



# Quaker Religious Education Collaborative

Joining Hands in Service to Quaker Religious Education

**Using the Arts in our Practices and Programming**

**A model artful multi-age intergenerational community  
building for Friends (Quakers)**

**BY LAURA MACNORLIN**



**QREC Annual  
Conference 2023**

3-5 November  
Winchester, Indiana  
and Online

**Creative arts in group setting can foster spiritual formation for us personally and collectively.**

**In exploring various creative arts mediums, I have discovered many that are applicable for use in Quaker Christian and Religious Education settings.**

**This presentation for Friends Meetings and the annual Quaker Religious Education Collaborative (QREC) is to provide some descriptive and visual examples of artistic approaches and methods for using the arts in our practices and programming.**

# USING THE ARTS IN QUAKER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Practices and Programming

Arts can be incorporated into the year's queries for faith and practice, curriculum of First Day School (Sunday School) scope and sequence and Adult Religious Education classes.

Coordinators, teachers, faith leaders and clerks of committees can design with aims of:

- Planning for more project based learning, service learning!
- Incorporating multiple modalities of learning: Visual, Auditory, Kinesthetic and Tactile.
- Involving the wider community to express, teach and lead with their creative gifts and skills.



# USING THE ARTS IN QUAKER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Practices and Programming

-Engaging in creative arts with a group can build sense of community, deep personal reflection and processes for exploration of our spiritual journey.

- Allowing artistic space for people of various stages of life to interact in beloved community.

- Developing themes with various forms of artistic expression to collaborative create as a multi-age intergenerational community.



