

Berwick Literary Festival

Berwick Literary Festival Schools' and Young People's Programme 2025

Anthology



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financially including:**

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**With your help we were able to organize free events that reached
out to over 800 young people in North Northumberland and the
Scottish Borders**

Joan Montgomery, Festival Director

Jennifer Heald, Festival Manager

Judy Crow, Convenor Schools' and Young People's Programme

Joyce Miller, Katy Wedderburn, Trish Tucker, Madeleine Ravetta, Committee Members

Poetry

In September 2025 Berwick Academy hosted a poetry workshop for Year 8 pupils from Berwick, Tweedmouth and Glendale Middle Schools.

We are grateful to following three poets

Tasneim Zyada

Jo Clement

Elsbeth Wilson

who ran the workshop and inspired the students.

Many thanks to staff from the middle school for bringing their pupils, and to all at Berwick Academy for being the hosts.

Most of all our thanks go to the young people who approached writing poetry with enthusiasm and produced outstanding pieces.

Berwick Middle School

That's when I'm happy

When the fire crackles,
When the plot twists,
When the plane takes off,
I'm happy.

When my friend's at school,
When the food tastes good,
When my cat's purring,
I'm happy

Autumn

When the rain falls with the leaves,
Fluffy socks,
And duvet days.

Family

Falling out with my sister,
Mum yelling at me from upstairs,
Dad cooking his usual meals

Friends,

Falling out and then laughing,
Sighing at silly things

My dog when he barks at everything
Hot chocolates with cream and marshmallows

That's when I'm happy;

That's when I'm glad.

I Love

I love my dogs because my dogs (Poppy black lab & Kobe lab cross cocker spaniel) are very playful with me they help me feel calm

I love gaming I like playing Roblox and Siege

I love football on Sunday we played in a cup match and made it through into the next round

I love my family my sister goes to Berwick Academy

I love food especially KFC and Steak Bakes from Greggs

I love sleeping it's a good way to wind down after a busy day.

LOVE

I love my friends because they always make me laugh and smile

I love my family because they always make me feel better

I love food because it tastes amazing

I love laying in bed and sleeping because it energises me

I love pretzels because when the saltiness hits my lips I feel happy inside

I love seeing my friends because they fulfil my day

I love cricket because I have played it all my life and I love the people there

I love netball because I get joy out of playing it

I love

I love sleeping as the peace is relaxing

I love Greggs sausage roll cause it's tasty

I love playing Siege cause eliminating people is fun

I love playing golf as it's relaxing

I love going to the gym cause I'm strong

I Love

I love my three guinea pigs because they are really fluffy even though they are fat. They are called Wotsit, Oreo and John Mcguinea pig. Oreo and Wotsit are fat. Wotsit has ginger and white spiky hair John Mcguinea pig is fully blonde with flat hair and Oreo is black and white with a hint of ginger and they squeak a lot.

I also love football mainly Tottenham Hotspur as my dad supports them. My favourite player is Brennan Johnson because he scored in the Europa League final.

My favourite movie is Superman because I have watched it 4 or 5 times and still found it good. I love playing video games, specifically FC25 because it is a football game.

Love

I love my dog because she is playful.

I love sleeping because it's relaxing

I love Greggs sausage rolls because it's tasty

I Love to play shooter games because it's fun

I Like Playing Minecraft because I can ride camels

I Like football because I am strong, technical and pacey

Life

I love.

Going anywhere,

Being here and there,

Playing Roblox,

Because there's barely any bad games,

Lidl bakery items,

Because the doughnuts are nice,

Family,

Friends,

Going out,

Sleeping,

Being warm and cozy,

Ice cream,

When I'm at my nanna's,

Playing dominoes with my grandad,

My brothers,

Even though they are annoying,

Minecraft where I get to build with my friends,

Colour or die is my favourite game,

Helps me think,

Haven and Verdant Leisure Holidays,

Thurston Manor and Haven all over the country,

Hot food,

Is very very good,

I love.

Zip lines that go fast,

Parks with my friends,

I love.

Love

I love gaming because it takes me away from the harsh reality of the world

I love my cat because she is the smallest cutest thing in the universe

I love hanging out with my friends cause and I end up staying up for hours

I love reading because it's fun

I love listening to songs I like it because I like listening to songs

I love talking to my friends and listening to music with them making films with them

I love when I went on holiday and did scuba diving it was very hot

I love playing pool and chess

I love watching anime

I love exploring forests and ruins

I love horses cause I like riding them

I love playing video games and watching gamers

I love sneaking out with my friends

Love

I adore biology because it is ubiquitous : humans, plants, animals.

