Engaging Readers
War is something children around the world deal with and something that your students may have many questions and concerns about. Sharing books like The Three Lucys by Hayan Charara or Silent Music: A Story of Baghdad by James Rumford offer opportunities for students to share their concerns and questions and for them to hear that adults care too. Explore the issues of war and definitions of peace and talk about ways kids can practice and promote peace at school, home, and in their community.

Community Connection
Have students share a time when they made a difference in someone’s life. Ask them to talk about the situation, what they did, and how it made them feel. As a class, explore other situations in your community or read about places around the world where people need help. Invite students to work together to make a difference helping those in need, connecting with local nonprofit organizations to help inform and engage students around issues of interest. Help students consider fundraising, writing to public officials, or hosting awareness events to carry out projects to show their kindness and compassion for others.

Ready Resources
The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) is an independent national institute founded by Congress and dedicated to the proposition that a world without violent conflict is possible, practical, and essential. USIP is committed to increasing the knowledge and skills of young people so that they understand how conflicts are resolved, peace is achieved, and how they can make a difference.

usip.org/public-education/students

The Three Lucys
by Hayan Charara, illustrated by Sara Kahn
Luli lives in Lebanon with his family and his three beloved cats, one of which doesn’t appear after Luli’s city is bombed.
Lee & Low, 2016. Artwork used with permission. leeandlow.com

December 2017

Inclusive Schools Week begins
Human Rights Day
Winter begins

Bill of Rights Day

February 2018

Human Rights Day
Bill of Rights Day
Winter begins

20 Years of NEA’s Read Across America
Celebrating a Nation of Diverse Readers
nea.org/readacross