



TITLE	AGE RANGE	TIME
<i>Shine a Light</i>	4-11	45-60 minutes

---

***Brief Outline:***

*Students will decorate Christmas lights with messages of peace for the holiday season.*

**PURPOSE:**

- Encourage creativity and self-expression
- Encourage reflection on the values of kindness and peace

**MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- Christmas tree light cut-outs (printed or drawn)
- Colouring pencils, crayons, or markers
- Other decorative materials including stickers or sequins
- String
- Hole punch

***Instructions***

**INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES):**

- Begin by discussing the importance of lights during the holiday season. Talk about how different cultures use lights as symbols of home, safety or peace.
- Explain that peace can mean a time without fighting and when everything is calm and quiet. It can also mean when people are treated fairly and accepted for who they are. You can include a reference to families at Christmas.
- Lead a discussion on the concept peace asking students:
  - *Why do you think peace is important?*
  - *Can you think of any examples when you or someone else has helped bring peace?*Include prompts on meaning from above if needed.
- Share examples of images associated with 'peace' including the peace sign, a dove, and an olive branch.



# Classroom Resources

TITLE	AGE RANGE	TIME
<i>Shine a Light</i>	4-11	45-60 minutes

---

## **DECORATION ACTIVITY** (20-25 MINUTES):

- Hand out the Christmas tree light cut-outs and decoration resources to each student. You can hand out more than one light cut-out if you have time.
- Encourage students to decorate the cut-outs with reference to what they have been discussing about peace. This can include adding colours, symbols and words they associate with peace.

## **SHARING & DISCUSSION** (10-15 MINUTES):

- After the students have finished decorating, ask them to sit in a circle or stay at their desks to share their lights with the class.
- As each student shares, encourage them to talk about why they chose certain colours or designs and how their light represents peace.

## **DISPLAYING THE LIGHTS** (5 MINUTES):

- After everyone has shared, punch a hole at the top of each light and use ribbon or string to hang them up in the classroom.

## **CLOSING REFLECTION** (5 MINUTES):

- Lead a short closing discussion asking students:
  - *Now you have made your light, what are some small ways you bring peace to those around you over the holiday period?*

Shine  
a light FOR  
PEACE