We are the results of an experiment that was probably never meant to happen.

Studying it helps me get away from these people around me who have done
Heinous things

I love reading as it transports me to a world that I wish I could stay in.

These people don't deserve nice things, not after the heinous crimes
Committed.

Love

I love my sister for helping me when times get tough.

I adore my cat Cleo because she bothers me at night for food.

I love cinnamon for being that spice I needed in my life.

I adore salted caramel for being tasty and different.

I love drawing because it takes me away from the cruelty of my mother.

I am thankful for Karen and Phil who take care of me day and night.

I adore gaming with my friends having a laugh and cry.

I adore my auntie for helping me when I was down in the dumps

I adore stray kids as their music rocks!

I adore and thankful for my gadgets as they helped me with my journey.

I am thankful for food, because yes they are tasty.

I love learning Korean as it boosts my cultural experiences!

I am thankful for my friends who have helped me with my journey!

I love everything and anything that has helped me along this journey of life.

Oh I cannot forget I love anime!

And going to the shop.

Riding a bike or at least getting taught how to ride.

Going to the park!

Swimming!

I can't forget when I play video games!

Like Zelda and Roblox, Halo and Animal Crossing, Pokemon and a lot more.

And the most important thing of all!

I love when people are kind!!

Glendale Middle School Wooler

Mountain Biking

Mountain biking is thrilling.

Mountain biking is great.

Mountain biking is much better if you have a mate.

It's exciting.

It's the best.

You smell the damp earthy ground.

You feel your body piercing the cool breeze.

You taste the excitement in the air.

You get this riveting feeling flowing through you.

It's great on a descend.

Even better with a friend.

In the moment it's like nothing else matters.

Just you and your friend.

Riding till the end.

Book

Burning fire, and wood invades my senses,
As I decipher the words through my lenses,
 Wonder is resting upon the paper,
 This—to me—is not any stranger,
 It creates an illusion of escape,
A blanket wrapped around me like a cape,
 Music and rain make a joint melody,
 It all feels like a distant memory,
 Fur, as soft as silk tickles my feet,
Pounding in his chest is a little heartbeat,
Whilst beady eyes bore into mine, curious,
 He has fur as black as night—mysterious,
My eyes threaten to close as the night moves on,
 I think time is just a hoax or a con,
I will always prefer this welcoming home,
 Even if I am sitting idly alone.

Concerts

First there comes the long everlasting wait,
Full of many different emotions, all unique to each other,
Excitement, boredom or thrill,
Once the long awaited for date arrives every previous emotion grows
in size,
Becoming stronger and somehow more powerful,
Loud music blasts in my ears making my heart race to the beat of the song,
Like a speaker thumping out music at full volume,
There are people buzzing around,
All here for the same reasons,
Each concert is different,
Each one has different meanings and people,
But each one is special to their listeners,
And me and my love for their music,

The Obsession

My hopes and dreams My younger self

Lay resting on a dusty shelf

This maybe true or so I say

But maybe, just maybe

I'll give that childhood obsession of mine away

A total and utter Marvel fan

Still in love with Sebastian Stan

Even Chris Evans

I love him too, probably more than I like you (sorry)

For those of you who know, it quite easy to binge watch them all

But Natasha Romanoff that fall!!

I hope the Russo brothers do well alongside RDJ

And for doomsday the critics do say...

You succeeded and didn't fail and even better you made RDJ

accept fan mail!!

Dancing

I laugh a lot,
But sometimes I just not.
I am happy now,
But... how?
Well, my body dances,
Just like I'm the enchantress.
And the beating music,
Guides me when I am moving.
My eyes go strange when I spin,
You can barely see my grin!
A thousand miles an hour;
My kick has so much power.
I don't like sitting,
But I love go-getting.

Music

The feeling of music settles so deeply in the bones,
The rhythm, the rhyme and the meaning,
It tells things that no one knows,
The words blended together with the bleeding of a heart,
It falls into place against your eardrums,
In a way that flows in a blending symphony,
The emotions begun; the world so far gone.
The understanding in feeling heard,
In a way that could only be explained by me.

