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting, 1986,
42 pages

Subjects: Quakerism, Peace,
Social Issues

Grades: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Review:

Hearken to the Light : How can we learn to “tune in” to the light within? God speaks to us in many ways. Inspiring stories of people who listened to God’s call within and acted on it : Elijah, Harriet Tubman, Mother Teresa, Lucretia Mott, Bishop Tutu, and others. Many suggestions for craft activities, dramatizations, and service projects. -AL

Add'l books needed: no

Lighting Candles in the Dark

FGC Religious Education
Committee

Friends General Conference,
1992,
215 pages

Subjects: Quakerism, Social
Issues, Peace

Grades: K-2, 3-5, 6-8

Review:

This is a collection of short stories grouped under five headings : Courage & Nonviolence; The Power of Love; Acts of Loving Service; Fairness & Equality; and Belonging and Care of the Earth. This book can be used as an occasional source or supplement, or used to develop a thematic curriculum around the grouped topics. KW

Living with Children

NEYM Christian Education
Committee

New England Yearly
Meeting, 1991,
16 pages

Subjects: Parenting,
Quakerism

Grades: adult

Review:

A New Chapter for Living with Oneself and Others. This document suggests ideas and queries for parents and meetings. Various Quaker quotes on religious education are included. The queries are divided into two areas : families and meetings. A four-page Bibliography of Books for Quaker Parenting is also included, listing each book with a description several lines long.
-LJ

Add'l books needed: no

My Friends' Beliefs

Ward, Hiley H.

Walker and Company, 1988,
183 pages

Subjects: Religion & Other
Faiths

Grades: 6–8,9–12

Review:

“A Young Reader’s Guide to World Religions” Contains chapters on major world religions and Protestant Christian sects. Each has a brief history of the religion’s appearance and tenets, and features photos of young followers and short interviews with them on their religious practice. An index, a few maps, and addresses of all the groups discussed in the text appear at the back of the book. Not exhaustive or particularly thorough, but a good place to start, to answer basic questions about a religious group, or to prepare young people for a visit to another church service.

Add’l books needed: none

My Book of Friends

Holden, Joyce

Friends United Meeting,
1980,
teacher’s book 22 pages;
story book 47 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: K–2

Review:

The story book stands by itself as a storybook. The teacher’s book gives two activities to use with the stories and leaves the rest to the teacher. If the stories are being taught, I think the teacher’s book would be helpful as a resource for activities and patterns, but not entirely necessary. The stories could easily be read by most second-graders. They are solid and not flowery or overly exciting.

–WCB

Add’l books needed: no

Naturewatch : Exploring Nature with Your Children

Katz, Adrienne
Addison-Wesley, 1986,
128 pages

Subjects: Nature

Grades: all ages

Review:

This book is divided into ten chapters : Growing Aware; A Closer Look at Plants; A Garden of Your Own; Garden Visitors; Birds; Trees; Finds; Plant Crafts; Plant Magic; Useful Lists. Some sections are written for adults, while others have been written for children of middle elementary age and up. The book has many excellent illustrations. The author loves plants and it shows. -LJ

Add'l books needed: no

No More Secrets

Adams, Caren; Fay, Jennifer
Impact Publishers, 1981,
90 pages

Subjects: Parenting

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8

Review:

"Protecting Your Child From Sexual Assault."
Straightforward, not too long, with plenty of examples from other parents' experience, gives ideas mostly for how to talk with your child, as well as warning signs and other background material. -CMJ

Obadiah : Four Lessons for First-Day Schools

Dutton, Merril

25 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: Pre-K, K-2

Review:

Activities and lessons based on four children's books by Brinton Turtle that focus on Quaker history and testimonies : Thy Friend Obadiah (lesson 1), Rachel and Obadiah (lesson 2), Obadiah the Bold (lesson 3), and The Adventures of Obadiah (lesson 4). Detailed patterns and directions for making Quaker clothing are included as well as recipes for simple breads. Also included are ideas for First-Day School lessons based on the books Sam, Bangs, and Moonshine, Best Friends for Frances, and The Little Brute Family. -LJ

Add'l books needed: yes; see review

On the Trail of the Friends Peace Testimony

PYM Religious Education Committee

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1985?, 25 pages

Subjects: Peace , Quakerism

Grades: 1-2, 3-6

Review:

A loose-leaf resource packet for several sessions with children and with adults about peace issues.

