

THE FINAL PRODUCT

THE LOCAL ECOLOGY FOR THE WHOLE OF EUROPE
2011-2013





PROJECT

The Local Ecology in the Whole of Europe Involved schools from Poland, Turkey, Slovakia and Hungary

The project, which is called "The Local Ecology for the Whole of Europe" involved in sharing of different methods of solving local environmental problems and promoted eco- lifestyle among the students from other countries. Initially, the children had the opportunity to create the image of school in the local environment, promoted healthy food products produced in our area, focused on the importance of nature and a healthy life. The project also provided the children with the opportunities to discover geography, nature and lifestyle of other countries making them more aware of their place as both European and Global citizenship.

We, as the partner schools, aim at the following objectives:

1. Developing interest in life sciences.
2. Raising awareness about their own region and partner's countries.
3. Improving foreign language skills by teachers and students.
4. Learning the principles of group work.
5. Creating the image of schools in the local environment.
6. Getting the students a through knowledge of nature through self-seeking, gathering and preparing information.
7. Promoting eco-lifestyle with emphasis on environmental protection.
8. Gather information about the state of pollution of local rivers.



PROJECT PARTNERS

COORDINATING SCHOOL - POLAND

Szkola Podstawowa nr 2 im. Henryka Sienkiewicza



TURKEY –Hürriyet Ticaret ve Sanayi Odası İlkokulu Bursa



**HUNGARY – SZLOVÁK ÁLTALÁNOS ISKOLA, ÓVODA ÉS
DIÁKOTTHON SZARVAS**



**SLOVAKIA - ZÁKLADNÁ ŠKOLA ULICA VAJANSKÉHO
2844/47 LUČENEC**



THE LOGO OF THE PROJECT

Our first mobility which took place on 16th -20th October 2011 in school Hürriyet Ticaret ve Sanayi in Turkey we made our first project's product. The first day was very important for our project because we voted for our common logo. Each school brought the best logos from their school.

The coordinators from participant countries decided that the children should vote for the best logo. Two students from 4 countries were chosen to elect the logo. Each kid gave points from 1 to 3 (the highest rating). The logo that got the highest rating was chosen. Finally the best logo was from Turkey.





The first project meeting in Bursa - TURKEY 16th-20th October 2011

We had our first project meeting on October 16th – 20th 2011 in Bursa, Turkey. We had a lot to do with our project. Before working we watched a presentation about Turkey, Bursa and the school. It was very useful for us. Then our students with two students of the host school had to decide which logo would be the best for our project. The students chose the Turkish school's logo as the best one, so it was our logo for two years. Together we discussed about activities which we had to make during first year of the project.

The most important thing was also our common website on which we can show our products and the most important information about us as partner schools. We also decided on good examples – how the project has embedded into the planning of each partner school.





The Day of Bread

In December every partnership school had The Day of Bread. We did a lot of activities because we wanted to promote healthy lifestyle and show how important it is for good living. Our pupils were discussing about healthy lifestyle and healthy food. We wanted to show and encourage our students that healthy eating means eating a wide variety of nutritious foods. They should eat lots of healthy foods like fruits, vegetables and bread. Small amounts of foods like cakes and lollies are fine to eat too, as long as they don't eat them all the time.

Firstly, pupils prepared books with bread recipes, older pupils wrote projects about making bread in English. Some of them tried to make bread at their home. Our common product of this day was the bread recipe and a menu where every school prepared a healthy meal, you could try to make cheese omelette for breakfast prepared by Turkish students, for dinner- healthy chicken salad made by Slovakia, healthy dessert prepared by Polish students and light supper made by Hungarian pupils. This is a very nutritious and versatile recipe.





The projects about Turkey

Our first partner school which we wanted to discover was Turkey. The children wrote projects about this exotic country. They investigated the information regarding Turkish history, geography and culture. The pupils collected a lot of information, from which they were able to choose one of the topic areas and select the most important and interesting facts to include in their presentations and art works.

Their projects were put on the school's Comenius notice boards. The activity of compiling posters to be displayed on the notice board also involved some other school subjects such as English, Geography, History, Art and Information and Communication Technology.





The Quiz about ecology

In face of endangerment of natural environment very important issue is dissemination of knowledge on its protection, especially among school children. Our project involves the sharing of different methods of solving local environmental problems and promote eco lifestyle among the pupils. One of the method was questionnaire. At the first project meeting in Turkey we agreed on a questionnaire about ecology. Slovakia prepared the questionnaire with 20 clear questions which relate to ecological awareness in their close surroundings.