# Artistic Forms of Creative Reflection



Visual  
arts

Drama

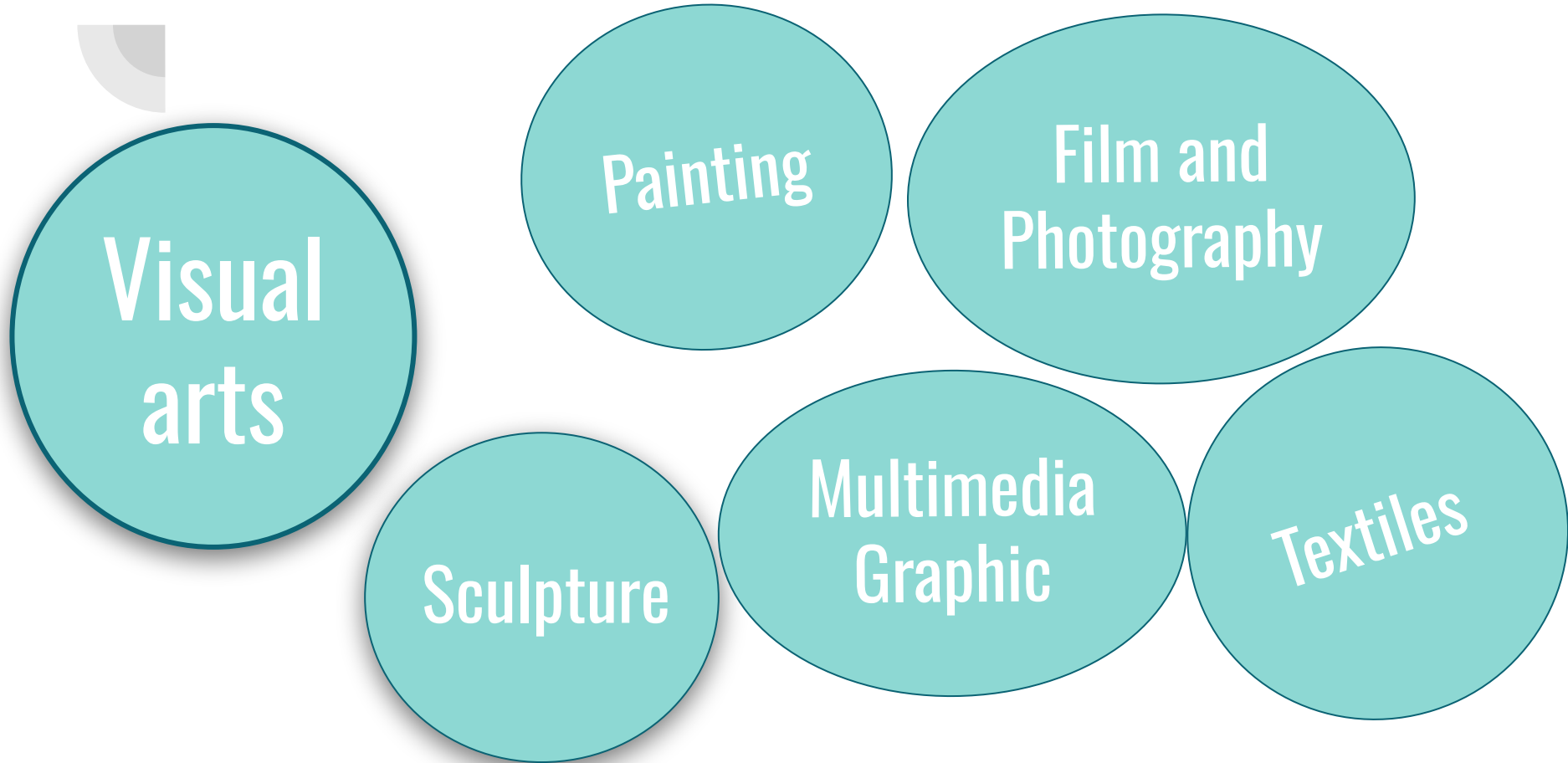
Writing

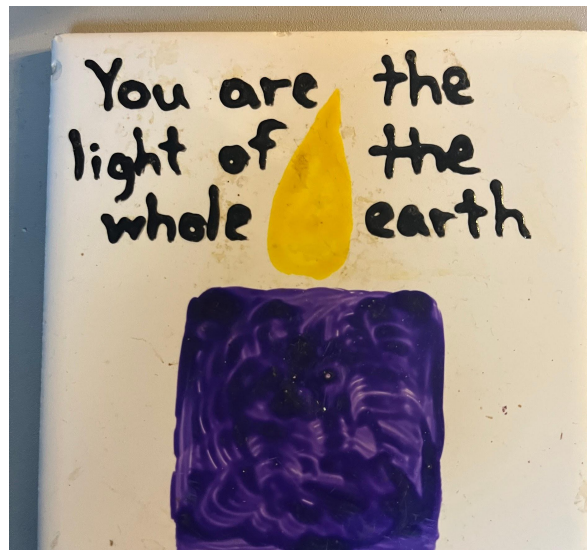
Music

Dance  
Movement

Culinary

# Visual Art Forms of Creative Reflection









Friend-Crows exhibiting Quaker testimonies and message "Kindness matters" for the annual Botanical Garden aftercare program and Pride parade.



