



About Peacepainting workshops



Each Peacepainting workshop begins with a conversation about **values** and human **needs**. Participants can think about expressing what matters the most to them. Then they begin to create the painting.

At the end the children write a title and a short text that clearly expresses their message. This text accompanies the painting at the exhibitions and plays an important role in the process, both for the author and for the viewer.

Our aim is to make children see that their message has real value. By displaying the pictures where the decision makers both wander and gather, the children know that they will be **seen** and **heard**.

We organise workshops in various countries, cultures and environments, including war zones, disaster areas and refugee camps. Peace is not only the absence of war, but also developing awareness about equality.

Our values and inspirations



COLOUR AND EQUALITY

We use colours to explain that there is beauty in variety. Each colour has its meaning, its energy.

We ask the children what they may associate with the colours. What emotions, values each colour brings to mind. At the same time we talk about how the colours can be used to express oneself.

We also want to get across a message that all the colours are important, both in a practical way when making art and in a symbolic way when talking about equality.

PEACE

Gathered around the inspiration table we talk about peace. We discuss what it means to each and every one of us.

We want to inspire the participants, but the most important help we can give is to listen. Our words should only assist the children to express their message.

It is important that they are given the freedom that allows them to go deep into the painting process. One of our main goals is to let the children feel that their opinion is valued and their voice is heard.

GIVING AND RECEIVING

When the workshop is finished each participant can decide whether they want to keep their work or share it with the audience. The donated paintings are used to create an exhibition.

Often the participants create two paintings. Then they can decide which one they want to keep and which one will be exhibited.

If everyone decides to paint only one painting, we arrange a short exhibition where the works can dry properly and be viewed and discussed at the same time.

GRATITUDE

At the end of each workshop we gather and talk about gratitude.

We talk about other children in various parts of the world that have taken part in Peacepainting projects, sharing their own unique messages about peace and equality.

We are grateful that many children and adults from around the world have helped to carry on the work for a more peaceful world. A place where we can look at each other with kindness.