Add'l books needed: Dr. Seuss books helpful

**One Minute Bible Stories :
Old Testament**

Lewis, Shari
Doubleday, 1986,
48 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

Twenty stories, accomplished in two facing pages with generous illustrations. Told by a storyteller rather than a scholar, they use vivid, fun language like “they tattled to the king.” Intended for short times and small groups. -CMJ

**One-Minute Bible Stories :
New Testament**

Henderson, Florence; Lewis, Shari
Doubleday, 1986,
48 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

The 20 stories in this book cover important experiences in Jesus’ life. Most of the two-page stories have two or more pictures. The vocabulary is appropriate for an elementary audience. Pre-K and early elementary children would need to have the stories read to them and would need terms explained. -LJ

Add'l books needed: no

Opening Doors to Quaker Worship

FGC Religious Education
Committee

Friends General Conference,
1994,
144 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: all ages

Review:

A comprehensive and thoughtful collection of ideas for meetings to study the process of Quaker worship for all ages. Important resource for Ministry and Counsel as well as First Day Committees. An excellent tool for all meetings.

-LS

Parents as Resident Theologians

Nelson, Roberta; Nelson,
Christopher

Unitarian Universalist
Association, 1984,
57 pages

Subjects: Parenting,
Religion & Other
Faiths

Grades: Adults, parents

Review:

The exercises in this book could be used to structure parenting sessions (six sessions outlined), to explore the faith of the Meeting, or as a retreat, intending to open up dialogue about faith and how to share it with children.. Uses open-ended questions and some resources to respond to. Some of the ideas could also be used with older youth. -CMJ

Add'l books needed: N

Peace Be with You

Lehn, Cornelia
Faith & Life Press, 1980,
126 pages
Subjects: Peace
Grades: K-2, 3-5, 6-8

Review:

This is a book of stories about people, historical and legendary, who are peacemakers or who are convinced that peace is the right way. Some of the stories have questions at the end to structure a discussion. The idea is to provide stories of peaceful heroes instead of heroic war stories. -KW

Peace Kit, The

Lampen, John
Quaker Home Service, 1992,
64 pages
Subjects: Peace
Grades: 6-8, 9-12

Review:

"Everyday Peacemaking for Young People." Rather than a curriculum, this small book with cartoons is written in a conversational style. It could be discussed one on one or given to a young person as a resource. Criticisms like "he nicked my bacon" are both interesting and might require translation.

Peace Works : Young Peacemakers Project Book II

Fry-Miller, Kathleen; Myers-Walls, Judith; Domershank, J.

Brethren Press, 1989,
102 pages

Subjects: Peace, Nature

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

The idea behind this book is that we can make peace with fun, celebration, and hope. Excellently indexed, it is filled with activities for children ages 3 to 10. There are nature activities in one section. Another section focuses on activities acting out different professions (with props) and making toys. The final section suggests activities for a cooperative Game Festival and some new celebrations. Each activity includes a supplies list and instructions. Some activities also suggest discussion topics.

-AV

Peaceful Heroes I : 14 One-Act Plays

Regen, Rosalie

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, Friends General Conference, 1962, 1988 reprint, 189 pages

Subjects: Peace, Social Issues, Quakerism

Grades: 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Review:

From Margaret Fell to Rufus Jones, Quaker and non-Quaker (i.e. Albert Schweitzer) heroes are featured in plays. See Peaceful Heroes II.