## Nature art



# Writing Forms of Creative Reflection

Writing

Poetry

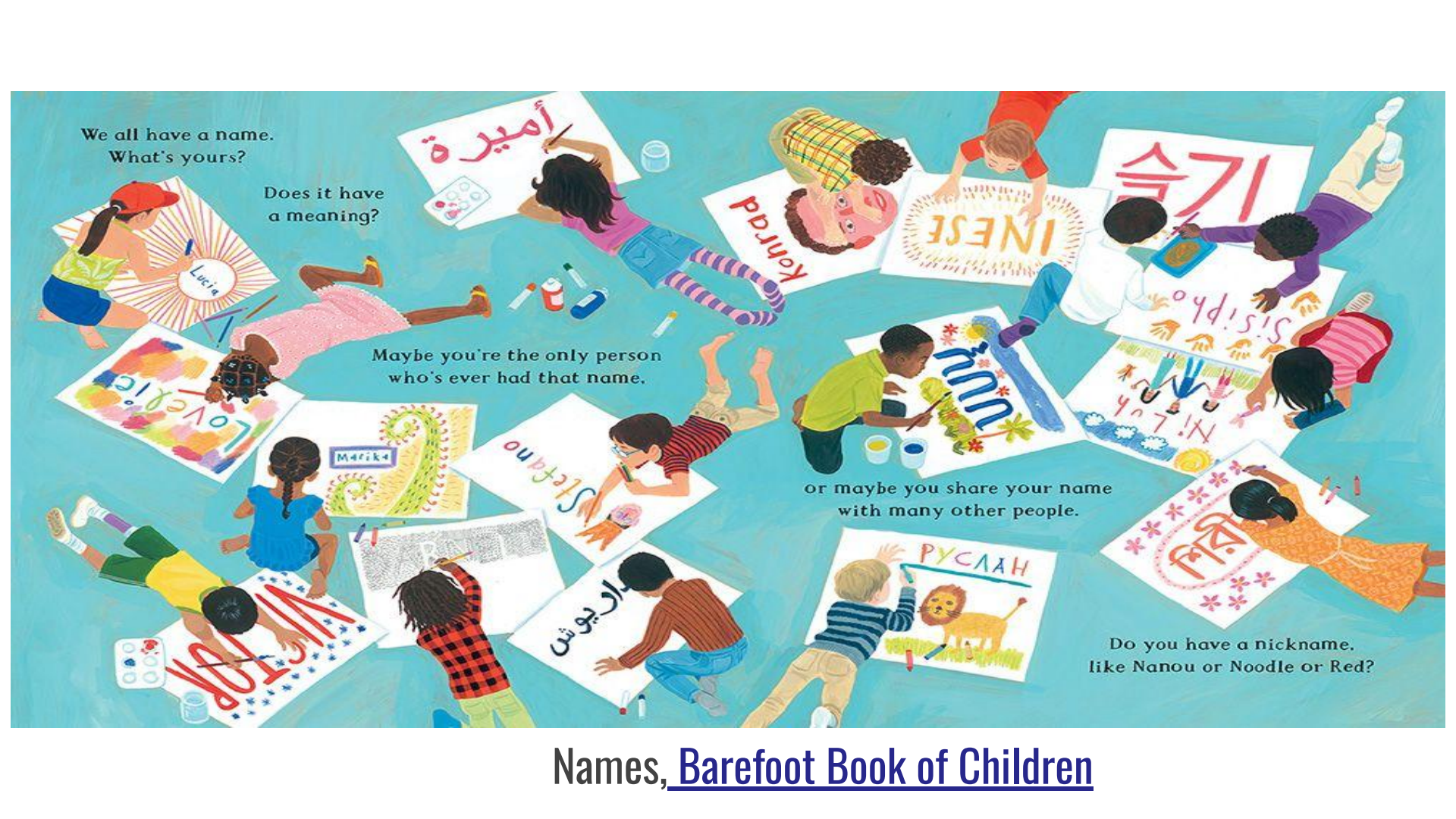
Spiritual  
interview  
autobiography

Lectio  
divina

moral  
storytelling

Biblical  
genres





We all have a name.  
What's yours?

Does it have  
a meaning?

Maybe you're the only person  
who's ever had that name.

or maybe you share your name  
with many other people.

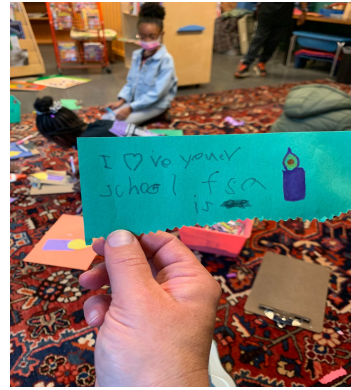
Do you have a nickname,  
like Nanou or Noodle or Red?

