TAPORI NEWSLETTER



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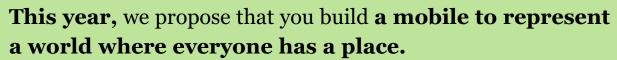
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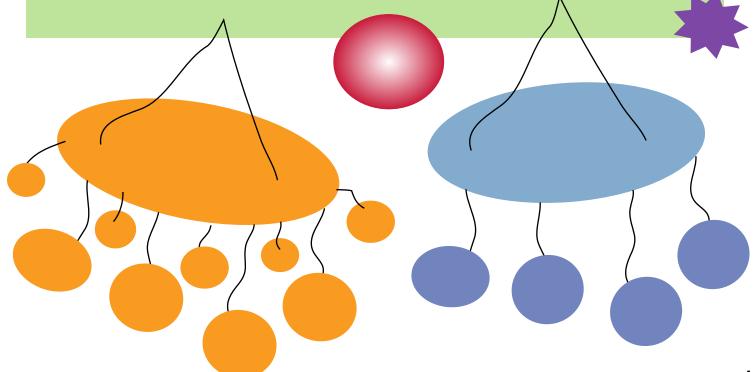
September - October 2014, N°396

On the occasion of October 17, World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty, we are launching the 2014 - 2015 Tapori campaign:

"LET'S CREATE A WORLD WHERE EVERYONE HAS A PLACE!"



Each one is invited to make a piece of this mobile in order to know each other better and to be better known.

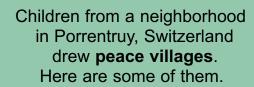


NEWS

Switzerland



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Poland

Children from Warsaw, Mięcierzyn, Kętrzyn, Żydów, Pszczółki and Tczew made the trees of **the Rights of the Child**. Here, you can see some of them.









"To become a good person, a child needs to have a good childhood."

Rajana, 8 years old



Laetitia

That day, a group of children arrived at the big Tapori house in the Swiss mountains for a Tapori weekend of friendship, organized several times a year.

In the group were Paul and Marie who lived in a nearby village, Manon and Ariza who came from the same neighborhood, Chloe who loved horses, Jessica who sometimes had a hard time in school. Theo who could never

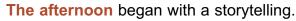
sat still and several other children. But Roman was not there as he did not dare to come. Laetitia came with her two big brothers, Jules and Kevin. She was ten years old and it was the second time for her to participate in such a Tapori weekend. William, one of the facilitators, began the weekend with a game :

"Let's form a circle! Whoever has the ball, throws it to someone else and says that person's name!" Alexis started by calling, "Paul!"

Paul in turn shouted, "Kevin!"

Kevin was wondering what had happened to his sister. Then he saw her looking out from the window of her room and he threw the ball at her, "Laetitia!"

But Laetitia quickly hid herself behind the window.



Everyone listened attentively. Laetitia had forgotten

her fears and joined the group. She even participated in the workshops and she drew the neighborhood and the house of her dreams.

She also talked about school and she said, "I listen well, and I understand, but then it all goes away. I would like to have a notebook where I could put down what I remember!"

During the break, Laetitia stayed close to Ursula, one of the facilitators, who encouraged her to join the other children.

The children were happy to meet again at the following Tapori weekend. They took their bags to their



bedrooms. On the door of one of the bedrooms, four names were written: Jessica, Chloe, Ariza, and Laetitia. There were three identical beds and a smaller one in a corner. When Jessica, Chloe and Ariza saw the room, they exclaimed, "Oh no, we don't want to be with Laetitia!" They left the small bed for her. In the evening, when Laetitia entered the room, she saw that the only bed left was the small bed which was apart from the others. When she realized that she would not

be sleeping near the others, she dropped her things on the floor, sat in a chair, and began to cry. There was a complete silence in the room.



The other girls understood quickly that they had hurt Laetitia's feeling. They then gathered around her and tried to console her. Jessica said softly, "Laetitia, we promise that we won't do that again!"

At the next gathering, Jessica, Chloe and Ariza kept their word; Laetitia was with them.

During the weekend, they learnt that Laetitia was no longer living with her family but staying at a foster home and she could only go home during the weekends. As she was falling asleep, Chloe kept thinking about this and *she would like to ask Laetitia, "What's it like in a foster home?"* But she

did not dare to ask and she fell asleep looking at

Laeticia.

Time passed and the children came together for a very special weekend. They were going to put on a play and their parents were invited to see it on a Sunday afternoon.

The play was called "I'll be a Stuntman."
It was a story about the friendship of two boys,
Win and Andy.