Peaceful Heroes II : Ten One-Act Plays

Regen, Rosalie

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, Friends General Conference, 1962, 1988 reprint, 88 pages

Subjects: Peace, Social Issues, Quakerism

Grades: 3–5, 6–8, 9–12

Review:

Presents fearless women and men over a period of 300 years in their witness against war and injustice through plays about famous Quakers as well as about other cultures. This volume includes plays about the life of William Penn, early Quaker testimonies, the signing of the U.S. Constitution, the Underground Railroad, Prudence Crandall, Gandhi and the untouchables, the 1961 Peace Walk from San Francisco to Moscow, and a Christmas play with a modern-day visit from the three kings. The plays are serious and wordy, and not very dramatic. Though it seems difficult to costume and stage them as directed, the plays might be adapted for simpler presentation. –JAK

Peacemaking Creatively through the Arts

von Wezeman, Phyllis

Educational Ministries, 1990, 238 pages

Subjects: Peace, Art, Teaching

Grades: all

Review:

This handbook of creative activities is an incredibly rich source of ideas for teaching peacemaking to children. Chapters focus on peace with Self, in the Family, in the Congregation, in the School, in the Neighborhood, in the Community, in the State, in the Nation, and in the World. Each chapter includes activities using architecture, art, banners/textiles, cartoons, clowning/mime, creative writing, culinary arts, dance, drama, games, music, photography, puppetry, and storytelling. A great resource for First Day School, retreats, or impromptu gatherings. –NH

Preparing Hearts and Minds

Thomas, Anne; Hadley,
Mary Glenn

Friends United Press, 1998,
226 pages

Subjects: Quakerism, Bible,
Peace

Grades: all ages

Review:

A wealth of ideas is contained in this loose leaf notebook. Dividers separate contents into 15 subjects and a final large section deals with Friends missions in eight countries. Entries are labeled as to appropriate age level and group size. The selections are a little random, with no real curriculum plan over several sessions, but there are good group ideas and great information on some prominent modern Quakers. Very useful index. Provides a great format for adding additional ideas. LS

Prime Time Together With Kids

Erickson, Donna

Augsburg Fortress, 1989,
128 pages

Subjects: Teaching,
Parenting, Art

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8

Review:

“Creative Ideas, Activities, Games, and Projects” Activities for each season, for holidays — fun, interesting, and using easy-to-find materials. Even the format is inviting and colorful. A great inspirational resource.

—CMJ

Put Yourself in the Picture

Baker, Wanda Coffin; Mays,
Barbara

Friends United Press,
Undated,
28 Student + artwork, 35
Teacher pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: 7-9

Review:

Student Book and Teachers Book required, which include artwork. With artwork as a catalyst, stories about Quaker history with accompanying black and white artwork relate to issues and ideas. Each lesson in the student book contains a short story or related history, a Meet the Artist biographical sketch, and questions to Put Yourself in the Picture. For the teacher, there's a scripture reference, learning goals, Taking a Closer Look, Bring the Picture Up to Date, Lesson Plan Options, and a Bibliography.

Quakers Answer the Call

Brick, Lynne; Henderson,
Barbara

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting,
33 pages

Subjects: Quakerism, Peace,
Social Issues

Grades: 6-8, 9-12

Review:

"Lessons Drawn from Quaker Lives" Excellent life stories of Lucretia Mott, Margaret Fell, John Woolman, and others. Begins with a good unit on Answering God's Call. The stories are good for telling to groups of any size and age mix. Good suggestions are given for dramatizing or role-playing.
-AL

Add'l books needed: no

Quakers in Fiction

Caulfield, Anna Breiner
Pittenbruach Press, 1993,
169 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: any

Review:

This annotated bibliography lists Quaker characters in fictional works. Some books referred to are about Quakers, some are by Quakers. The importance of the Quakers to the plots varies, from works with Friends as main characters, to those in which Friends play only incidental roles. It has an adult fiction section, as well as one for children, listing age-appropriateness of the literature. -KW

Add'l books needed: yes, see review above.

