PALATUL COPIILOR PITESTI



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INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE FOR CHILDREN'S PALACE Activity guide MAGAZINE FOR CHILDREN 8-16 AGED NR. 1/2022 PITEȘTI , MAI - 2022



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INTERRACTIVE MAGAZINE FOR CHILDREN'S PALACE

Activity guide

MAGAZINE FOR CHILDREN 8-16 AGED

WHAT ABOUT US?

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- TĂNASE Adrian, 8th grade.

Children's Palace Nr.1, May Pitești, 2022

Foreword

Dear readers,

This is all about you having fun, expressing your English with joy and happiness, in bright colours and very friendly texts. This written paper is not for school or tasks, it is only leisure for pleasure.

Take every step with courage, in a good mood for adventure. It is not a complicated and hard work if you are keen on your hobbies. Get together with your school friends and speak as if you are a real English schoolboy or girl. Take each article with a grain of curiosity and enjoy it like a game. Nothing forces you to learn, so enjoy every page you read and be a part of it, as usual.

Remember that is your work only, sometimes a little harsh, sometir you to consider it as being a part of a difficult job. Remember that every written is part of your own experience of life, a part of your hobbies a share with others. So, you, children, are the real authors of those without, you this magazine haven't been here, you and only you are the pages. You've found help and support in your teachers only to cust beauty to your work.

And, in the end, there is nothing more important to you than improving and finding new ways to prove that you matter!

Dear Teachers,

This magazine is nothing less than your hard work with those kids who appreciate and cherish your job. It is important that you have been an example for such a long time and a way to determine them to work with you, to be able to rich that level in which you fulfilled your tasks and give all the knowledge they need and you'll be able to read about literature, real life reads, hobbies, sport, lifestyle,

Also, you are aware the fact that our children not only they are a inexhaustible source of joy and power of work, but with you, all aside, they became, through your imagination and creativity to achieve contents regarding with their age and passions.

Having such good mentors and the strength to work for a magazine written in English only by children, we invite you to take a look into it and try to appreciate their personal written papers and the ability to express their feelings, emotions in a foreign language.

The authors.

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My hobby

Hi! My name is David Motoran, I am in the 7th grade and I joined the European Studies w ithin the Children's Palace, being a member of it. I enjoy studying here, because it's different than the ordinary school activities and I made new friends here. Generally, I like studying and I only get good marks at school. I also love studying English, because I find it very important for my future career. I participated in several school competitions at Sciences and Geography subjects, being qualified for the national level.

However, my proud resides in the fact that I've been practising **CYCLING** for about 2 years. At first, I didn't know so much about this sport, but I had the chance to participate in a local competition with an ordinary bicycle which I had that time, being equipped pretty inadequately for such competition and, to my great surprise, I won the 2nd prize, although I competed with many people who were very well trained, had professional bikes and proper equipment. That was the starting point, when I discovered that cycling is what I'd like to practice as a sport, because it really suited me. From then on, I began to improve my equipment, I even changed my old bike and upgraded the new one, I started training with an amateur cycling club called Velox Cycling Team, whose leaders supported me a lot.

Although I have been practicing this sport for a pretty short time, I took part in many competitions and got many prizes, in most of them being ranked with the first or second prize. I am very ambitious and with every prize I get, my desire is to work harder and harder, to improve my sports technique, because my next goal is to participate in the most important national competitions and even in the olympics and international competitions in the years to come.

My family supports me in every step I make and they accompany me in all the competitions throughout the country. They are so proud of me and invested so much in my passion and, in my turn,I take care not to dissappoint them and so far, I had succeeded to live up to their expectations, so there is a mutual reward.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my family because I wouldn't have been able to follow my dream without their support and I am so glad that they trusted me and made every effort to make this dream come true for me.

David Motoran, 7th grade













ART AND PAINTING

By Ștefan Mitrache, 9th grade, Coordinator Teacher: Mihaela Badea

Ștefan Mitrache Răducanu this is my name and I am a student at the Children's Palace for several years, where I have been attended the courses of Teacher Mihaela Badea's classes. Why am I so keen of this particular course? Because it gives me the freedom to express my creativity in a personal way and to understand art from my point of view. So,

What does Art mean to me?

Every work of art is different. Artist may try to create something which is beautiful or shocking, or shows people how they feel. Whoever sees their work, usually feels something, too. They may like it or they may hate it..



So, what is art?

People often disagree about what is a work of art and what is not. Many artists say that anything at all can be art. In some cases, a work of art can be hard for anyone but the artist to understand.

There once was a saying that "Creating Art is an emotion" which at first I didn't quite get, and I think that even to this day I cannot seem to fully grasp the entire signification of it.

I've been drawing for over 5 years, five entire years got by since the first realization, the first need to create something, to manifest in some sort of way, the need to draw.

