



It is almost Halloween! Everywhere you look in Kobe, there are jack-o'lanterns and other Halloween decorations. Black cats play have a starring role in Halloween, but what about white cats? Can they be stars, too?

Popoki's Hot News!



Another Popoki!
This wonderful Popoki was made by Marie Tada, one of his friends.



Please contribute a bit of peace!

What sort of 'peace' did you encounter today?

Please let us know by sending a message to Popoki's e-mail: popokipeace@gmail.com

Here's Ronni's contribution: I was taking a walk and came across some sunflowers in full bloom, even though it is October! Looking at them made me feel very happy.



Last month we introduced an article about Palestine written by Takeshi Horikoshi.

You can view it (in Japanese) on the YMCA website:

http://www.kobeymca.or.jp/kobeseinen/pdf/2010_09_3.pdf

*This article was based on one in Popoki News No.54...which is in English!



Popoki and Ronni are gradually getting back to work. Thanks for your continued understanding and support.



POPOKI and International understanding and development education seminar for living in multicultural society @ JICA HYOGO 2010/8/9

KOBE YMCA International Leader Group Kenji,HIROSE

On 9th August, Popoki held a seminar "The cat Popoki and building peace mobile" in "International understanding and development education seminar for living in multicultural society" at JICA Hyogo.

Popoki has joined this seminar every year for the last 4 years.

Here is the report. About 20 people, teachers in Hyogo prefecture or students who are interested in education, came to join the workshop.

Classroom is so tough!? We hope teachers and kids have peaceful class.



Hello ! I am Popoki,
Let's think about peace,
Are you at peace,
or not?



One held up the page,
another read the text,
That made it
comfortable for
everyone to see the
pictures!

Making mobiles,
Colors, shapes, sizes...
Nothing is the same



Hanging the mobile
Keeping its balance
Attaching paper figures
Everyone finished the mobile
Working together.



Thank you, Popoki!

We hope kids in schools can make your mobile with their teachers ♪

Feedback from the participants

Here is some feedback from the participants.

(Translation from Japanese to English by the reporter)

- I want to try mobile making in my school or for ice break for my team. I wish to know the background of Ronni or to watch something such as video of her reading picture books or showing picture-story.
- Making the mobile was very fun and I forgot everything else! I feel getting more imagination.
- I want to try the exercise using a rope and having participants stand in a position to indicate their stance on a theme. Making mobiles is also good. We learned hardship, joy, or satisfaction of working in cooperation with someone.
- It is good way to encourage people to begin to think about "peace".
- The content worked on my senses directly. I wanted more time for making the mobile. I'm happy making one project with everyone in a heart-warming atmosphere.
- The workshop shows very different view of peace from ordinary Japanese education. I've got new knowledge.

The participants were surprised at thinking about peace with Popoki's view. And anyway they enjoyed making mobile and thinking about peace with Popoki!

Impression

This workshop is my first experience with the Popoki Peace Project, and I'm very excited knowing that everyone has different opinion on peace.

At the same time, I feel anxious about my life. Am I doing anything that is "non-peace" in my family, school, office or anywhere? It is like being sick, but not realizing it..

But Popoki will give brilliant hints to us.

To live in peace with not only human but animals, plants, insects, bugsso many living creatures, we need more ways for communication, not just words.

First let's communicate with any person or creature by using our 5 senses, then we may be more peaceful!

Popoki's Easy Poga

Lesson 29

Our theme this month is Halloween. We hope it makes you feel strong and good!



1. As always, sit up straight making yourself look thin.
2. Now make yourself round like a pumpkin.
3. Next, get on all fours, like a cat, with your head and tail up.
4. Good. Now arch your back, like a Halloween black cat.
5. Did it? Good for you! Time for the "I did it!" pose!

Congratulations! You have successfully completed Lesson 29. Do you feel refreshed? Please remember to relax, breathe, laugh and practice for 3 minutes every day.

Please join us!



Next Po-kai: 10.23 (Saturday) 15:30- Kobe YMCA All welcome!

We will prepare for Popoki's appearance at the YMCA Bazaar. Please come and help, and don't forget to bring PET bottle caps!