Freya Skye

Freya Skye feels like my best friend
Her music is beautiful , She is gorgeous
She is an idol at the age of fifteen
The sound of her voice makes you calm and relaxed
The golds gone!!
But she found it
Smart funny kind and pretty
She is an idol at the age of fifteen
Zombies 4 a movie she plays in alongside Malachi
My own way her song from zombies 4 inspires so many
She is an idol at the age of fifteen
At my age she was chosen to represent the UK at Eurovision
She's touring America at writing songs
She is an idol at the age of fifteen ...

Football

Football is thrilling and fun

Football is about scoring and trying your best

Football is about hearing the impact between your foot and the ball

Football is about seeing the gasps on the fan's faces when you embarrass someone

Football is about doing what you love

Football is about practicing to get better

Football is about cheering on your team even if your losing

Football is about turning up to training to improve your skills

Football is about using things you have learnt in matches

Football is about believing in yourself if you make a mistake

Football is about not winning it's about taking part.

The Skye's Song

The sky sighs low with thunder's voice,

Not angry now, but calm by choice.

A velvet rumble, soft and slow,

Like distant drums in evening's glow.

The rain begins a steady song,

A rhythm where the heart belongs.

Each drop a whisper on the ground,

A hush that wraps the world around.

No fear within this gentle storm,

Just nature breathing, deep and warm.

In thunder's hush and rainfall's grace

The world becomes a softer place.

The Peaceful Storm

The storm raged outside, rain lashing against the windows and thunder rumbling in the distance, yet there was a strange peace in its chaos.

Each flash of lightning briefly painted the world in white, only to retreat back into the comforting darkness. The steady rhythm of raindrops became a song, drowning out the noise of the day and wrapping the night in cloud of sound. In that storm, there was no need to hurry, no pressure to move only the quiet reminder that sometimes even the wildest tempests can bring stillness.

Tweedmouth Middle School

What I Know To Be True

What I know to be true is that travelling is amazing.

I always feel happy when I'm travelling
and can spend loads of time with my family.
Spending time with family makes me realise
how much you take people for granted.

I love the fun, exciting activities you can do while you are on holiday
and the different places (as well as the views) you can go to or see.

Sometimes the food is different.

Swimming all day every day is fun, but it can get tiring.

Coming home from holiday with a tan and holiday bracelets for friends is good.

But the worst part of all is coming home to the horrible weather in Berwick.

What I Know To Be True

What I knew to be true - being around people that you like and understand you
is good and makes me happy.

Having fun and making memories.

It is good to have close friends as well as others and making new friends and
meeting new people.

What I Know To Be True

What I know to be true is, connection is important as it helps you come closer with people,

like family and friends,

and know what they're like so you can have more fun around them and talk to them about

your similarities and differences.

What I know to be true is, connection is important because it helps family and friends come

together and be happy around each other

and that's important because it's nice for family to be around each other.

What I know to be true is, connection is important because that's why I love to be around my

family because I know what they are like, they're my favourite people and because I connect

with them.

What I Know To Be True

What I know to be true is the nostalgic memories of my hamsters, holidays from the past years,

times before middle school when there was one class and everyone used to play games with each other.

The holidays when I was together with my family at the beach and waterparks were nostalgic

even though it has happened multiple times.

What I know to be true is when I tried new food on holiday, such as paella and how nice it was

when I went snorkelling and saw all of the fish and the fresh fruit was good.

What I Know To Be True

What I know to be true is that fun can be in school memories, recent or past memories.

What I know to be true is that friendship is a good thing to have, to hold onto.

What I know to be true is that friends can be a way of forgetting your stress or problems.

What I know to be true is having friends makes life a lot easier.

What I know to be true is that the friends that randomly spawn into your life are always the

bestest friends.

What I Know To Be True

What I know to be true is that I love to travel.

What I know to be true is In May 2022, me and my family visited the United States Of

America, and we stayed in New York for 6 days and we visited the U.S capital of

Washington D.C on the final day.

What I know to be true is that this was the first time in my life that I travelled to another

continent besides Europe. And I also got to fly on my favourite plane and airline.

What I know to be true is that one year later, me and my family visited Canada for 1 week. I

felt very happy as I always wanted to go there. I have vivid memories of Niagara Falls, the

C.N tower, and watching a baseball game. And we also stopped for a few hours at a winery!

What I Know To Be True

What I know to be true is nature can be bonding as people go to nature as a break from family or stress and end up bonding with someone so much more than any other place.