Quakers on the Move

FGC Religious Education
Committee

Friends General Conference,
1996,
128 pages

Subjects: Quakerism, Bible,
Social Issues

Grades: 3-5, 6-8

Review:

A storybook of Quaker history from 1652 to today. This book describes the Quaker experience in a historical setting, starting with a child's view of Quakers in 1652, all the way to a Quaker family's response to the Gulf War. Each of the 15 stories has a lesson plan/ideas outline that can be used with it, and there is an introductory lesson to begin the series. -KW

Add'l books needed: Y

Quaker Way, The

FGC Religious Education
Committee; Wilkinson,
Signe , illustrations

Friends General Conference,
1998,
96 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: 6–8, 9–12

Review:

A kind of primer suitable for junior high readers and up, this tiny book contains eleven chapters on the most distinctive aspects of Friends' belief and practice. It has lots of cute illustrations by Signe Wilkinson. It doesn't get very deep into any of the theological issues, and doesn't even hint that there are Quakers from traditions other than the liberal Universalist one common on the east coast. Nonetheless, it is a compact, handy book for a young adult audience. Some chapter headings : The First Quakers, Beliefs and Creeds, Quaker Testimonies, Meeting for Worship, Advices and Queries, and Prayer. Also contains a bibliography of other works, with brief annotations

Race to Justice

Gray, Robin; Ballester Y
Marquez, José A.

Unitarian Universalist
Association, 1995,
122 pages

Subjects: Social Issues

Grades: 6–8, 9–12

Review:

"A Racial Justice and Diversity Program for Junior High."
Based on the premises that racism is wrong, that we want to work to eradicate it, and that each of us can make a difference, Race to Justice celebrates racial, ethnic, cultural, and familial diversity as an enriching fact of life. Students are introduced to concepts of prejudice and individual, cultural & institutional racism. Race to Justice nurtures group-building, encourages intergenerational connections within the congregation, and invites junior highers to affirm important religious values — particularly our belief in the dignity of all people. Could be adapted for senior high. Features fifteen 60-minute sessions. —NH

Religious Education in the Home and Small Meeting

Snyder, Mary

Friends General Conference,
1986,
80 pages

Subjects: Teaching, Religion
& Other Faiths,
Parenting

Grades: K-2, 3-5

Review:

If you're on the beginning end of First Day School development, this resource helps you to begin organizing with what you have. Ideas for structure, activities, and approach to classroom dynamics are all practical and tested. Some reflections on Quaker parenting, as well. Soon to be updated as "Opening Doors to Religious Education."
-CMJ

Shaking Out the Truth

PYM Children and Youth at
Annual Sessions Group

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting, 1998,
14 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: 3-5, 6-8, 9-12,
adult

Review:

Lessons on how Quakers conduct their business. This is a 6-8 week curriculum which attempts to teach what a Threshing Session is, how to hold a Meeting for Business, and how to hold a Clearness Committee. Questions and games or crafts are used to introduce the lesson, the Quaker process is then tried, and stories or activities done to reinforce the lesson. LS

Sharing Nature with Children

Cornell, Joseph Bharat
Ananda Publications, 1979,
142 pages

Subjects: Nature

Grades: all ages

Review:

This book is filled with 42 interesting, creative games — some solitary, some suitable only for groups — that are designed to nurture nature-awareness in children. Each of the games creates a situation in which nature can be the teacher. Some of the games are designed to bring the group into harmony with natural surroundings, while others create a quiet, contemplative mood. There are observation games, whoop-it-up-and-have-fun games, and make-believe games. A wonderful compilation of ideas, with a useful index. —LJ

Sharing the Joy of Nature

Cornell, Joseph Bharat
Dawn Publications, 1989,
167 pages

Subjects: Nature

Grades: all ages

Review:

“Nature Activities for All Ages.” To create a class, an afternoon or a weekend about nature, Joseph Cornell has given a structure and ideas rather than a curriculum. He advises to go from Awakening Enthusiasm, to Focusing Attention, to Direct Experience, to Sharing Inspiration. The conversational tone and first hand experiences he relates makes it all seem doable.—CMJ

Something More

Fitzpatrick, Jean Grasso
 Viking Penguin, 1991,
 237 pages

Subjects: Parenting,
 Religion & Other
 Faiths

Grades: Parents

Review:

"Nurturing Your Child's Spiritual Growth." "Rather than worrying about how to tell your child about God, you will discover how you and your child can encounter the divine presence in daily life." A lovely, loving book to encourage parents and help them embrace their role as spiritual nurturers.