10.24 Kobe YMCA Bazaar 10:00-16:00 Kobe YMCA

11.20 Popoki in Okinawa???

Mid-October/December Readings of *Popoki's Peace Books* for children

12.27-28 Popoki at All YMCA English Camp, Tozanso

From Popoki's Friends:

•11.16 Lecture by American Jewish human rights activist Anna Baltzar. "Peace and Human Rights in Palestine: The Occupation Witnessed by Anna Baltzer." 18:30 - 21:30 (open at 18:00) Basement Lecture Hall, Graduate School of Human & Environmental Studies, Yoshida South Campus, KYOTO UNIVERSITY. <http://www.h.kyoto-u.ac.jp/access/>. Information and Pre-registration (required) at: anna.in.kyoto@gmail.com

•ANPO A film by Linda Hoaglund depicting resistance to U.S. military bases in Japan through a collage of paintings, photographs and animated, narrative and documentary films. URL: <http://anpomovie.com/en.html>

Popoki in Print

- **“What is Behind ‘Popoki, What Color is Peace?’ 1st in a series in “Tosabori Life” No.19 2010.10:4 (In Japanese)**
- HORIKOSHI Takeshi. “Kokusai no mado” (article about Palestine) *Kobe YMCA News* No.604 2010.9-10, p.3
- “If we all participate, something will change! Reflecting on Palestine” *THE YMCA* No.607 June 2010, p.1 (YMCA Japan Monthly Newspaper)
- Hiroshima and the World: What Color is Hiroshima? Chugoku Shimbun Peace Media Center, http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/mediacenter/article.php?story=20100312140608602_en 2010.3.15
- FM COCOLO 76.5 ‘Heart Lines’ 2010.1.9 Japanese Interview: Ronni on Popoki in Palestine
- “Human Rights, Popoki and Bare Life.” *In Factis Pax Journal of Peace Education and Social Justice* Vol.3, No.1, 2009, pp.46-63 (<http://www.infactispax.org/journal/>)
- Nishide, Ikuyo. “Popoki, What Color is Peace? Lecture by Ronni Alexander.” “PPSEAWA” (Pan-Pacific and south-East Asia Women’s Association of Japan), No.63, 2009.12, p.5
- ‘Friendship’ No.2 2009.11 Itami City International/Peace Exchange Commission, Annual Events, p.1-2.
- ‘Not for But With...’ No.79, 2010.1 Notice of the Popoki Peace Challenge event. P.12
- ‘Nada’ notice of the Popoki Peace Challenge event, 2009.12, p.2
- ‘Yujotte...Kangaeru Ehon.’ Asahi Shimbun 2009.7.2 AKUZAWA Etsuko
- ‘Yujo wo kangaete – Ningen to, Neko to, soshite Jibun to,’ *RST/ALN*, No.259 2009.6.28, p.11
- ‘New Books: Popoki, What Color is Friendship? Popoki’s Peace Book 2 ’ (Rebecca Jennison) “Cutting-Edge,” Vol.35 2009.6, p.3
- ‘Thinking about Peace with a Cat: Second Peace Book Published.’ (SAITO Masashi) *Kobe Shimbun*, 2009.4.21
- ‘Popoki, What Color is Peace?’ *Kobe YMCA News*, 2009.3.1. No.593. p.2
- ‘Popoki, What Color is Trash?’ *Kobe YMCA News*, 2009.1.1. No.592. p.2
- ‘Tomodachi ni Natte Kuremasenkai,’ *RST/ALN*, 2009.2.22
- Popoki on the radio. <http://www.kizzna.fm/> Click on 6CH to hear the program and reading of Popoki in Japanese
- *Yasashii kara hito nann desu* Exhibition Organizing Committee ‘Universal Declaration of Human Rights.’ Hyogo Buraku Liberation and Human Rights Institute. 2008.10. ¥500. For information contact: blrhyg@osk3.3web.jp
- “KFAW College Seminar: What Color is Peace for Women? Thinking about Peace, Violence and Gender with Popoki.” *Asian Breeze* No.54 October 2008, p.8 (Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women)
- *Kobe Shimbun* “Human Rights Declaration Exhibition Panels: 6 Local Hyogo Artists Illustrate all 30 Articles” 2008.10.8. p.10
- “An Interview with Dr. Ronni Alexander.” *The Newpeople*, Pittsburgh’s Peace and Justice Newspaper, Vol.38 No.9, October 2008, p.5
- “Nuclear Security is Inhuman Security – Dr. Ronni Alexander speaks about Hiroshima and Nagasaki.” *The Newpeople*, Pittsburgh’s Peace and Justice Newspaper, Vol.38 No.9, Oct. 2008, p.4
- Popoki in Pittsburgh. Check out the Remembering Hiroshima/Imagining Peace URL: <http://www.rememberinghiroshima.org/>
- Global Campaign for Peace Education News #57 August 2008 (The Global Campaign for Peace Education (GCPE) e-newsletter. Sign-up to receive the newsletter and review back issues online at www.tc.edu/PeaceEd/newsletter.)