You can bond and the person will mean so much more after just one trip into nature and yet people still complain about such a place to bond and form friendships much stronger than ever before.

A Literary Conversation
Book recommendations shared between students at
Berwick Academy
and
Longridge Towers School

Recommendations from Berwick Academy
Year 12

Ragdoll

By Daniel Cole

Interesting plot line, well written characters, sub-plots intensify the main plot.

A crime with a twist: one body, six victims.

Easy to get stuck into, and a decent TV adaptation too.

Atalanta

By Jennifer Saint

This book follows the story of the Greek Hero, Atalanta, as she sets sail with the Argonauts on a quest to steal the powerful golden fleece.

Ariadne

By Jennifer Saint

The book shows the story of the Minotaur sisters, and her own story,

being betrayed by the Prince of Athens, Theseus. On Naxos, she encounters

Dionysus, and their bond grows before, eventually, the Gods folly lead to her demise – his pride.

A Thousand Splendid Suns

By Khaled Hosseini

The detailed description of the lives and experiences of women in Afghanistan, both in the Soviet invasion period and under the Taliban are touching and heart-breaking, in particularly following the 1021 seizure of power by the Taliban and subsequent curtailing of women's rights.

Dune

By Frank Herbert

It is a unique take on interstellar fiction that is compelling in the way it actively contrasts other pieces of media in the genre by prioritising the surreal aspects of its world to make commentary in power and religion.

We Were Liars

By E. Lockhart

I really like this book as it contains themes of mystery and family as well as hints of romance. These elements made the book incredibly fast to read. The characters are well written and the plot is interesting.

This book inspired me to read more fictional mystery works as well as watch the TV adaptation of the book.

Dinner for Vampires

By Bethany Joy Lenz

A memoir about Lenz's experience within a Christian bible cult while also starring on a cult TV show, 'One Tree Hill'. It's interesting to see how someone can appear to have such a glamorous life in the public eye but undergo such a strange, borderline traumatic experience at the same time.

Never Lie

By Freda McFadden

A memoir about Lenz's experience within a Christian bible cult while also starring on a cult TV show, 'One Tree Hill'. It's interesting to see how someone can appear to have such a glamorous life in the public eye but undergo

Year 9

The Yorkshire Shepherdess

By Amanda Owen

I fully recommend this book because it inspired me to chase my Dreams, and it showed me a good perspective on what it is like to be a Shepherdess with a big family. I thought this book was really inspirational. I recommend it to anyone into agriculture.

Red Winter

By Tom Clancy

It is a book about the Cold War and the production of the F-117 Nighthawk stealth strategic bomber and how Russian spies may have obtained classified documents. The Americans have to intercept the documents or the whole lock head Martian project will be revealed.

Tupac Shakur: The rose that grew from concrete

By Tupac Shakur

This book puts a different perspective on Tupac's life. His poetry shows that he clearly is a lyrical Genius. He wants change.

His story of growing up in the streets and being exposed to his parents arrests and gang violence shows how he changed his difficult circumstances.

Private Peaceful

By Michael Morpurgo

This book is set in WW1 and a family in the countryside and two brothers go to fight in the War. They lie about their age, leaving their family alone, while they learn new skills and fight.

The Railway Series

By Rev W Awdry

A series about a fictional island called Sodor with many steam or diesel engines. Railways have been formed overtime. It is an intriguing storyline.

When the World was Ours

By Liz Kessler

An amazing book to read because it's both touching and powerful, telling the story of three children during World War II.

The characters in the book, like Leo, Max, and Elsa, feel real and relatable, even though they are living through an incredibly difficult time. Each character faces their own challenges and fears.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid – The getaway

By Jeff Kinney

There are a lot of funny moments in this book.

Greg Heffley, the main character, is always in weird situations that make you laugh out loud.

In this book, Greg goes on a family vacation to a tropical resort, and things totally go wrong in the funniest ways.

Recommendations from Longridge Towers School

A Court of Thorn and Roses

By Sarah J Maas

A great romantic fantasy with a beautiful plot. It is set in a classic fantasy world with detailed descriptions and an enemy-to-lovers-romance.

One of Us Is Lying

By Karen McManus

This is an amazing story about school pupils who were given detention and one pupil does not come out alive. I think this is a book for all ages.

Wuthering Heights

By Emily Bronte

A love story with a dark sinister plot. Set on the Yorkshire Moors, Catherine and Heathcliff fall in love with devastating consequences.

