



It is already March! I guess it is about time to leave the nice heated carpet and venture outdoors, but it is still snowing.... Let's start with some happy news.



Happy News No.1

The other day, Popoki and Ronni found a wonderful e-mail from Noreen Croyle of Pro-ject PEACE in their in-box. Here's a bit of it:

"I'd like to inform you that for all of your wonderful efforts to promote awareness and discourse, especially amongst young people, about world peace, you have been recognized as an "Everyday Peacemaker" by Pro~ject Peace, a group endeavoring to project peace in our daily lives as well as worldwide."

[http://web.mac.com/stevenoreen/iWeb/PRO-JECT PEACE/Welcome.html](http://web.mac.com/stevenoreen/iWeb/PRO-JECT_PEACE/Welcome.html)

↑ Please have a look at the Pro-ject PEACE website.

On behalf of Pro-ject Peace let me congratulate and thank you for all of your efforts to promote inner and outer peace in our global community.

Warm Regards,
Noreen A. Croyle
Steven E. Walker
Co-founders: Pro~ject Peace



Happy News No.2

Popoki is busy in Hiroshima!

Popoki is on the ANT-Hiroshima website: http://www.ant-hiroshima.org/e_ant.htm

You can see him introduced in Japanese at: <http://ant.blog.so-net.ne.jp/2008-02-08>

Popoki is also available at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. We just had an order for 30 additional books. People who visit the Museum from all over the world will have a chance to meet Popoki.

Happy News No.3

Popoki in Korean!

One of Popoki's friends, KIM SaeDuk, has taken him to Korea. Two Korean publishers have shown interest. If things go well, the Korean language version (Korean and English) of *Popoki, What Color is Peace?* should be available by the summer. Thank you, Kim-san!

Happy News No.4

Popoki has a new friend in Ronni's office!



Hello, my name is Café Latte (Latte for short). I was brought here by a human, Fumiko Tsuchiya. She is going to Tokyo soon, and I'll miss her, but she can always come back here. I'm a dog, but I don't dislike cats and I'm making friends with Pooh, the elephant and the other cats living in this office. I hope I can be friends with you, too.

Popoki in Canada (1/31-2/3)

Popoki gives a Keynote Speech at the University of Winnipeg

“Aboriginal Governance & Globalization Symposium” (By Satoko)



It was a global workshop, with many Aboriginal people participating. It was also Popoki's first time to address aboriginal governance issues.

It was also the first time for him to experience minus 50 degrees Centigrade, but he was not deterred!

Thanks to the strong support of Popoki's cheering committee (Robin {Ronni's sister} and Professor Parvin Ghorayshi of University of Winnipeg), difficulties with technology were overcome. People who had been scattered around the room were drawn together both physically and spiritually by Popoki's story. At the end, it felt as if each person had Popoki sitting right beside them.



The talk was very successful. It not only encouraged participants to think about peace but also gave clear examples of the ways structural and direct violence are re-created. One example was

showing a map that claimed to be of the Pacific, but in which many of the Pacific Islands were missing. Of course, we sold all the books we brought.

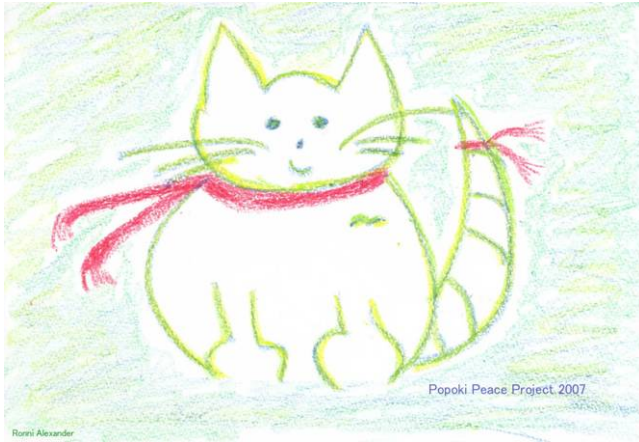
After the talk, many people gathered to talk about how to teach peace. In Canada,



English is used as a common language, but it is not necessarily everyone's first language. In keeping with that, one Aboriginal woman complimented Ronni on her English ability. When she learned I had come from Japan, she used her only word of Japanese: “*Arigato!*”

Every time I participate in a Popoki workshop, I can't help but feel that Popoki is planting seeds of happiness in everyone's heart.

In winter, Winnipeg, Manitoba (Canada) is a very cold place. This is a record of how Popoki dealt with the cold.



1 . Preparing for winter...

2 . Maybe just a muffler won't be warm enough...



3 . Minus 40 degrees centigrade. Popoki thought about this, and decided on a cloak.



(Everyone teased him about having gained weight...)

4. The first night he was given a sweatshirt from the University of Winnipeg. He tried it on immediately.



5. Home again in Kobe, Popoki immediately returned to his usual self!



But this year, it is cold in Kobe too....



Participating in the 13th Hyogo Foreign Residents Educational Research Council (Kengaikyo) Seminar

SANADA Yasuhiro



On 10 February, I participated along with Popoki in a seminar held by the Hyogo Foreign Residents Educational Research Council.

The seminar was held at Nagata Minami Elementary School in Kobe, just a short walk from JR Shin-Nagata Station. It was the first time I had been to an elementary school since graduating, but this school was built just like my old school so it felt as if nothing had changed. Popoki was stacked up on a table right near the entrance in the corner for book sales, waiting for new friends.

After the morning plenary, the meeting broke for lunch and people crowded around Popoki. Most of those who picked up the book to have a look were elementary school teachers. Popoki will probably find a place in the class library, ready to meet new young friends, and they will probably think about the color and sound and taste of peace.