The aim of this questionnaire was to test the level of ecological awareness of young people, whose schools were included in the project. The questionnaires were conducted among pupils of 6th classes of all participant primary schools. Differences in the level of ecological awareness between young people were not significant and the level of general knowledge of both groups was in fact similar.





Watching a DVD about our planet Earth

It is important to know the world where we live. So we watched different DVDs to give children more information about our planet.





The World Water Day School bulletins about ecology and the environmental protection

In connection with the World Water Day we did different interesting activities, children prepared posters, drawings, models.





The projects about Hungary

The children wrote projects about Hungary, in which they investigated the information regarding Hungarian history, geography and culture. The pupils collected a lot of information, from which they were able to choose one of the topic areas and select the most important and interesting facts to include in their presentations and artwork.

Their projects were put on the school's Comenius notice board. The activity of compiling posters to be displayed on the notice board also involved some other school subjects such as English, Geography, History, Art and Information and Communication Technology.



The second project meeting, Hungary April 15th - 19th 2012

One of the aims was at this meeting to monitor the development of the citizenship curriculum and the understanding of different cultures. Students being at the meetings had a special personal opportunity to learn more about different cultures as there were students working together from four different countries.





The Cyclists' Day

We also wanted to focus on the importance on doing sport and healthy lifestyle. So many of us rode our bicycles. We connected this event with other activities, like visiting a wind power station, cooking together, visiting the river bank.





As the Turkish school is in a big city, they couldn't do this activity, so they decorated the kindergarden class instead. It became nice.



Writing poems, singing songs and drawings on nature

There were some different activities in connection with the nature: singing, writing, drawing. Everybody enjoyed these happenings.





Botanical gardens

Our project represents the importance of solving local environmental problems and promotes an eco-lifestyle among the pupils.

We, as teachers, identified with the idea of starting an ecological project. We were motivated because all of us were aware of the dreadful condition of our planet Earth. We wanted to educate our pupils concerning the bad condition of our planet. Through simple activities such as knowing, planting and taking care of typical sorts of plants, trees and bushes we tried to teach our students how to be responsible for our planet and that the protection of the environment is important.

Four primary schools from four countries: Poland, Turkey, Hungary and Slovakia started to plant their typical sorts of plants, trees and bushes according to their capabilities. They have built educational paths in the school grounds. They have learnt the names of plants and trees in their native languages and also in foreign languages.

Some of us planted and took care of plants inside our schools, and some of us were also able to plant outside. Students and teachers learnt how to look after the plants. They could observe how they grow, develop and bloom. The most important thing is that students can be closer to nature and they can study it in a hands-on way; not only in theory, but also practically. We have built an educational path in the surroundings of our school.



The ecology clubs

At the third project meeting in Ziebice, in Poland, we jointly founded our ecology club. All participating students could become members of this club. Together we prepared our common aims and objectives. Here they are:

1. To learn about our environment and environmental problems.
2. To make efforts to preserve the environment: -
by planting trees and different kinds of plant,
-by sorting rubbish for recycling,
-by maintaining cleanliness in and around the school.
3. To conserve the natural resources.
4. To conserve energy.
5. To live a healthy way of life:
-by using a bicycle, walking, taking exercise, -
by eating healthy food.

We tried to achieve these objectives through different activities such as sorting rubbish for recycling. All members of the ecological club sorted paper, plastic bottles, fabrics and organic materials. We put the organic materials on the compost heap.

We held a lot of competitions between classes too, e.g. Which class will collect the most paper, or the most plastic bottles? The best apple of the school, The best bird's house, The rarities of our gardens, The best photo of nature, etc.

We did not only conserve nature, we also followed noble goals, e.g. we have been collecting bottle caps in order to buy wheelchairs for disabled people, we sell plants to parents that we have planted on our own. From the money raised we were able to buy new trees and bushes for our school grounds.

We organized an ecological fashion show, where children wore clothes from recycled materials. The clothes were made by the students on their own, or with the help of their parents.

The pupils publicized our aims by drawing posters and writing poems about nature that showed and explained the important things connected to a healthy way of life.