Win had a difficult life. Andy became his friend and as a result, was left out by the others as well.

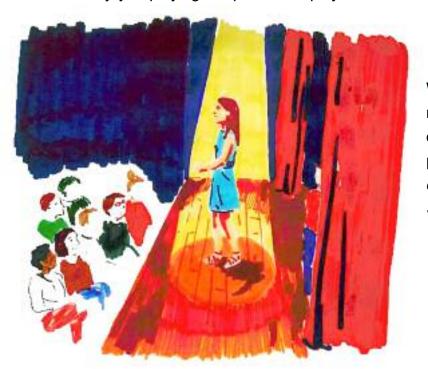
That Sunday afternoon, there was excitement

in the air. The childen had repeatedly rehearsed their texts and they were ready.

The parents had all settled into their seats.

Laetitia's mother was also present.

Then the play began. Everyone held their breath. But the children were focused on their roles. Laetitia enjoyed playing her part in the play.



When the play ended, everyone gave a loud roar of applause. A little while later, the father of Laetitia arrived and her mother said proudly to him, "You should have seen your daughter! You wouldn't have recognized her. She looked fantastic on stage!"

A year later, the group welcomed new children to the weekends. During the introduction, Manon explains, "Tapori weekends mean doing things together as a team!" A while later, Ursula noticed that Laetitia had disappeared. She looked for her everywhere. They all tried calling for her but there was no answer.

Finally, they found her hiding in one of the rooms. Her eyes were red. The girls gathered around her and tried to console her. The following day, the children met in small groups and Laetitia had the courage to say what had happened the day before, "When I tried to sit next to one of the children, he told me twice to go away!" That's not fair. It's not right to say that. We should accept others the way they are!" After listening attentively to her, Manon took her aside and said, "Listen. Don't feel bad.

You're eleven years old and you should not just stick close to the facilitators but try to make friends with the other!" Laetitia remained calmed and answered, "Ok, I understand what you're saying, but it's difficult!"

Laurane and the other children proposed to help her in making friends and little by little, Laetitia found her place in the group. She managed to play with the other girls, saying,

" Now, they are my friends!"

During one of the Tapori weekends, Laetitia spoke of Sarah, a little six years old girl who lived in the same foster home, "Sarah is all by herself. She gets left out by the others. We should invite her to our weekends. She needs to have friends and be happy!"

Now, Laetitia is fourteen years old. Her little brother, Martin, is old enough to come to the Tapori weekends. For his first weekend, Laetitia accompanied him and said, "Don't be scared! We'll do things together, we're going to sleep there and you will make friends."

It was Laetitia's last weekend with these children.

She will join the youth group.

She is happy about this change and is determined to make new friends.



To go further, before you create your mobile, you can answer the questions on the activity page.

(Ilustrations : Amélie Dumont) 5

Tapori Campaign

Like in Laetitia's story, each one has to make an effort and each one must find his or her own place. We propose that you build a mobile with your friends.

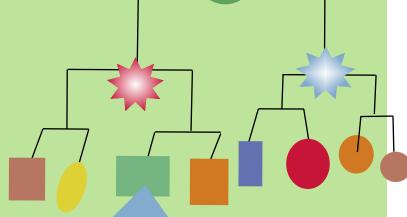
Everyone needs to contribute to make the mobile stable!

First, you have to choose a shape that you cut out from something light enough to be hung up.

Decorate it the way you like.

On one side of your piece, write:

- what you like to do, or
- what you like to say about yourself, or
- what helps you to meet other children



And on the other side :

- what you find is the most difficult in your life, or
- what you would like to live with others, or
- what prevents you from being with others

Then, choose a support (wood, string, wire, etc.) to create the mobile. Find a way to put all the pieces together to make one mobile.

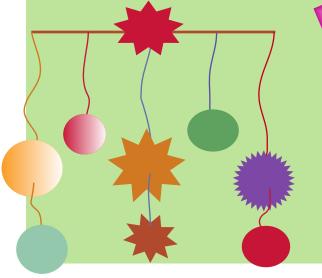
You can add things that are important for your group, people that count in your life, or things that contribute to the stability of the group.

When you are finished, ask yourself:

What is missing? Is there still room to add some people?

If you are alone, feel free to create several pieces and to send them to us. With them we will

build a collective mobile.



For the mobile to travel well, think of easy ways to put it together and take it apart.

If you can, send us your mobile or some photos of the one you made and what you wrote on each piece.

Don't forget to write your name, your age and your country.