

## International School Peace Gardens - for schools

It is an exciting and innovative Canadian Educational Program that invites every child, in every school in the world to become involved in creating a better future for the planet. Schools are invited to plan, plant, dedicate a peace tree, peace garden, or peace park. ISPG supports schools existing curriculum in peace education, conflict resolution, environmental studies, inter-cultural understanding, and the arts. We encourage the school community to use their peace garden, as often as possible. ISPG has many educational and social benefits:

For Children it offers:

- Cooperation, friendship and support.
- Solutions to bullying and other life problems;
- Participation in a positive and nurturing activity;
- Greater awareness and tolerance;
- Physical involvement;
- Presentation and Fund Raising skill development;
- Electronic sharing of ideas with other ISPG schools;
- Real world application in Design, Language Arts, Music and Art.

For Teachers it offers:

- Curriculum linkages;
- Peace Education training and materials;
- Earth Charter and Ecological Footprint Information;
- Peacebuilding, Human Security and Sustainability Education ideas;
- Whole school team building.

For Schools it offers:

- Increased awareness for the protection of the school environment;
- Development of a caring and supportive school culture;
- Evolution of a stewardship ethic amongst

students and staff;

- Community building; and
- An enhanced community image;
- Continuity for Principals.

International School Peace Gardens has:

- The support of the Governor General of Canada, His Holiness Pope John Paul II, the Minister of Foreign Affairs both in Canada and Australia, other Ministries of Education, schools and universities in Canada, Australia, Mexico;
- Supported by UNESCO MAB, UNICEF, Council on Global Issues;
- Information distributed to members countries at the United Nations, NY;
- Countries individual choice of program.
- Expanded from Ontario, Canada to 37 countries.
- Involved ½ million students worldwide.
- Nominated for the Hague Appeal for Peace Prize in 2001.
- Achieved the YMCA Canada Peace Medal in 1998;
- A best practice - Hague Appeal for Peace;
- Participated with TVO Teacher of the Year Award winners St. Agnes School, Chatham, Ontario.

The ISPG program has helped schools to reduce bullying, vandalism and violence. It's worth a trip to the website. Log onto [www.ihtec.on.ca](http://www.ihtec.on.ca)

Give ISPG a chance and let it help your school, your community become a safer and more peaceful place.