

**READ
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The Tree That's Meant to Be



This resource was created to accompany the Green-Schools Ireland Global Goals Book Club.

www.greenschoolsireland.org



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS





Global Goal 16: Peace and Justice

This resource is designed to inspire your classroom with engaging activities that support critical thinking and meaningful discussions centred around the Global Goal of 'Peace and Justice'

Age Group: Junior Infants - 3rd class

Resource List

- The Tree That's Meant to Be Discussion Questions
- Wish List for the World Worksheet
- Kindness Advent Calendar
- Christmas Card Activity: Spreading Kindness
- Kindness Tree

Global Goals Book Club and Global Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

The Tree That's Meant to Be by Yuval Zommer connects beautifully to Global Goal 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions. The book's themes of kindness, inclusion, and finding beauty in diversity reflect the values of harmony and cooperation essential for peaceful societies. The story emphasises embracing differences and fostering kindness, which are foundational to creating peaceful and just communities. The neglected tree is eventually cared for and loved, mirroring the goal of ensuring fairness and inclusion for everyone. The forest creatures come together to support the tree, symbolising how unity and collaboration build stronger, more caring societies.

We would love to see pictures of your bookworms artwork and creations from the activities in our Global Goals Book Club. Please email any photos to globalcitizenship@eeu.an.taisce.org



The Tree That's Meant to Be

The Tree That's Meant to Be

Read or listen to the book *The Tree that's Meant to Be* by Yuval Zomme with your class. The questions below offer a guide for discussion with your class, along with some actions and activities to complete.



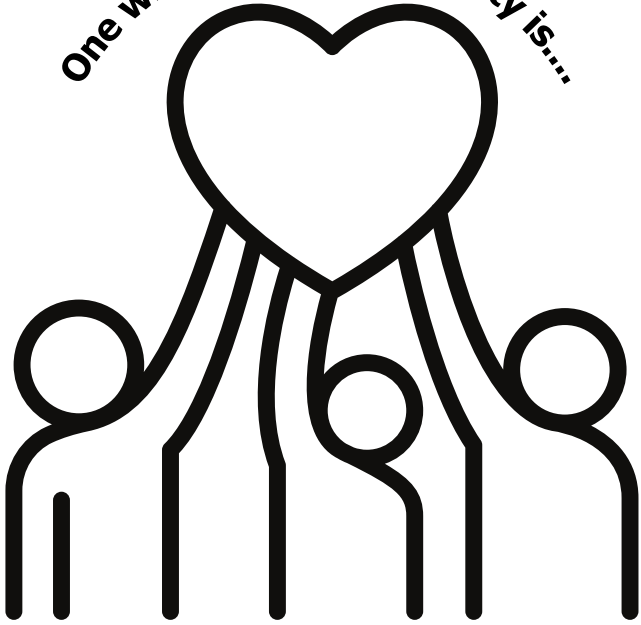
[Listen to the story here.](#)

Discussion Questions:

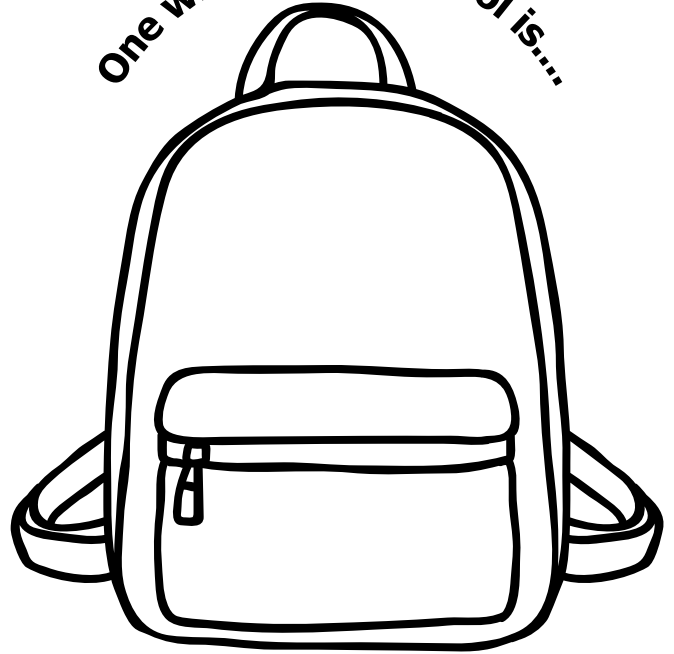
1. Why do you think the little tree felt different from the other trees? How did the other trees treat it?
2. How did the animals in the forest help the tree feel loved and included?
3. What does the story teach us about being kind to those who feel left out or forgotten?
4. How does this story show the importance of peace and kindness in a community?
5. The forest animals came together to help the tree. Can you think of ways we can work together in our school or community to help others?
6. How does including everyone make a community stronger and happier?
7. What does fairness mean to you, and why is it important in a story like this?
8. Have you ever seen someone who was left out or lonely? What could you do to help them feel included?
9. If you were a forest animal, what would you have done to help the tree?
10. Can you think of a time when you felt like the little tree? What made you feel better?
11. In the story, the forest animals came together to support the tree. How can we, as a class, work together to make our school a kinder and more peaceful place?
12. What are some ways we can take care of the world around us, just like the animals took care of the tree?
13. How does treating everyone fairly connect to having peace in our world?
14. What does it mean to "stand up" for someone who feels left out, and why is it important?
15. How do you think kindness and inclusion can help make the world a better place?
16. Global Goal 16 is about peace and justice. What does being fair and peaceful mean to you?
17. If you could write the next chapter of the story, what would happen to the tree and its forest friends?

