

About makeChange: The Ladybug Foundation Education Program

A Message from the Program's Teacher Development Team

“Our purpose is to assist educators in exploring teaching and learning that often reaches beyond the standard curricular goals, touching the hearts, minds and lives of students in far-reaching ways. Understanding that some goals cannot be fully measured during our time as educators, it is the hope of The Ladybug Foundation Education Program Inc. that through the work of this Program, we will plant seeds of integrity, respect, compassion, empathy and social responsibility, to be carried by students into adulthood. We will work together as collaborators in creation, knowing that people and society will reap a multiple return on our investment from the future actions of our students.”

Program Values and Goals

The Program's outcomes dovetail with the philosophy and principles of The Ladybug Foundation, to enhance areas of the curriculum dealing with social responsibility, citizenship, global interdependence and the development of an “anti-bias” outlook on life.

Program Values

The Program reflects the underlying attitudes of The Ladybug Foundation:

- Caring, Sharing, Giving
- Respect, Tolerance, Empathy
- Treating Each Other Like Family
- Social Responsibility
- Global Citizenship
- Empowerment

These values are building blocks to developing good citizens, empowered to be involved and make a difference in their world.

Program Goals for Students

- Developing self-esteem as a product of responsible, caring behaviour
- Respecting the rights and needs of others
- Maximizing use of time and talents for the benefit of others
- Working co-operatively towards a social goal
- Developing decision-making and problem-solving skills
- Learning the power we all have to make a difference

Key Educational Components

Curriculum Alignment

makeChange aligns with existing curricula to enable teachers and students to achieve required curricular outcomes while being inspired to make a difference in the world. The Program enhances curriculum, without an “add-on.”

Unit or School Year Program

The Program can be taught as a unit or as a topic unfolding across the school year, and includes tools for each year to lead students and teachers to classroom, group or individual actions to get involved and make change.

Inquiry Process

makeChange replicates for the classroom the course of Hannah’s experience. The Program follows the “inquiry process” leading to social action and teaches that students, even at their young ages, can make a difference – and carry that empowerment into their adult lives.

Lesson Structure

makeChange includes prepared lesson plans for each Grade Level, supplemented by all of the resources of the Program, to permit maximum flexibility. Teachers can use the recommended lesson plans, or adapt them to design your own lesson structure.

Program Structure

The **makeChange** written resource content is structured to include, for each grade, specific target (1) Curriculum Outcomes/Cluster Connections, (2) “Enduring Understandings”, and (3) “Inquiries.”

1. Curriculum Outcomes/Cluster Connections

To align **makeChange** with existing curricula without creating an add-on, and to enhance time efficiency and effectiveness, the Program includes as many of the Curriculum Outcomes/Cluster Connections as possible derived from various Canadian curricula protocols for Social Studies, Language Arts, Science, Math or Health, as the case may be, and are referenced accordingly.

2. Enduring Understandings

To enable teachers to have clear, real world “ends in mind” as they teach the Program, our Teacher Development Team has sifted out and summarized the “big ideas” from the curricula. These are the ideas taken from the curricula that are intended to endure beyond the classroom. We have arranged those into target “Enduring Understandings.” The Enduring Understandings are written for teachers.

3. Inquiry

The “Inquiries” described in the Program are re-phrasings of the Enduring Understandings, written as “tag lines” for students to provide clear, readily understandable learning outcomes.

Program Elements

makeChange moulds six key elements into an integrated educational resource:

Activating – “Seeing and Engaging”

The Program’s Grade Level poster images, original “**Make Change**” music video, original Grade Level video vignettes and “Activating Activities” capture Hannah’s experience of “Seeing and Engaging.”

Hannah saw and was captivated by a tattered man eating out of a garbage can on a cold winter day, which made her worry, wonder and question about him, what he was doing, what he was eating, and how he was surviving on the street.