THE THIRD PROJECT MEETING POLAND OCTOBER 14th-18th, 2012

The second project meeting was held in Szkoła Podstawowa nr 2 im. H. Sienkiewicza in Ziebice, Poland. We monitored how the project has impacted on the teaching and learning of language skills across the partner schools. Therefore we collected examples of good practice, visited the places with natural beauties such as Pstrążna, where the students had an opportunity to observe its flora and learned the traditional way of making bread. Afterwards we visited Wrocław, the capital of Lower Silesia, where we visited Natural History Museum and had an opportunity to learn about different kinds of animals and their biological features.

This enabled students to learn about the living beings living both in Poland and other sides of the world. In addition the students at school had produced different kinds of products from recycled materials such as dresses and hats. They showed us their clothes which were produced from recycled materials by performing a fashion show. Finally, we went to a farm where our children had an opportunity to see the real horses and ride them. Our children could observe the horses closely.





The Spring Day

We usually celebrate The Spring Day in March. It is a holiday marking the coming of the spring . This year there were no indications that the spring was coming. It was really cold. So we prepared activities about spring inside the schools. The children made posters and sang and wrote poems about spring. In different countries there are different traditional activities and rituals celebrating the end of winter and the arrival of spring. In Slovakia we have the figure of Morena who symbolises winter. She is represented as an old woman and effigies are made of her from straw, which are thrown into a river and sometimes set alight signifying that winter is dead and the spring is here.



The Earth Day

The Earth Day is an annual event, celebrated on April 22, during which various events are held worldwide to demonstrate support for environmental protection. We celebrated this important day at our last joint meeting, which was held from 21st April to 24th April 2013 in Lučenec, in Slovakia.

We solemnly opened the new eco – class, where students will be able to learn about and get closer to nature in an educational but also physical way. The opening of the eco – class was accompanied by a fashion show using natural materials. Later, each delegation planted its own Comenius tree as a symbol of partnership and friendship among nations. Afterwards, we all held hands and formed a living chain around the school and through this symbolic act we wanted to highlight the fact that our Earth belongs to everybody without exception.



THE FOURTH PROJECT MEETING IN LUCENEC, SLOVAKIA APRIL 21ST-25TH, 2013

The fourth project meeting was held in Lucenec, Slovakia on April 21st, 25th. we started our project visit by having a ceremony in school garden on Monday 22. In the first place, we went over the school, observed in the classrooms and saw the posters, pictures and handmade products produced by Slovak students. Afterwards, we opened the “eco class” and the “environmental path” in the backyard. There every country planted a tree in the ecological path that was prepared before we came. Finally our first day activities ended in the botanical park.

We visited Kosice, which is the European cultural town in 2013. We stopped to visit the big Gombasecka cave during our trip to Kosice. The cave was very big and impressive. I think it is one of the places I will never forget in my life.

On Wednesday we went to Somoska to go hiking in a deep forest. We had a good opportunity to see the flora and the fauna in the country. There we also saw a special kind of salamander which is protected by law in Slovakia.





MAY 2013 ACTIVITIES

We investigated the local environment, geography and culture of the fourth partner country, Slovakia in May 2013. The children made posters which tell about Slovakia, prepared articles about ecology and nature and collected paper in the recycle bins. Their posters were put on the comenius board so that all students at school could read them.

All partner schools have been collecting paper in recycle bins. Therefore we encouraged our students to collect more waste paper in the recycle bins in order to save more trees.



The Posters for Slovakia





The Translations about ecology and nature



Collecting Paper



JUNE 2013, ACTIVITIES

The students drew pictures telling about the importance of nature and wrote compositions on the destruction of nature and the global warming.

The Pictures Showing the Importance of Nature and Healthy Environment



The compositions about the destruction of nature and the global warming





CONCLUSION

This school partnership with its aims and activities has had a profound impact on students, teachers, parents and other people, who took part in varied tasks. The topic, we dealt with, is very important because of the future, and we think most of the students, parents and teachers of the four partner schools have become more environmentally-conscious and health-conscious.

The other significant outcome of our project is the friendship children formed while being together at the meetings, as teachers travelled with them to the meetings. It was fantastic to see students make friends, communicate, work on projects and do sports together, and now it is good to hear that they have been in touch since then. So they can get to know other countries' cultures and way of living in Europe and make use of it in their future life.

The first friendships are forming among children in Turkey.



Delicious rolls with jam are being baked for the guests in Hungary.



It's very difficult to say goodbye to friends at the end of the meeting in Poland.



Slovakian children staged a fantastic show in Slovakia, and at the end children of four different countries were on the stage.