—CMJ

Sparklers, Too!

Pickering, Nancy
 Friends General Conference,
 1989,
 77 pages

Subjects: Human
 Development/
 values,
 Quakerism, Bible

Grades: Pre-K, K-2

Review:

Not a total curriculum, rather an integration of Bible verses, children's literature, storytelling, and activities to help children acquire awareness of self and their place in their family, community and world. Sections include sense of self, family and community, natural world, Bible and Quakerism, and celebrations. Each activity includes a Bible reference, story suggestion (and alternative), materials for a project, and questions to spark discussion.

—NH

Speak to the Earth and It Shall Teach Thee

PYM Committee on
Children & Young
People at Yearly
Meeting

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting, 1986,
58 pages

Subjects: Nature

Grades: K-2, 3-5, 6-8

Review:

Five special projects for First Day Schools. The web of life, creation exploration, appreciation, and re-creation and preservation projects are included for a wide variety of ages. Biographies of several naturalists are included. Songs, Quaker tie-ins, and trip ideas are included. Good used as a supplement for a regular curriculum, or as focus for Junior Yearly Meeting or youth workshops. -LW

Add'l books needed: No

Talking About Death

Grollman, Earl A.

Beacon Press, 1990,
117 pages

Subjects: Parenting, Human
Development/
values

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5, 6-8

Review:

"A dialogue between parent and child." A compassionate guide for adults and children to read together, featuring a read-along story, answers to questions children ask about death, and a comprehensive list of resources and organizations that can help. -CMJ

Teaching Children about Jesus, Part I

Henderson, Barbara, ed.
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1992,
54 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: 1-6

Review:

8 sessions following the life of Jesus from his birth to his teachings. Each session has discussion ideas, reading ideas, and activity ideas. Very adaptable to a wide range of ages. -LS

Teaching Children about Jesus, Part II

Rose, Barbara, ed.; PYM Religious Education Committee

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1993,
52 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: 1-6

Review:

7 sessions teaching of Jesus' life including parables, miracles, and the events from Palm Sunday through Pentecost. Contains reading ideas, singing ideas, discussion questions and activity plans. Adaptable to a wide range of ages. -LS

Teaching Conflict Resolution Through Children's Literature

Kreidler, Bill

Scholastic, Inc., 1994,
112 pages

Subjects: Peace, Teaching

Grades: K-2, 3-5

Review:

A great resource for elementary school teachers, but also applicable to the First Day School setting. Using popular children's books (not included), the book presents exercises and concepts to help children become better conflict managers. -CMJ

Teaching Godly Play

Berryman, Jerome W.

Abingdon Press, 1995,
120 pages

Subjects: Teaching, Bible

Grades: K-2, 3-5

Review:

"The Sunday Morning Handbook." A follow-up for "Godly Play", this is a more specific how-to manual for instituting Godly Play as a classroom technique using Montessori methods. "The goal is to teach children the art of using the language of the Christian tradition to encounter God and find direction for their lives." Still not a curriculum, it gives enough background to begin teaching in an imaginative, story-centered way. -CMJ

Teaching Quaker Faith and Practice to Children

PYM Religious Education
Committee

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting, 1997,
50 pages

Subjects: Quakerism,
Human
Development/Values

Grades: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Review:

A loose-leaf curriculum which combines elements of previous PYM material (What Is a Quaker?, Living Our Quakerism, and Challenges of Daily Life). Loosely structured, needs outside sources and teacher input. Chapters : Being a Q in the Meeting and Home; Membership in the Q. Community, Personal Devotion; Ministry, Witness, and Truth; Testimonies; Helping Children Face Challenges. -CMJ

