

# READ★PRAY★WONDER★PLAY

## A GUIDE TO SHARING STORIES WITH CHILDREN

### Walking toward Peace: The True Story of a Brave Woman Called Peace Pilgrim

By Kathleen Krull & Annie Bowler

Can one person's decisions and actions make a difference and motivate others? Absolutely! This story is about a woman, Mildred Norman, who was inspired to walk for peace and changed her name to Peace Pilgrim. Growing up in a time of wars, she believed she could make a pilgrimage spreading the message of peace by walking from one side of the United States to the other, talking with people she met, and inviting them to act in ways that would make the world a more peaceful place.

As both biography and inspirational story, it may engage older children as they begin to see the world around them and wonder what actions they might take to make it a better place. Children of any age, however, will be delighted by Peace Pilgrim's story and the illustrations that accompany it, as they encounter the story of this remarkable woman.



### ★★ WONDER TOGETHER ★★

- What do you like best about Peace Pilgrim's story? What surprised you about her story?
- Why do you think she chose the name Peace Pilgrim? If you could choose a name that would represent some way you'd like to make the world a better place, what would it be?
- What did Peace Pilgrim do to prepare for her journey? What would be your first steps to prepare for a goal you have?
- *With older children:* Notice the small bits of blue, red, and green colors the illustrator uses once Peace Pilgrim chose her new name. These follow Peace Pilgrim through the rest of the story. What do you think the artist is expressing with this design?
- What does peace mean to you?

### ★★ EXPLORE THE STORY ★★

- Draw a picture of what peace looks like to you or respond to the prompt "Peace is . . ." For a challenge, use the letters P E A C E to begin each response.
- *With older children:* Get a map of the United States and mark the places the story mentions that Peace Pilgrim visited. Wonder what other places she may have visited on her walks.
- Take a walk, or move in ways you can, for peace. Peace Pilgrim considered walking a prayer. What prayers for peace do you have as you move about in your neighborhood or community?
- Learn more about Peace Pilgrim at [www.peacepilgrim.org](http://www.peacepilgrim.org). Find one of her quotes and make a poster for your home using it.

### PRAY

God of Peace, thank you for Peace Pilgrim and people like her who put their beliefs into action. Let our hearts, homes, neighborhoods, schools, and world be peaceful places. Help me spread peace through my actions and words and show your love to all I meet. Amen.



THE  
PC(USA)  
STORE

DISCOVER MORE

[www.pcusastore.com/FlyawayBooksGuides](http://www.pcusastore.com/FlyawayBooksGuides)

## ★ ★ DIG DEEPER ★ ★

- Francis of Assisi was a man who lived in the early 1200's in the town of Assisi in Italy. He came from a wealthy family but as a young man decided to give away all he had and to live a different life devoted to God. Do a YouTube video search for "St. Francis of Assisi for children." Talk together about the similarities between Francis and Peace Pilgrim. Wonder what simple actions you might take as a family to live like Francis, caring for nature and God's creation, and like Peace Pilgrim, spreading a message of peace to others.
- Choose a peace activist or a person who has promoted world peace. Research their life and work. Make a presentation, poster, or write a short biography about the person and share it with others. Some people to choose from may be: Joan Baez, Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, Tegla Laroupe, Malala Yousafzai, Martin Luther King, Jr., Pablo Picasso, John Lennon, and others you think of.
- Do an internet search for "artists that promote peace" and explore different artists, their art form, and how creative works of art can promote peace.
- Do an internet search for "songs about peace." Choose several songs and listen to the words and the music. Wonder how they make you feel. Wonder how they are a call to action.
- Explore other books by Kathleen Krull. She loved to write about interesting and inspiring people. Some of her books include the Women Who Broke the Rules series, the Lives of (Musicians, Artists, Athletes, Pirates, and so forth) series, and the Giants of Science series. She was interested in all sorts of people.

## MORE TO READ & DO

CLICK THE LINKS BELOW TO LEARN MORE

### ADDITIONAL DOWNLOADABLE RESOURCE FOR *WALKING TOWARD PEACE*

- Download the [Maze Activity](#)

### ADDITIONAL BOOKS ABOUT HISTORY, PEACE, AND COMMUNITY

- [\*For Beautiful Black Boys Who Believe in a Better World\*](#), by Michael W. Waters & Keisha Morris
- [\*Liberty's Civil Rights Road Trip\*](#), by Michael W. Waters & Nicole Tadgell
- [\*Saving Delicia: A Story about Small Seeds and Big Dreams\*](#), by Laura Gehl & Patricia Metola
- [\*Who Is My Neighbor?\*](#) by Amy-Jill Levine & Sandy Eisenberg Sasso & Denise Turu
- [\*Crocodile's Crossing: A Search for Home\*](#), by Yoeri Slegers
- [\*Three Lines in a Circle: The Exciting Life of the Peace Symbol\*](#), by Michael G. Long & Carlos Vélez

Guide written by Meg Elliot Rift and created in partnership with PC(USA)'s initiative "[Around the Table](http://pcusa.org/aroundthetable)" ([pcusa.org/aroundthetable](http://pcusa.org/aroundthetable)).



THE  
PC(USA)  
STORE

DISCOVER MORE

[www.pcusastore.com/FlyawayBooksGuides](http://www.pcusastore.com/FlyawayBooksGuides)