



Where there is poverty and sickness, where human beings are being oppressed, there is more work to be done. Our work is for freedom for all. After 90 years of life, it is time for new hands to lift the burdens. It is in your hands now.' Mr. Nelson Mandela, 2008

***** PREPARE FOR MANDELA DAY 2010 *****

Quality Learning and Teaching Campaign

Last year, people across the world joined hands to establish Mandela Day, the 18th of July, as an international day of action. People from all walks of life took social justice into their own hands – they volunteered their time and energy in the common cause of social justice. Mandela Day is an annual celebration of the life of Nelson Mandela, and a call to action to use our energies to change our world.

Mandela Day 2010 has a special significance for us in education. This year, Mandela Day is dedicated to the visions of the Millennium Development Goal 2, calling for quality education for all of our children.

Working together, the Department of Basic Education and the Nelson Mandela Institute calls on parents, teachers, officials, young people, learners and others to join people around the world and spend at least 67 minutes to come together on Mandela Day to support education.

The Department encourages all schools to establish QLTC structures by the end of Mandela month – bringing together school communities to support local schooling. Organise your schools and communities to come together on Mandela Day, toward building local QLTC structures. Here are a few ideas you may find useful. Or you can come up with your own!

Making every day a Mandela Day...

Some Ideas for Mandela Day

Supporting ECD and Foundation Phase Classrooms

We encourage you and your local school community to decide the best way for you to contribute to social justice in your community. The Nelson Mandela Institute shares six ideas with us about how to support local crèches and foundation phase classrooms.

IDEA 1: Paint, Refurbish, and Make Beautiful: Many local crèches and Grade R classrooms are not safe, warm and cheery. Come together on the 18th of July to refurbish or paint a local crèche or foundation phase classroom! Make sure you use warm and cheery colours!

IDEA 2: Educational Toys: Many crèches and foundation phase classrooms have few toys. Simple toys like blocks and puzzles are easy and fun to make. Make some blocks or puzzles for a local crèche or foundation phase classroom!

IDEA 3: Books: Many classrooms have few story books – books that make reading and listening fun. Mobilise books from the community – or come together and write some of your own! It is very important at this age to find and write books in children’s mother tongue!

IDEA 4: Read Together: Many children do not have joyful experiences of books and stories. Read with and to children -- at a local school, crèche, or a children’s hospital ward. Mobilise members of the QLTC and others to support reading clubs.

IDEA 5: Tell a Story: Children learn by hearing stories and words used in different ways. Many of us have stories that we can tell that are very interesting to children. Encourage members of your community to tell their stories to children – both inside and outside of classrooms!

IDEA 6: Support Play: Children learn through play – independent play and organised play. Organise members of your community to support games during breaks or after school. Children as young as 6 enjoy organised sport. Start a soccer club, with an emphasis on all-play.



NELSON MANDELA
Institute for
EDUCATION AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT

‘It is not beyond our power to create a world in which all children have access to a quality education. Those who do not believe this have small imaginations...’ Mr. Nelson Mandela, founding of the Nelson Mandela Institute, 2007

Support the Quality Learning and Teaching Campaign

Call to Parents, Teachers, Learners and Community Structures

First Steps: Plan, Mobilise, Take Action

One of the most effective ways of building your local QLTC structures is to take on an *activity* together on Mandela Day... We share some thoughts with you and your QLTC...

Planning...

Call an urgent meeting of your QLTC Committee, or people who are interested in establishing a QLTC Committee at your school or district level. Discuss the ideas above. Discuss other ideas you may have. Make a plan about how to communicate and mobilise parents, teachers, learners, officials and other community members.

Remember, Mandela Day is formally on the 18th of July. However, the entire month of July is dedicated to Mandela Day activities. Identify a good date, time, and plan for your Mandela Day action.

Remember to protect children's safety; never leave children alone with adults they have not come to trust.

For more information about the Quality Teaching and Learning Campaign, contact your local education district office.

Mobilise for Education

We suggested six ideas above to support early schooling. You may want to also use Mandela Day to mobilise your local community in other ways. Discuss the following ideas...

- **Know Your Neighbour Campaign:** Encourage parents, teachers and learners to visit neighbours. Visit children who may not be living with parents or other adults. We all must support each other if we are going to achieve a quality education for all.
- **Discuss Education:** Encourage community groups to discuss education and participate in local QLTC's. Encourage congregations and other faith based groups to discuss education and become active in the QLTC.
- **Make Your Communities and Schools Green:** Many schools do not have trees or gardens. We learn from our environment. Come together as a QLTC to plant trees, or plant a community garden.

Share your Mandela Day stories!
The most active and innovative
local QLTC will be acknowledged
nationally, and may be
discussed on radio.

Send stories and photos of your Mandela Day activities to:
(Tel) 012.357.3830; (Fax) 083.549.2572; (Email)
Nkomo.T@dbe.gov.za



Thoughts for Teachers...

Bring Mandela Day into the Classroom

We encourage teachers to think about how to bring Mandela Day into the classroom. You may want to organise a lesson associated with Mandela Day in your class this year, or you may want to plan for next year. We share some thoughts with teachers who are interested in bringing Mandela Day into the classroom. These are just some basic ideas. You will have to simplify them for lower grades, and make them more complex for higher grades. Lets share ideas amongst ourselves as we plan for next year!

Idea 1: History: Mr. Mandela is an important leader in South Africa. What is the story of South Africa? Discuss four events, four people, and four ideas (that are new to learners) important to our history. Ask learners to ask their parents for four events, people and ideas that they consider to be important. Allow learners to share their findings in the classroom.

Idea 2: Leaders: Many people consider Mr. Mandela to be a great leader. . Mandela himself says that there are many leaders in our history, and they come from all communities and all walks of life. Discuss other leaders in the history of South Africa and the world.

Idea 3: Heroes: Many people consider Mr. Mandela to be a hero. Mr. Mandela has said that he is just a human being who cared about people and stood up for what he thought was right. Ask learners to think about a hero in their own life. It may be someone they know (like a grandmother or neighbour) or someone they do not know. Ask learners to write about this person. For older children you may want them to interview this person and write a small autobiography. Encourage learners to use at least three new words when they write.

Idea 4: Our Stories: There are many books written about the life of Mr. Mandela. These books allow us to remember his life story and our history. The different books let us understand his life in different ways. Mr. Mandela says that all human beings have a story that is important. Ask learners to write their own story, or a story of someone in their family as a contribution to history. Discuss what can be included in an 'autobiography' or a 'biography'.

Idea 5: Speaking for Ourselves: When Mr. Mandela was a young man he thought that South Africa should be a democratic country. He had strong ideas about what he considered to be good and bad about South Africa at the time. He spoke about his ideas and he influenced others. Ask learners to think about what they think is good and bad about our times. Ask learners to write speech to share their ideas with others. In older grades, encourage learners to practice both in their mother tongue and in English.



basic education
Department:
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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a Mandela Day...**