Teaching the Old Testament to Quaker Children

Caldwell, Barbara Rose, ed.;
PYM Religious
Education Committee

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting, 1995,
91 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: 4-6

Review:

11 sessions covering Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Ruth, David, Amos, and Jonah. Each session could easily take more than one week. Includes suggested activities, bibliographies, background information and songs. -LS

Teaching to Wonder

Smith, Judy Gattis

Abingdon Press, 1989,
96 pages

Subjects: Bible, Teaching,
Religion & Other
Faiths

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

“Spiritual Growth through
Imagination and Movement”

This book tries to suggest various tools to cultivate a deeper involvement with God, using different tools to reach different children. Many of the suggested experiences are based on Bible passages. Specific suggestions incorporate :
Imagination and Fantasy;
Kinesthetics and Movement;
Words and Symbols; Ideas of Antithesis and Paradox. Some of the experiences are serious and thoughtful, while others are more “fun.” -LJ

Add'l books needed: Bible

Tell Me a Tale

Bruchac, Joseph

Harcourt Brace & Company,
1997,
117 pages

Subjects: Teaching,
Parenting

Grades: all ages

Review:

A book to inspire you to become a storyteller, told in story form (imagine that!). Includes basic things to keep in mind (Observe. Listen. Remember. Share.), gives advice, includes 13 stories and many good ideas for activities that lead to or incorporate storytelling. -CMJ

Timeless Themes

Gowdy, Nannene; Moore,
Mary Ann; Skwire,
Marjorie

Unitarian Universalist
Association, 1991,
184 pages

Subjects: Bible

Grades: 3-5

Review:

Subtitle is "Stories from the Hebrew and Christian Bibles for Grades 3 and 4." A one-volume complete curriculum with 34 sessions to familiarize students with major biblical stories. Simple one-page story with illustration (to color?) which can be xeroxed for students to take home or make their own book. Excellent teacher's helps outline themes, preparation and materials required, as well as presentation, discussion, and crafts options. -CMJ

Tug of War

Webster-Doyle, Terrence
Atrium Publications, 1990,
106 pages

Subjects: Peace, Social
Issues

Grades: 3-5

Review:

"Peace through Understanding Conflict" This book is set up in a series of chapters with stories and exercises. The objective is to get children to understand what causes conflicts. From understanding, he presents alternatives to violence, alternative behavior and ways of thinking. His use of karate and the "karate master" as a tool for understanding and resolving conflict seems out of place to me. -KW

Ungame, Kids' Version

Zakick, Rhea

Talicor, Inc., 1995

Subjects: Human
Development/Values

Grades: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Review:

The game promotes listening and self-expression. Questions on cards are divided into two groups : one with lighter questions, the other more serious. The answers do not need to be deep, though they could be. In other words, the questions are non-threatening. I think this would be successful and fun with most groups. I think it would help people get to know each other. -WCB

Add'l books needed: no

Unplug the Christmas Machine

Robinson, Jo; Staeheli, Jean
Coppock

Quill, William Morrow,
1991,
207 pages

Subjects: Parenting, Human
Development/Values

Grades: adult

Review:

Gives practical advice on ways to increase the joy of Christmas and to decrease the stress and letdown of the holiday season.

Add'l books needed: no

Victories without Violence

Fry, A. Ruth

Liberty Literary

Works/Ocean Tree

Books, 1986,

76 pages

Subjects: Peace, Quakerism

Grades: 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Review:

This reprint of a 1939 work is a small volume full of short examples of the power of nonviolence. These give substance to the notion that living the Peace Testimony daily is both possible and successful. The book could be read by older children, or used to tell stories to younger ones.