By the end of the day, all 50 copies of Popoki had found new owners. Fantastic! It seems that Popoki has made a lot of new friends.



Lunchtime Workshop at Nada Ward Office

At lunchtime on 13 February, Popoki showed up at the Nada Ward Office. He did a workshop called “What does it mean to think about peace? Looking



for ‘Peace’ with the cat Popoki” with about 60 members of the



Nada Branch of the Kobe City Employees Union and Nada Ward Article 9 Society. It was his first time at a ward office, but everyone had a good time and became friends.



A “Workshop in a Workshop”?!?

TAMURA Kasumi



Do you think Japan is at peace now?
These are the people who positioned themselves near “Yes.”

On 19 February, I joined a faculty development workshop for about 40 faculty members at St. Thomas University in Hyogo Prefecture. Spending time with Popoki in a warm and relaxed atmosphere was nothing new for me, but this workshop held a big surprise. We spent the first part thinking about

‘peace’ with Popoki, but in the second half, Prof. Alexander revealed her teaching secrets, explaining, for example, what is important for ‘participatory’ learning, simple rules for teaching and what to do when you run into a problem. Using the same power point slides from the first part but with annotations, she provided an explanation of basic skills for facilitators including such things as how

to structure time, and what to consider in making power point presentations. This allowed us to review the workshop while it was still fresh in our memories.

This gave us time to see objectively how the acilitator can guide the way participants feel and react during a workshop. There were many questions, and the workshop lasted about an hour longer than originally intended.

“Workshop” in a “Workshop” participants earnestly ask questions



Popoki in Print

- Kansai Time Out, March 2008
- ‘Gakuen no Mado’ *Ryoso 376*, Kobe University Alumni Magazine, pp.17-18
- ‘Volunteer he no Sasoi’ Kobe University STYLE 2008 SPRING Vol.9 pp.9-10
- This is not really about Popoki, but ... ‘Itsumade “Gaijin”? Kokuseki wo megutte kanjita “nande”’ *Asahi Shimbun* 2008.1.25

What Popoki Means to Me



Thoughts on Popoki Day 2.21

Recently, I feel like green is the color of Popoki. Green is the color of nature. The color I can see even when my vision is bad. It is a comforting color; the color of growth; the color of life; the color of hope. It has been three years since Popoki died. Thanks to everyone, Popoki is happily bouncing all around the world. Popoki is in my heart, and

everyone’s heart. I wonder, what is the color of thanks? (Ronni)

Let's all go to the Global Article 9 Conference to Abolish War!

Popoki is not Japanese but he likes Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution, so in May he is going to Makuhari to discuss peace with people from around the world. Why don't you join us? 2008.5/4-6 Makuhari Messe Advance tickets: 1000 yen/day; Regular price: 1500/day. info@whynot9.jp <http://whynot9.jp>

Please join the Peace Walk from Hiroshima to Makuhari

3/15 Akashi to Kobe 3/16 Kobe to Nishinomiya

Popoki might be walking, too!

Information: http://homepage3.nifty.com/peace_walk/english-doc.html

UPCOMING POPOKI EVENTS

- 3.8 Workshop "Popoki, What Color is Peace?" 13:30-15:30 Kobeshi Kinrou Kaikan (10 min. walk east of Sannomiya Station). Room 307. Sponsor: Theatre 9 (We love theatre! Article 9 Society). Information: 078-222-8651 email : kobeenkan@nifty.com
- 4.12 Workshop. Details to follow. Location : Youth Plaza KOBE EAST (North of Hankyu Mikage station)
- 4.25 'Peace Studies Seminar' 15 :00-16 :30 Itami Hall (3 minutes north of Hankyu Itami Station). Reservations : Itami City Hall, International Affairs and Peace Dept. Tel : 072-784-8148
- 5.5 Workshop 'Popoki, What Color is Peace ?' 10 :00-12 :30 Room 202. Global Article Nine Conference to Abolish War, Makuhari Messe. We're hoping to have a booth on the 4th and 5th, too. Volunteers welcome !

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THE POPOKI PEACE PROJECT!

The Popoki Peace Project is a voluntary project which uses Popoki's peace book and DVD to promote peace through various activities such as peace camps, peace workshops, seminars and other activities including work on *Popoki's Peace Book 2. Popoki, What Color is Peace?* has been translated into Thai, Chinese, Korean, Khmer, Indonesian, Tetun and Bengali. Farsi, Lao and Swahili translations are underway. If you would like to translate Popoki, or have a way to have the book sold at your local bookstore, please let us know.



popoki.cruisejapan.com
popokipeace@yahoo.co.jp

How to purchase *Popoki, What Color is Peace? Popoki's Peace Book 1* from outside of Japan

1. Go to your local Japanese bookstore: Kinokuniya, Maruzen, etc. (or their website)
2. In North America, thanks to a very satisfied customer, *Popoki, What Color is Peace? Popoki's Peace Book 1* can be ordered from Kinokuniya Bookstore in Los Angeles. The bookstore is at www.los_angeles@kinokuniya.com and the telephone number is 213.687.4480. The price is US\$20.00 plus tax.

How to purchase *Popoki, What Color is Peace? Popoki's Peace Book 1* from inside Japan

There are various ways.

From the publisher, Epic: TEL: 078-241-7561 · FAX: 078-241-1918

From Amazon.co.jp or your local bookseller

From the Popoki Peace Project (popokipeace.yahoo.co.jp)

Contributions are always welcome!

Popoki Peace Project popokipeace@yahoo.co.jp

 <http://popoki.cruisejapan.com>

From within Japan, please use Popoki's Postal account.

Account Name ポーポキ・ピース・プロジェクト神戸

Account number: 00920-4-280350



THANK YOU FROM POPOKI !

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