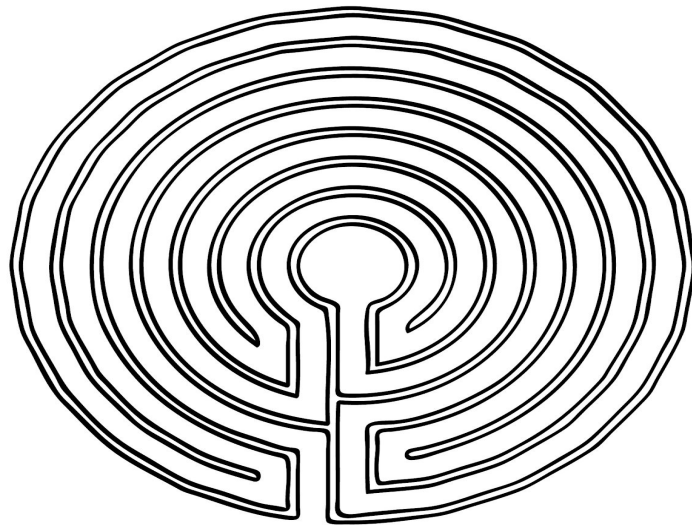
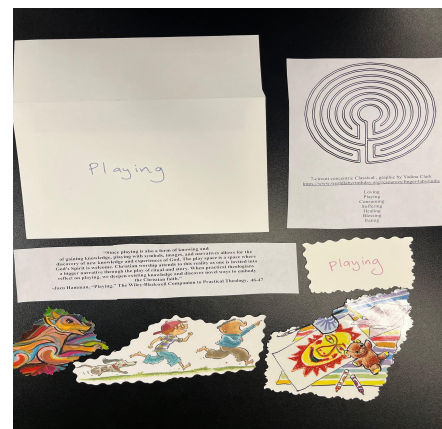
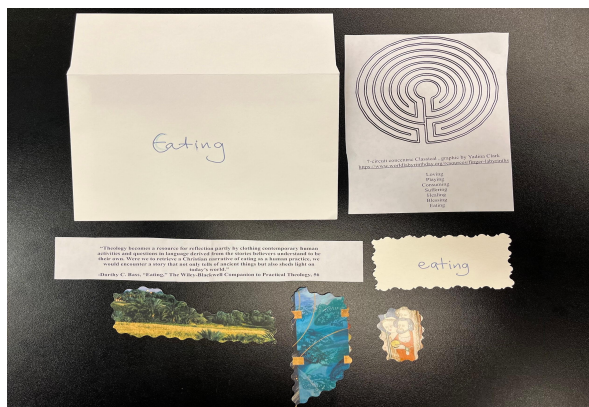
Names, Barefoot Book of Children