-AV

Volcano in My Tummy, A

Whitehouse, Eliane;

Pudney, Warwick

New Society Publishers,

1996,

78 pages

Subjects: Peace, Teaching,
Parenting

Grades: K-2, 3-5

Review:

"Helping Children to Handle Anger." An important book for helping kids manage those "unQuakerly" feelings — not just about conflict resolution, it includes all that makes for anger and gives great ways to discuss and image the process of dealing with it. -CMJ

Walking Cheerfully

Read, Karla; Wilson,
Lorraine; Henderson,
Barbara

26 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: all

Review:

Lessons and activities on self-esteem, conflict resolution, what it means to be gifted, etc. Includes discussion guides and activities. -AL

What Am I Doing In a Step-Family?

Berman, Claire

Carol Publishing Company,
1992,
45 pages

Subjects: Parenting, Human
Development/Values

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

A cartoony, good-humored look at realities of step-family life from a kid's perspective, answering specific questions and offering suggestions for their responses to problems. -CMJ

What is a Quaker?

Brick, Lynne; Henderson,
Barbara

Undated 1988?,
30 pages

Subjects: Quakerism,
Parenting

Grades: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Review:

A loose-leaf curriculum covering : What is a Quaker?; Personal Devotion; Corporate Devotion; Meeting for Worship; Business Meeting; Membership; Spiritual Life in the Home. Each section has discussion and activity suggestions. -CMJ

When Children Ask about God

Kushner, Harold S.

Schocken Books, 1989,
176 pages

Subjects: Parenting,
Religion & Other
Faiths

Grades: parents

Review:

Who Made God? Can God hear my prayers? Why does God let people die? H.S. Kushner (author of When Bad Things Happen to Good People) has written this guide for parents and teachers who are no longer satisfied with traditional answers, from a liberal Jewish perspective. Covers topics such as "The 'Immorality' of the Bible" (noting the distinction between taking the Bible seriously and taking it literally), "Don't Blame God for 'Acts of God'", "Some Affirmative Ways of Meeting God." -CMJ

When a Parent Marries Again

Heegaard, Marge Eaton
Woodland Press, 1993,
32 pages

Subjects: Parenting, Human
Development/Values

Grades: K-2, 3-6

Review:

A workbook/journal/drawing pictures format to help a child work out some of the issues involved in family change. Bibliography included, and ordering instructions for other titles in the same format.—CMJ

When Did We See You?

Ave Maria Press, 1994,
191 pages

Subjects: Social Issues, Bible

Grades: 3-5, 6-8

Review:

“Sixty Creative Activities to Help 4th through 8th Graders Recognize Jesus Today.” This is a series of lessons around Jesus’s teachings. The readings and exercises aim to help the children understand the practical applications of Jesus’s teachings by means of readings, discussion, and activities.—KW

When Mom and Dad Separate

Heegaard, Marge Eaton
Woodland Press, 1991,
32 pages

Subjects: Parenting, Human
Development/Values

Grades: K-2, 3-6

Review:

A workbook/journal/drawing pictures format to help a child "learn to cope with grief from divorce." Bibliography included, and ordering instructions for other titles in the same format. -CMJ

Where's God?

Karsner, Katherine
1985,
26 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

"Thoughts for Young Worshippers" Short stories collected from Friends Journal and grounded in a child's experiences. These stories describe things that children see and hear in meeting and relate them to ideas suitable for worship. -LJ

Add'l books needed: no

Who's In, Who's Out?

Clapp, Steve

Faith and Life Press and
Brethren Press, 1995,
32 pages

Subjects: Bible, Social Issues

Grades: 7-12

Review:

"A Look at Jonah and Ruth " —
Using the story of Jonah (three sessions) and Ruth (two sessions), the curriculum provides exercises and provocative questions about those stories to examine prejudice then and now. An interesting look at scripture-
CMJ

William Penn : A Curriculum for Adults and High School Students

Norton, Janet E.