* **Back issues of Popoki News:** http://popoki.cruisejapan.com/archives_e.html



What Popoki Means to Me

Sofía Villacorta



**The original Spanish will be followed by an English translation*

El significado de Popoki en mi vida

¿Qué significa Popoki para mí? Sin duda alguna, amistad. Conocí el Proyecto de Paz Popoki dos años atrás, y aunque desde entonces supe que se trataba de una iniciativa interesante no podría haber imaginado los amigos que conocería a través del mismo. Durante toda mi vida aprendí a confiar en poca gente y tengo la fortuna de tener una maravillosa familia, así que no hay nada más seguro que contar con ellos. Me acostumbré a esa idea. Siempre sentí su apoyo en la distancia entre mi país El Salvador y Japón, donde me encuentro estudiando. Pero en junio pasado mi papá enfermó. Traté de ser fuerte y pretender que todo estaba bien. No fue fácil. Pensé que debía convertirme en el apoyo de mi familia aún en la distancia y llorar no era una opción. Decidí no hablar del tema, y fue muy difícil dado que usualmente soy muy conversadora.

El 6 de junio me invitaron a participar en el evento Nada Challenge junto a los miembros del Proyecto de Paz Popoki. Era la segunda oportunidad de unirme al evento. Sin embargo, esta vez fue más difícil por la situación de mi familia. No pude mantenerme tranquila y fuerte, quizá por tener que pensar en la paz y ver a todas esas familias juntas. Para entonces, llorar se volvió la única opción. No obstante, me sorprendí al encontrar amigos donde no lo esperaba. Los miembros del Proyecto de Paz Popoki me brindaron el apoyo que requería y más importante aún los abrazos que nunca pedí y que tanto necesitaba. Y fue ahí cuando realmente entendí cómo se sentía la paz. ¡Siempre les estaré muy agradecida!

Actualmente, la condición de mi papá es mejor y yo siento el deber diario de traer paz a alguien más. Y aunque no es un trabajo fácil, sé que vale la pena, porque yo la viví. ¡Muchísimas gracias!



The Meaning of Popoki in My Life

What Popoki means to me? Friendship, without any doubt. I first met the Popoki Peace Project two years ago and even when I knew that it was an interesting initiative, I did not have any idea about the friends I would meet through it.

During my entire life I learnt to trust only just some people, and I have had the fortune to have a great family around me, so what could be safer than to rely on them, right? I got used to that idea. I always felt their support in spite of the distance between my country El Salvador and Japan, where I am studying. Then, last June my father got sick. I tried to be strong and pretend that everything was ok. But I had a hard time. I thought I should be my family support from here and crying was not an option. So I decided to be as silent as possible about the issue, it was really difficult for the usual talkative me.

On June 6, I was invited to participate in Nada Challenge, with the members of Popoki Peace Project. It was my second opportunity to join the event. But this time was harder because of my family situation. I was not able to be calm or strong, and I am not sure about why. Maybe it was because of I had been thinking about peace and seeing all those kids with their parents. By that time crying was the only option. However I was really surprised to find friends where I would never expect. Popoki Peace Project members gave me the support I required; the hugs I have never asked for but I always needed. And then I really understood what peace feels like. I will always be grateful!

Now my father's condition is better and I feel a daily assignment of bringing peace to somebody else. And even when it is not an easy job, I am sure it's worth it because I felt it. Thank you so much!



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. *Popoki, What Color is Peace?* has been translated into Thai, Chinese, Korean, Khmer, Indonesian, Tetun and Bengali, Vietnamese, Arabic and Hebrew. Spanish, Farsi, Lao, 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.

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 the US, 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. It is also available at Joseph-Beth Booksellers, Pittsburgh, PA.

Popoki, What Color is Friendship? Popoki's Peace Book 2 is not yet available at these bookstores.

Some ways to purchase *Popoki, What Color is Peace? Popoki's Peace Book 1* and *Popoki, What Color is Friendship? Popoki's Peace Book 2* from inside Japan

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\(at\)gmail\(dot\)com](mailto:popokipeace@gmail.com))

Contributions are always welcome!

Popoki Peace Project popokipeace-at-gmail.com

<http://popoki.cruisejapan.com>



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THANK YOU FROM
POPOKI!



Thank you!