My Wish List for the World

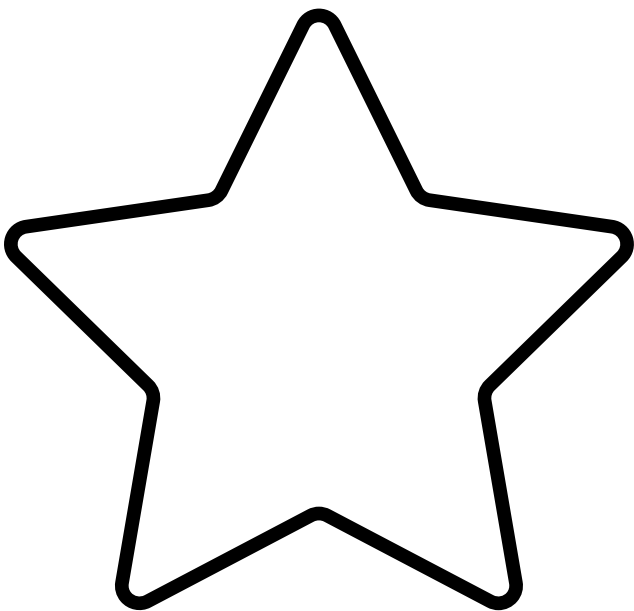
One wish for my community is....



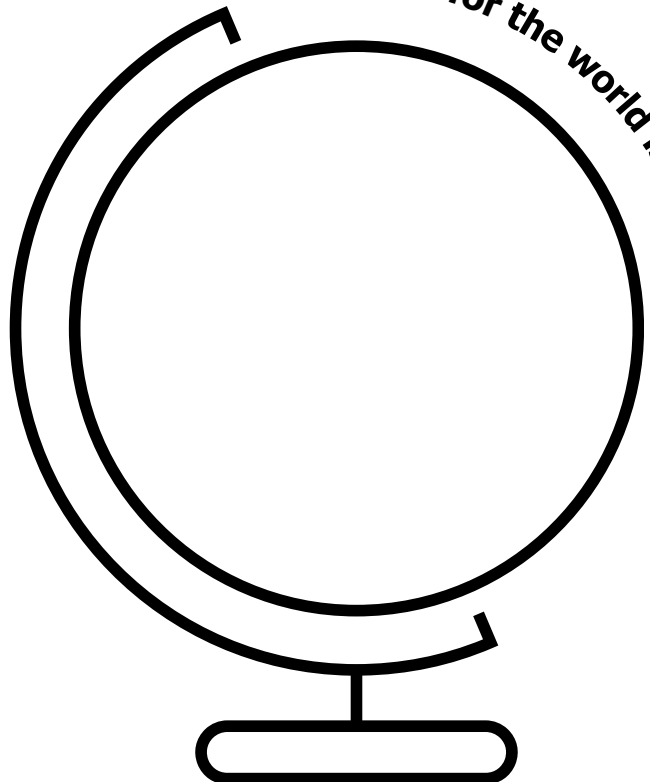
One wish for my school is....



One wish for me is....



One wish for the world is....