The Summer I Turned Pretty

By Jenny Han

This book is about a 15-year-old girl called Belly Conklin experiencing a summer at Cousins Beach. It is an amazing book and I think that anyone could read it.

Dear Mothman

Robin Gow

A collection of letters from 12-year-old Noah to a cryptid - The Mothman. He started writing after the loss of his best friend Lewis.

The One Dollar Horse

By Lauren St John

When Casey Blue rescues a starving, half-wild horse, she is convinced that the impossible can be made possible. It is a story that can inspire you to do the best you can. A story for everyone.

The Midnight Library
By Matt Haig

In this unique, thought-provoking novel, Nora Seed finds herself able to relive her life based on each of her regrets. She explores the reality of second chances and living life to the fullest. Simply a heart-breakingly lovely book. WARNING: This book deals with mature themes.

Wonder
By R.J. Palacio

Wonder is a book about a boy who is different and, after being homeschooled for a number of years, is now experiencing school for the first time. A sad beginning but a happy ending.

The Hunger Games Trilogy
By Suzanne Collins

An enticing trilogy about class divide, dictatorship and authoritarian societies. I highly recommend these books for people who enjoy stories about rebellion.

The Letter for the King
By Tonke Dragt

A young squire is meditating the night before he is knighted when suddenly a mysterious man appears and sends him on an important mission. Excellent adventure.

A Season for Scandal
By Laura Wood

This is honestly one of my favourite books. The main character is the perfect combination of intelligence and wit. The story is well written with lots of twists and turns. I would recommend this story to anyone who loves a combination of mystery and historical books, with a bit of romance thrown in there as well!

Agent 21
By Chris Ryan

An exciting and fast-paced, adventurous novel that encapsulates the wonder of films and puts them into books.

The Book Thief
By Markus Zusak

A book narrated by death...

The Enemy
By Charlie Higson

The sickness killed or changed everyone over the age of 14-years-old. Gangs now live in broken London and are hunted...

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder
By Holly Jackson

This book is really great if you like mystery! The Andie Bell murder case closed years ago but Pip does not believe that Sal did it. This book gives justice for the victims who were hurt physically and mentally. Read this book!

Skulduggery Pleasant: A Mind Full of Murder
By Derek Landy

I recommend this book because it is a fun and interesting read where two detectives are trying to find a murderer. There's magic and mystery and so much more.

The Scorch Trials
By James Dashner

I think this book is a good recommendation because if you are a fan of dystopian and post-apocalyptic literature, you will enjoy this book. I enjoyed the plot twists, drama and the atmosphere whilst reading each chapter.

Ultimate Football Heroes: Rashford
By Matt Oldfield

I love this book because it is very practical and informative. I would recommend this book to anyone who loves or plays football.

Skulduggery Pleasant
By Derek Landy

This book has almost every genre mixed into one: from comedy to horror. A story that follows a young girl who inherits a house full of secrets and puzzles, and who meets a skeleton along the way.

The ABC Murders
By Agatha Christie

A descriptive murder-mystery where a detective follows a murderer who kills a person for every letter of the alphabet.

The Fault in Our Stars
By John Green

I would recommend this book because it is a love story that is also a tragedy. I think this is a great book because I found it difficult to put down.

How to Play Rugby My Way
Jonny Wilkinson

I think this book is interesting because I love rugby and it teaches you both attack and defensive techniques.

The Recruit
By Robert Muchamore

The first in a thrilling and action packed series, you follow James Adams' life when he gets recruited to be part of a secret government organisation and is trained to be the best of the best. The series covers all types of events including: drug busts, gang wars and terrorist attacks. This series will leave you on the edge of your seat.

In September 2025 students from
Eyemouth High School and **Berwickshire High School**
exchanged writing prompts on aspects of
Peace

Over 40 pieces of writing were submitted and all were
thoughtful, moving, and of high quality.

All the pieces were exhibited at the Hub during the
Berwick Literary Festival and some were read out by their
authors at the concert in Holy Trinity Church.

A small selection of this amazing body of writing is included
on the following pages..

We congratulate and thank all the students and their teachers
who participated in this project.

A Peaceful Scene

The beach is the place I can go to that makes me feel less stressed and a peaceful place to go when you are feeling overwhelmed or upset it has such a calming effect when the waves swoosh down on to the beach.

The waves also have a very cooling and fresh feeling when you hear the waves crashing on the beach then when it smooths across the sand.