1994,
80 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: 9-12, adult

Review:

Very good and thorough presentations for each session, and also questions for discussion and reflection. The Trial of William Penn, an 11-page play, is included. -JAK

Add'l books needed: no

William Penn : The Feather and the Sword

PYM Curriculum
Committee

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting,
89 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades:

Review:

Each chapter has a theme, story, suggested activities, a list of materials needed, and often sheets to be reproduced. Map of Philadelphia included. Could choose fewer chapters and still have a good course about William Penn. -JAK

Add'l books needed: no

Woolman Curriculum

PYM Religious Education
Committee

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting, 1994,
71 (loose sheets punched
for 3-ring binder) pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: K-2, 3-5, 6-8

Review:

Designed to be used for 5 or more consecutive sessions. Each session could take more than one week. Lessons include stories from Woolman's life, with activities for three different age groups. There are reproducible maps and activity sheets. This is a very thorough and thoughtful curriculum, best used for children of 7 and older.

-LS

Add'l books needed: John
Woolman's Journal

Work is Love Made Visible

PYM Committee for
Children and Young
People at Yearly
Meeting

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting, 1994,
43 pages

Subjects: Social Issues

Grades: all ages

Review:

A 6 chapter curriculum around the idea of work. Each chapter contains ideas for younger and older classes. An ideal tool for meetings who want to all ages to be working on the same theme in First Day classes.—LS

Working with Middle Schoolers : Ideas and Resources

Brick, Lynne; Henderson,
Barbara; PYM Religious
Educatin Committee

Philadelphia Yearly
Meeting, 1992, rev.,
33 pages

Subjects: Teaching

Grades: 6–8

Review:

This packet (book) is a guide for those who work with middle school children in monthly meeting Sunday Schools and youth groups, or with Friends groups outside of monthly meeting. It has suggestions for planning, ideas for activities, advice to leaders, forms, annotated resources, addresses and phone numbers, and suggested lessons. —WCB

World Religions

Marshak, David, editor;
Multi-author

Unitarian Universalist
Association, 1987,
375 pages

Subjects: Religion & Other
Faiths

Grades: 6-8, 9-12

Review:

"A Year's Curriculum for Junior Youth." 33 one-hour sessions., written from a Unitarian perspective of religious thought.. Very extensive, you would not need to be an expert on world religions to use it. Could be used well for junior-senior high groups. -CMJ

Worry, Worry, Worry

Abercrombie, Kate

Group Books, 1988,
Leader's Guide : 118
pages; Student Book : 82
pages

Subjects: Human
Development/
values

Grades: 9-12

Review:

"School, War, and Other Scary Stuff" Student book has a variety of kinds of activities : paper work, group work, and individual work. Uses scripture as discussion starters or to bounce opinions off of. Seems most interested in personal and group dynamics. -WCB

Add'l books needed: none

Young Peacemakers Project Book

Fry-Miller, Kathleen; Myers-Walls, Judith

Brethren Press, 1988,
116 pages

Subjects: Peace

Grades: Pre-K, K-2, 3-5

Review:

This book uses imaginative learning activities to introduce pre-school through elementary age children to the fundamental concepts of peacemaking. The clearly described steps of each activity make it possible for even less experienced educators and caregivers to lead children through their first and most significant peace learning. These activities, organized around the themes of caring for the environment, understanding people and making peace, reflect a sound theoretical grounding in the core values of contemporary peace education, planetary stewardship, humane relationships and global citizenry. -NH

Youth Retreat Handbook

Ford, Ian; NEYM Christian Education Committee

New England Yearly Meeting, 1996,
46 pages

Subjects: Quakerism

Grades: 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Review:

A home-grown manual for doing youth retreats, a primer based on the experience of retreat leaders. Includes background, guidelines, staffing advices, sample forms, sample flyers, theme ideas and sources. -CMJ

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Winter, Jeannette

Follow the Drinking Gourd

Winters, Jeffry

Discover The World

Zakick, Rhea

Ungame, Kids' Version

**Find an author in this index, then use the title
to look in the main bibliography for more information.**

Subject Index

List of works included in this version by subject

Find a work in this index, then look for the title
in the main bibliography for more information.

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