Kindness Advent Calendar



12 Days of Kindness for Global Goal 16

Day 1: Welcome Someone New

Invite a classmate you don't usually talk to to play or sit with you at lunch. (Discuss how making others feel included is an act of kindness.)

Day 3: Share a Story

Bring in a favourite book or story to share with the class. Highlight how storytelling helps us understand each other better. (Discuss how sharing helps connect people from different backgrounds.)

Day 5: Collect for or discuss a Cause

Bring in a small donation for a local charity as a class project. Or discuss a charity that your school supports. (Link to the idea of reducing inequalities in communities.)

Day 7: Reduce Waste

Commit to using less paper, recycling, or reducing lunchbox waste for the day. (Connect to fairness in how we share resources globally.)

Day 9: Stand Up for Someone

Look for an opportunity to include someone left out or support someone being treated unfairly. (Talk about fairness and inclusion in everyday life.)

Day 11: Learn About Someone's Culture

Ask a classmate to teach you about a holiday, tradition, or food from their culture. (Discuss how learning about each other fosters understanding and reduces prejudice.)

Day 2: Write a Kind Note

Write a short note or card to a classmate, teacher, or staff member thanking them for something they do. (Explore how words can uplift others.)

Day 4: Help at Home

Do an extra chore at home or help a family member with something they need. (Talk about fairness in sharing responsibilities.)

Day 6: Compliment Day

Give a heartfelt compliment to someone in your class or school. (Discuss how recognising others' strengths creates positivity.)

Day 8: Share a Skill

Teach someone a skill you know, like drawing, making paper airplanes, or a simple game. (Discuss how sharing knowledge can reduce inequalities.)

Day 10: Gratitude Reflection

As a class, discuss or write down things you are grateful for and how you can help others who may not have the same. (Connect to empathy and fairness.)

Day 12: Create a Kindness Tree

Write down an act of kindness that you will commit to on a cut out leaf. Build a class Kindness Tree to see the impact of kindness. (Reflect on the collective power of kindness in creating a fairer world.)



Christmas Card Activity: Spreading Kindness and Awareness



How the Activity Works:

Introduction:

- Begin by discussing Global Goal 16 with the class—emphasise the importance of reducing inequalities, peace in our world and helping those in need. Highlight examples like making everyone feel included, helping people who might not have the same opportunities, or simply spreading kindness.

Design a Card:

- Each student creates a Christmas card with a theme of peace, kindness, equality, and inclusion.
- They can include artwork, uplifting messages, or even a specific action they will take to promote fairness.
- Encourage students to think about messages like "Kindness is the greatest gift," or "Together, we make a brighter world."

Write a Message of Kindness:

- Inside the card, students can write a message that ties into the values of Global Goal 16.

For example:

- "I hope you have a joyful holiday filled with peace, love and kindness!"
- "Let's all work together to make the world fair for everyone."

Gift the Cards:

Choose a meaningful way to share the cards, such as:

- Sending them to a local care home, hospital, or refugee centre.
- Distributing them within the school to spread positivity.
- Giving them to classmates, family, or friends with an accompanying act of kindness (like sharing a snack or helping someone with schoolwork).

Link to Global Goal 16:

- This activity helps children understand that inequality takes many forms and that even small acts of kindness can help reduce these disparities. By creating and sharing their cards, they learn about peace, inclusion, fairness, and the power of spreading joy to everyone, regardless of their circumstances.

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Kindness Tree



How the Activity Works:

Introduction:

Start by explaining Global Goal 16—the importance of reducing inequalities and creating a fairer, more peaceful world. Highlight how acts of kindness can help make everyone feel valued and included.

Create the Kindness Tree:

Write down a list of simple good deeds that the students will agree to undertake to promote kindness and inclusion, such as:

- Helping a classmate with their schoolwork.
- Sharing materials with someone who forgot theirs.
- Inviting someone new to play during break time.
- Writing a thank-you note to a teacher or staff member.

Each student selects a good deed to complete and writes it on a leaf or acorn

Grow the tree:

- Print and cut out the template on the next page (to reduce waste, you can also reuse old scraps of paper or newspaper).
- Distribute a leaf or acorn to each student.
- Invite each student to write, draw, colour (be creative!) their act of kindness on their cut out
- Build a class "Kindness Tree" by attaching the leaves to a tree outline on the wall, showing how small acts of kindness can grow into a strong community.
- The tree visually represents how kindness spreads and connects people.

Kindness Tree