The beach is a place that makes me feel free and relaxed like I could say anything to anyone and be the person I can be it helps me gain more confidence.

When I am at the beach it does not matter whether it's raining or sunny the difference on the weather makes it more relaxing like if it is raining and you can hear the rain Hitting off the waves making a soft noise.

The sand when you pick it up and it drizzles through your fingers is so relaxing and just like sand timer and so satisfying to look at.

When you walk along the sand next to the water as it reaches your feet from the waves and covers the ground is such a calming feeling.

I really enjoy walking across the beach and all the pretty shells are across the beach are such peaceful things to collect. The beach makes me feel as relaxed as a sloth.

What peace means to me

Peace, peace and quiet pure silence the smell is fresh and earthy like when you are in the middle of nowhere and can smell nothing at all. The sounds is like birds chirping and the wind blowing through trees and it feels nice and quiet but somehow tastes like ice cold water.

Peaceful Moment

A breeze that blows by,
The soft chirp of birds,
Sunbeams gently touch my face,
I sit alone atop a cliff watching the ground below
Drinking in the feeling.
A rustle of tree branches,
The distant sound of running water,
Finding footprints of those who also walked,
I join in paving the path
Soaking in the moments.
Silence can bring in much comfort,
But staying alone can also be suffocating,
Wanting and wanting
To hear, listen, feel,
This time with the warmth of humans.
A clink and clash of dishes and cups,
The jazz of music getting drowned out,
Laughter and cheer flood every sense,
I smile and laugh too
I live in the feeling.
Everyone departs,
Once more I am alone,
The warmth of the memories remain
As I play the sound of the music.
Not a single instance can be called peace
But instead all of them put together.

Between the Posts at Peace

My little peaceful place isn't the normal kind of peaceful as not a lot of people would find standing between 2 goalposts. But, this is my kind of peaceful even if it is just tying my boots and stepping on the pitch to kick the ball about.

It's definitely more peaceful to me, than sitting in a room alone doing nothing. Everybody thinks being a goalkeeper is hard and definitely not a calming place and yeah, it isn't always calming but somehow it's still my favourite place. Just hearing the crowd screaming at the ref after a bad challenge, or the crowd clapping after a good goal is way more peaceful than anything else I could think of doing. If you asked me to sit in a classroom for 90 minutes and concentrate the whole time I would sit and worry as I know that I wouldn't be able to do it. But, then if you asked me to go and play a game of football for 90 minutes I would be there in a heartbeat and wouldn't have a worry in the world as I know I can concentrate well. I have to concentrate, in a sense, as I have another 10 players relying on me. I'm not sure why this brings me peace but it does.

As soon as I tie my laces it hits that I am going into a match and that I need to concentrate and get into the game mindset.

Peace

To me peace feels like a deep breath after a long day; it is calm and weightless. To me peace looks like light clouds in the sky with a beautiful sunrise;

it is slow and calming;

To me peace sounds like a bird tweeting beside a river running ever so lightly with a presence of comfort;

To me peace feels like cold grass underneath my feet or my shoulders relaxing after a long day;

To me peace tastes like warm soup with some nice toasted bread and butter; it feels warm and soothing.

Peace is good for the mind, soul, and body

The Peace Bringer

I am Peace Bringer and I want to bring peace to the world. My first mission will be just to make children share and not fight. If children are fighting over sweets I'd put them into even numbers and give them back. If a brother wants to go to the Lego store and there was not enough time, the Dad would go to the Lego store and the mum go to the perfume store. If children learn about peace when they're kids they won't fight as adults

Peace

Peace is a deer frolicking around, with its hooves gracefully treading across an array of colourful wildflowers which are scattered across the field. Or watching the rain softly pitter patter into a puddle, causing a circular ring of ripples. Perhaps it's lying on the floor beside the fireplace, with my dog's salivary chops kissing my face, causing me to giggle. Peace could be sat on the beach, sweeping the sand from between my toes while the sun prickles my shoulders. On the other hand, it may be coming into a cozy café after a walk in the crisp snow and grasping a scorching hot chocolate to warm my numb fingers. Or maybe it's getting lost in a book, feeling as though I'm not me anymore and instead a character in a novel. The thought of these things makes me eternally warm, but not truly at peace. My mind does not stop running 1000 miles an hour at these comforting, imaginary memories, I still worry, I still feel empty and anxious. For me, peace is not a moment, it is a person. It is when I get home and run into my mother's comforting arms. When I sit beside her after a long day and even just her presence calms me down. My mum's reassuring words telling me that I'm perfect just the way I am. Her just being there gives me a reason to live and determination to keep going in a world where peace cannot be achieved. My mum is my peacemaker and my world, I do not know what I would do without her.