# Sibling School Project Introduction Letters to Monteverde Friends School, Costa Rica





# Dramatic Forms of Creative Reflection

Drama

Improv

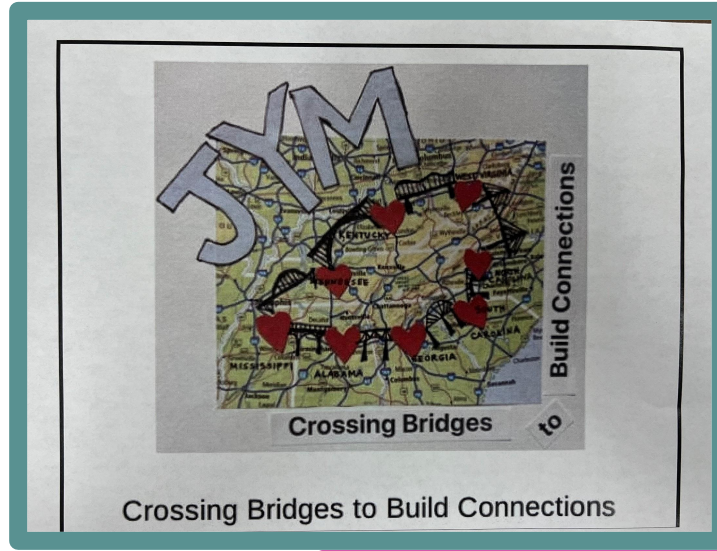
Playwriting

Plays

Puppetry

Props  
Set  
Design





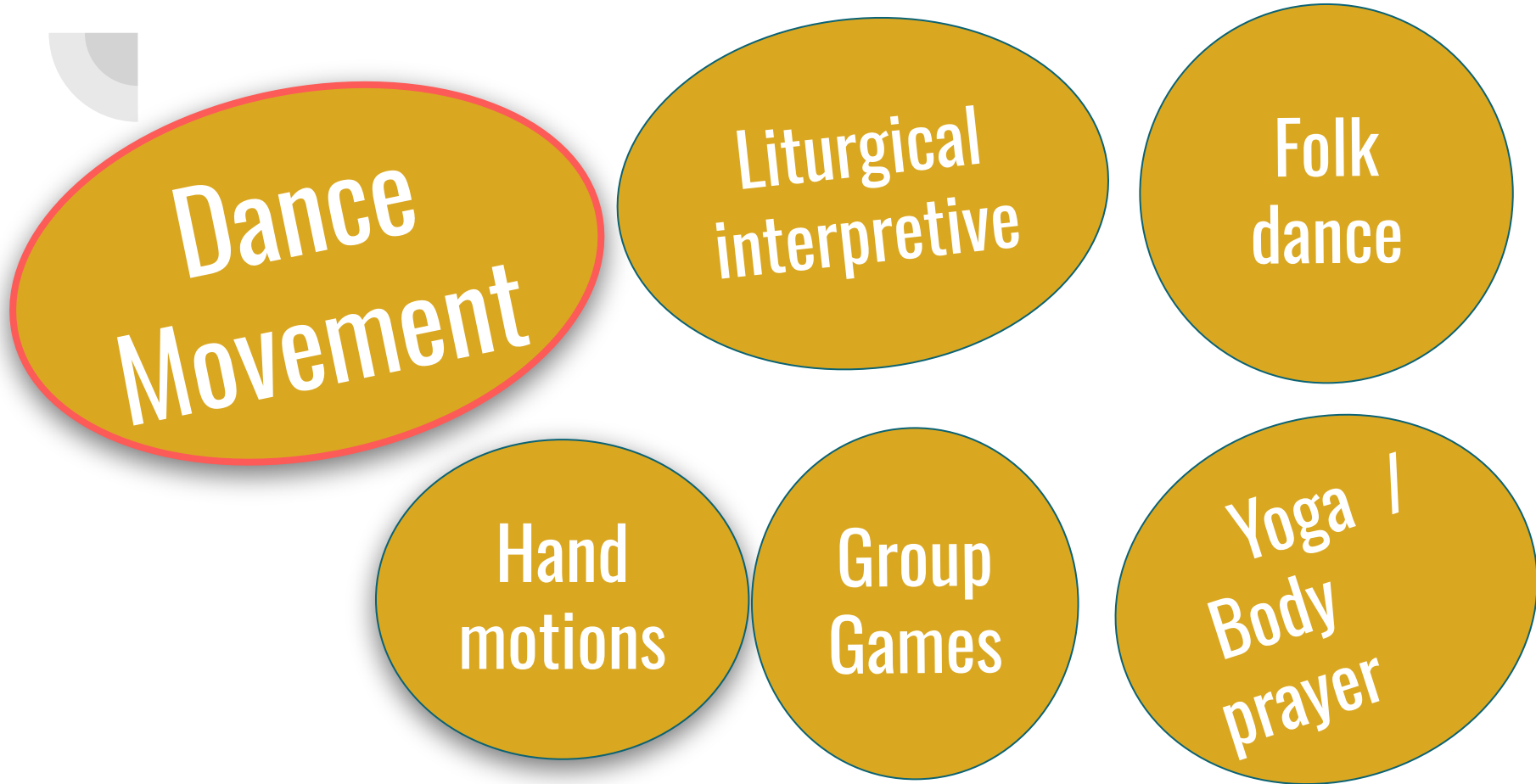
SAYMA Junior Yearly Meeting:  
Crossing Bridges to Build  
Connections

- \* Be a good listener and allow your friends to speak
- \* Be kind and nice
- \* Have a settled body and hands





# Dance Movement Forms of Creative Reflection















# Musical Forms of Creative Reflection



**Music**

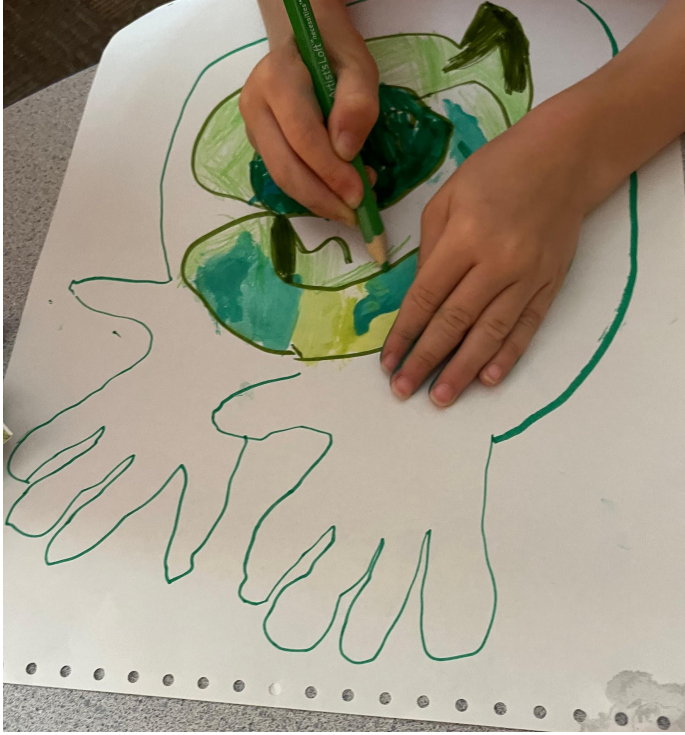
**Instruments**

**Hymns  
choirs**

**Song  
writing**

**Lyrics**

**Nature  
sounds**



Express your feelings and thoughts through art. It is a powerful way to communicate and share your experiences. Use your imagination and creativity to create a masterpiece that tells your story.

