**A short reason for the activities:**

On the 30th January our school celebrates the anniversary of the death of Gandhi. He is one the greatest advocates of peace that the world has known. To mark this occasion, our school has decided to do a series of talks and activities around the central theme of peace. As there is a kindergarten in our school, special child-friendly activities have been prepared for them. The idea is that they understand the underlying concept of peace, that is, that we accept the good qualities in everyone regardless of their shortcomings, be it age, race or culture. We are all different, but we all matter. It is only in seeing and understanding these differences and finally accepting them, can we achieve peace.

**How we will do the activities:**

On the chosen day, a group of older students will go to a classroom of 4-year-old students. They will have a large story book as a prop. The children will sit in a semi-circle around the narrators. The props needed for the first story are 4 plastic animals, a zebra, a bird, a giraffe and a lion. Five students will be asked to serve as volunteer actors so that the story can also be quite visual. This will help the students understand it better. Also in the background a typical picture of a green, verdant jungle scene will be projected. Before the actuation, the students will be instructed on the roles they have to play.

Before the actuation the students will be asked these questions:

1. Which animals do you see here?
2. Do you think these animals like each other? Explain why
3. What positive characteristics does each animal have?

Thus the story begins:

Unlikely friends

Once upon a time, a young, mean hunter wanted to trap animals that lived in a savannah. He wanted to sell them on the internet to make lots of money. He set an evil trap that would leave the animals locked up in a cage. He set the trap and left for his camp to wait.

After a while, a giraffe, a lion, a zebra and a bird came along and were trapped in the cage. Each animal was frightened of the next. They were all especially frightened of the lion. They were desperate to get out of the cage and away from each other. At first all they did was fight. They blamed each other for the situation they were in. But after a few hours of arguing, they became tired and hungry. They sat down and looked at each other. They saw they were all the same, frightened and alone. So they decided to work together to get out of the cage.

The giraffe was the first to go into action. With her long neck she was able to get food from the trees around them to regain their strength and then the bird was able to open the lock on the cage with his beak. Just then the hunter came back. The lion with his menacing, scary roar and powerful paws scared the hunter so he wouldn’t follow them while the zebra with his hooves, trampled the thick grass and served as guide to a safe place where they could stay.

That day they all became friends and learned that everyone has their differences and that working together you can accomplish anything.

**The end.**

After the story ends, the older students will have a conversation with the younger students to make sure they understood the moral of the story:

*Did you like the story? Why?*

The older students ask each animal to come out and then asks the younger students:

*What did this animal do to help?*

To close the activity the older students ask/elicit:

*All the animals have a different, special quality.*

*What happens if you put all these qualities together? What do you make?*

The older students should elicit the term **team**.

Then the older students will ask:

*Can you make a team when you are fighting?*

*Can you make a team if you think someone is not as good as you?*

To drive home the message they close with:

We are all a team here on Earth. If we see only difference, we will all fight. But if we see our good qualities we can do whatever we want!