What peace means to me

What peace means to me. Peace means quiet. No loud noises, no shouting, nobody running around just quiet. Peace is a feeling of inner calm. The feeling that just gives you comfort. Peace sounds like wind rustling through trees and the sea softly crashing against stones. Peace looks like stillness but full of life. Peace tastes like a hot chocolate on a chilly day. Peace is good for emotional wellbeing.

Peace Mission

If I had the superpower to create peace my first mission would be to bring lasting peace between countries and end the cycle of war that has hurt humanity for centuries. Instead of using strength or weapons, I would use the ability to calm anger, stop hatred and make everyone open to understandings. My biggest goal would be to help citizens of every country see beyond the differences and old grudges that have been held for generations so they can finally work together for the future instead of fighting over the past.

Wars have destroyed and taken many lives, broken families and left scars on both people and the planet and my mission would be to make sure that no child ever has to grow up afraid of bombs, soldiers, or the loss of loved ones.

What happens if the world stops fighting?

If the world stopped fighting, wars and violence would all be history not something people had to fear. No more lives would be lost because of the cause they stand for. No one would have to wake up scared that they might lose their life over a situation they had no part or control over.

Disagreements and problems would have to be solved by people peacefully through words or actions without violence problems would be solved through talks and reasons and would end up better for the world as they would have to either come to an agreement or create something else that would be for both sides.

Life would be quiet but loud with peace no children would have to grow up in a world where wars is happening, and peace was not the world's first choice and where they are told they will be the ones that have "to fix" and make the world a better place without violence because the world had already done with wars and violence to solve the world's problems.

Though world peace might not happen today, every person could make small actions to at least someone feel some sort of peace and maybe one day peace would not be such an alien concept and just what the world is.

What Changes?

You wake up in the morning, shower, and get ready for work. You have five minutes before you need to leave, so you sit down to watch the news. It is announced that major world leaders have publicly announced peace treaties simultaneously. Was this a stunt? Is this fake news? No. Human nature has completely changed. The human nature to fight and conquer, the nature to kill for more.

The truth is, when people stop having the urge to fight, the world will stop functioning. You might think that everyone would live in harmony and do everything they can to keep people alive, but this is simply incorrect. Conflict makes the world function. Without the need to protect and defend from threats, systems and trade routes would collapse. Governments would crumble, economies would fail and industries would collapse without anyone caring to implement contingencies. Without feeling the need to protect themselves from threats, people would simply stop caring, and stop trying.

This is a sad truth, but it is the truth. Maybe one day though, this could be reality. Solely because of human nature, the entire world is built around war and conflict. It is the drive of our systems. When you alter human nature, they're no longer humans. Just programmed robots built to be static.

There is no peace without conflict, and that's beautiful in its own way. The fact that despite us being built to fight, we are genuinely capable of working together for peace.

At Peace

Peace means to me thoughts of heaven, angels and god, going to church and singing.

Peace is like the sound of the waves and sitting on the beach watching the sunset while the ocean goes back and forth. On a Sunday night eating dinner with my friends while we all are watching the sunset and the dolphins in the beautiful bright clear ocean go by.

Peace is like when you're listening to someone play the violin or any other instrument in a silent room and that's all what you can hear very peaceful sounds in your ears.

Peace to me is when you are in the church reading the bible and singing along with people that believe in the same thing as you do.

Doing daily prayers every day, every single night, and when you want to, you can pray for peace.

Peace

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Singing through the Thunder

Penny, Maddie, Abby and I are lying on a big soft teal sofa , we are cuddled under my heated blanket.

Outside it is raining cats and dogs , it is blowing a hoolie . There is the rumbling of thunder .

The lilac blinds are shut , the little lamp is on and the front door is locked.

Mum had already made us all hot chocolate and we are curled up together. We decided to watch a movie together. Penny wanted to watch a scary movie but the rest of us disagreed. In the end we watched The Greatest Showman we were all singing along together loud enough so we couldn't hear the thunder.

I love spending time with my friends it makes me feel happy, safe and at peace.

Celebrating Words

Written | Spoken | Performed

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