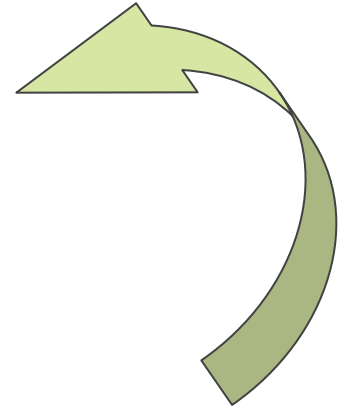




# How do we practice liberating our practices and programming through creative arts?

- Quaker Practices
- Characters
- Visual Arts
- Images/imagery
- Food
- Faith and Play method
- Wording
- Queries/themes
- Spiritual Disciplines

- Consensus, queries, worship sharing, clearness
- Puppet show
- Painting/drawing/murals/banners
- Clay sculpture
- Culinary Arts
- Faith and Play creation
- music/song/movement/dance
- theatre/play/skit
- lectio/visio divina, labyrinth



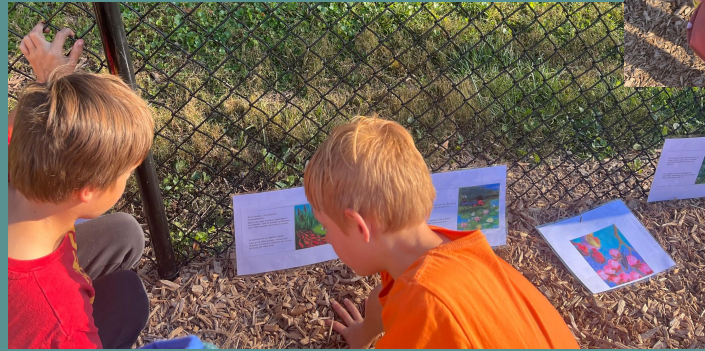
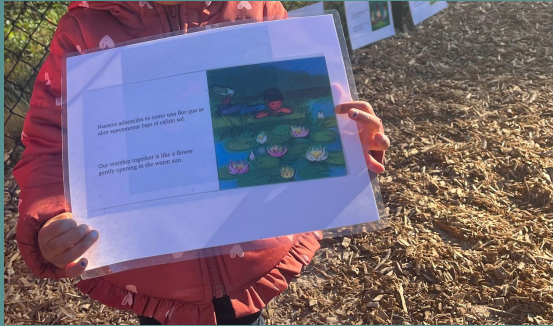
# Iglesia de los Amigos y yo/ La reunión Cuáquera

## Quaker Meeting and Me

Publicada Por Colaborativa de educación religiosa Cuáquera  
(QREC) Ilustraciones por Rebecca Price

