

# Aloha Peace Project



## *Puppet Play:* **I'm Not Good Enough (Attitude)**

When we talk about famous peace leaders like Martin Luther King Jr., Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, Mother Teresa, and President Carter, we think about what sets them apart from other people. These leaders have standards of good character. (Who they are on the inside...good character involves things like fairness, responsibility, kindness, self-discipline, perseverance, and honesty.) We talk about some of their interests, their standards of good character, and their values. Peace leaders respect the self-worth of others and stand-up for what they know to be important. These leaders also have an attitude that enables them to believe in themselves, and to appreciate and cooperate with those different from themselves. We are hoping that some of you will be stimulated to take action on some subject to make a difference and be a peace leader.

The puppets will depict a situation of what can happen if we don't believe in ourselves.

Props:

- 2 puppets

Tony: *(Sitting off to the side by himself, head looking down and sad)*

Nicole: Don't you just love the beginning of school? We have a new teacher, new kids in the class, and new classroom, new school supplies, and different books from last year. It makes me feel great!

Tony: Well, I guess so...but I'm not so sure about **loving** all of that. I feel kind of sad that the summer is over and I don't like to be where I'm not sure of what will happen next.

Nicole: It is like a new beginning and I just feel all full of energy and wanting to try new things.

Tony: I **never** want to try new things! I just know if I try new things I will look stupid and people will think I am dumb.

Nicole: Oh, Tony, you are acting like you are going to fail before you even get started.

Tony: That's because I will! I just hate being so dumb.

Nicole: I don't think you are dumb and I want you on my team. In fact, you are now on my team. Now let's see...what kind of project shall we start?

Tony: How about just sitting and watching other kids?

Nicole: Sitting and watching other kids? Well...at first that doesn't seem like much of a project. But let me think about it. *(pause)* I am thinking we need a little more **action** for our project.

Tony: How about sitting and watching other kids to see if they seem happy at recess. I

know I'm not very happy because I'm not good enough at the games.

Nicole: Could that possibly be because you never **play** them? How can you be good at something if you don't try? I always have fun trying even when I make mistakes and don't win.

Tony: It doesn't work that way for me. You know what? I don't think I want to be on your team.

Nicole: Well, of course you do. This is a new beginning of the school year and it might just be a new beginning for you! Now let's continue with our project. Since you don't have fun at recess, maybe there are others who feel that way too. Maybe we could do something about that. What would make you feel better?

Tony: Maybe if I had a friend to do something with.

Nicole: Let's think of some ideas for that. We could advertise for a friend for you.

Tony: Could I vote on that?

Nicole: OK

Tony: I vote NO.

Nicole: Well, we could ask someone if they would please be your friend.

Tony: May I vote again?

Nicole: OK

Tony: I vote NO.

Nicole: You are not going to discourage me, Tony. How about if we come up with some ideas to help the kids remember to be a friend to others.

Tony: You mean like make posters or something?

Nicole: Exactly! Tony you came up with a great idea for our project. Who says you aren't smart? Maybe we can get others to help us put up some posters. And maybe it will be fun to work together and see if we can make a difference. Oh Tony, I just love having you on my team.

Tony: Thanks, Nicole. I'm starting to feel a little better. Maybe if I try to believe in myself I can come up with other things too.

### **Discussion:**

Do you think whether we believe in ourselves or not can make a difference in what we can get done? This doesn't mean we aren't honest with ourselves. We all have some things we are good at and some we are not so good at. If we are always saying things to ourselves like "I can't do it, I'm just not smart", or "I could never have a job

like that, I'm just not good enough", then we probably won't have many successes.

Do you have an attitude for believing you can make a difference or do you have an attitude like the puppet where you don't really believe in yourself?

Do you have an idea that you would like to present to see if others here would like to join you in working for that? *(We hope students will start the process that can affect their classroom and can spread to the whole school.)*