**©2017 Rebecca Price**





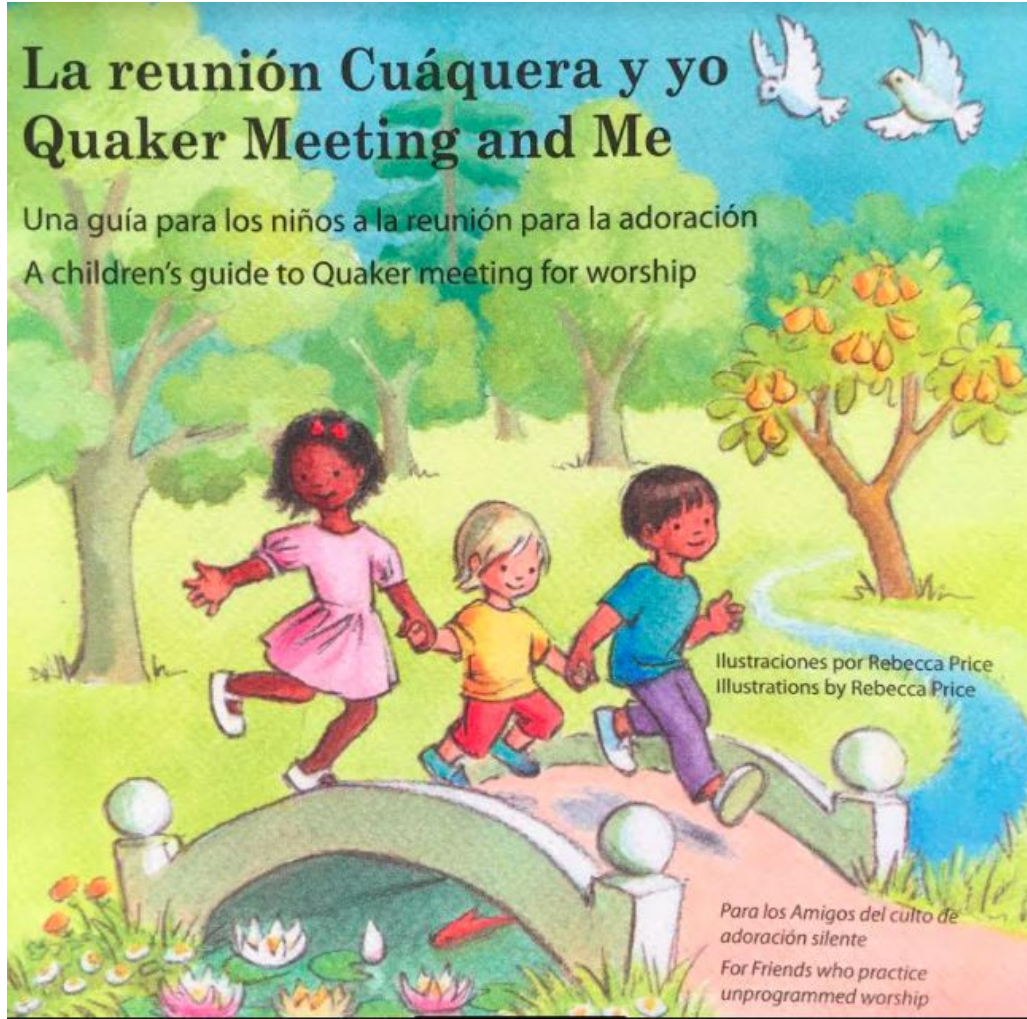


# Quaker Meeting and Me Art Gallery Open House



# La reunión Cuáquera y yo Quaker Meeting and Me

Una guía para los niños a la reunión para la adoración  
A children's guide to Quaker meeting for worship



Ilustraciones por Rebecca Price  
Illustrations by Rebecca Price

*Para los Amigos del culto de  
adoración silente  
For Friends who practice  
unprogrammed worship*

©2017 Rebecca Price

Este librito tiene la intención de ayudar a los niños a encontrar un camino hacia un conocimiento sobre el culto de adoración de la iglesia Amigos Cuáquera. Como no podemos ver lo que ocurre en la mente de otras personas durante el culto de adoración, hemos utilizado imágenes de un jardín para ilustrar los diferentes aspectos de este.

Este libro puede ser usado como punto de partida para la conversación entre niños y adultos, y también como un enfoque para ayudar a los niños a instalarse y centrarse durante la reunión para la adoración.

This booklet is intended to help children find a way into Quaker meeting for worship. As we can't see what goes on in other people's minds during worship, we have used images from a garden to illustrate its different aspects.

This book can be used as a starting point for conversation between children and adults, and also as a focus to help children settle and center during meeting for worship.



Aquí están algunas de las cosas que son importantes para los cuáqueros.

Estas fotografías están escondidas en algunas de las páginas de este libro. ¿Puedes encontrarlas? La tapa del lado opuesto te ayudara a recordar la imagen que estás buscando.

Here are some of the things that are important to Quakers.

These pictures are hidden on some of the the pages in this book. Can you find them? The flap opposite will help you remember which one you are looking for.



Los Amigos creemos en practicar...  
Quakers practice...



La sencillez/Simplicity



La sustentabilidad/Sustainability



La paz/Peace



La verdad/Truth



La igualdad/Equality





Liberation

Belonging

Transformation

Long lasting

Spirited

**I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. JOHN 15:11**