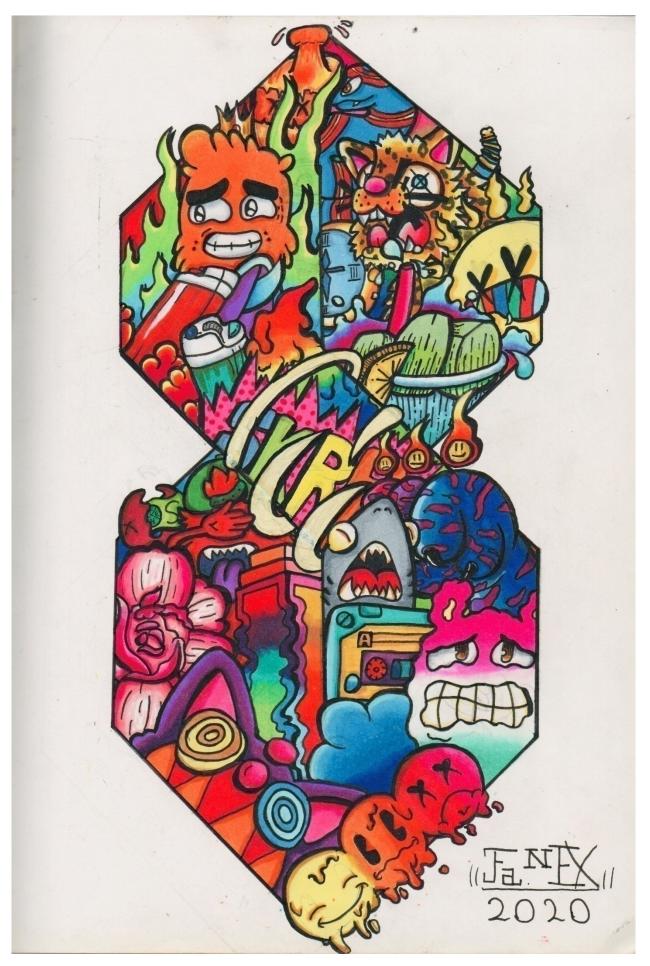


When I was younger it never crossed my mind, not even the slightest thought about art or in relationship with drawing. Until I was 11 and got an assignment from school, to make any piece of art that passes my imagination in the most colorful way possible, I was never curios, never had the urge to do something like this by myself which only.

The first act was more like "do it faster so you can go do other things" but while staying whit the pencil pointing onto the paper it came, overflowing, the starving sensation that needed to be feed, to perfect myself, to give the piece ALL I have so I started thinking of a context, a meaning to transfer my drawing from something lifeless and dull to an amazing, worthy to reverence artwork. I've firstly drawn something black and white, an act that on the outside would splash the paper with color, 2 people dancing.

From that day on after everybody appreciated my work and told me that they love it and it's amazing and that I should do more pieces like that one I started drawing every time I felt that urge peak, until I could not last anymore and go crazy without a charcoal and a flat surface anything to satisfy my hunger, for the amazing process that is CREATING ART.





FITNESS TRENDS AND NEW TREND

By Ana Stancu, 8th grade Coordinator Teacher: Viviana Capel



Hi, everyone! I am Ana and I am a student at the Children's Palace. My work has been supervised by Viviana Capel, my teacher and I want to share with you a part of our activity from European Studies. I hope it will be useful to you, too.

Forget yoga, this year you should be seeking out cold spaces. Working out in cold environments doesn't only help strengthen muscle groups and boost metabolism - the cold also allows your body to regulate its temperature better, meaning you can often exercise for longer. Researchers have found that regular exposure to the cold causes your metabolism to switch from predominantly burning carbohydrates to burning fat as well, which is why Whole Body.

Cryotherapy - standing in very cold, specialized booths - is gaining popularity and can provide a number of health benefits.

"The healing properties, triggered through the use of cold temperature treatments have been widely recognized for thousands of years. Athlets use ice packs and cold treatments as an aid to recovery. Whole body applies the same healing properties to the entire body.

Bodyweight and weight training

As fitness shifted indoors during the pandemic, a lack of space and equipment meant body weight training came into its own. For those who previously favoured aerobic classes and the gym, weight training for fitness is set to be a trend across 2022. Bodyweight training can be adapted to suit anyone, and is complemented with basic fitness equipment like resistance bands. Adding weights and building muscle mass as a way of staying in shape is catching on. There's been a stigma for years that resistance training makes you bulky, but with toned taking over skinny across Instagram, this perception has changed.

There's a huge amount of evidence to show that weight lifting is superior over to cardiovascular training if you want to lose weight. Muscle burns more calories than fat. The more muscle you have, the more calories you burn at rest. That means while you sleep, watch TV, and sit at your desk. Furthermore, the more cardio you do, the better you get at it, meaning you use less calories to do the same workout. But weight lifting is the opposite- heavier lifts burn more calories.

Beetroot

As foods that come with loads of air miles fall out of fashion, the trend for "local exotics" is increasing, and beetroot is the perfect super food. Beetroot contain a phytonutrient called betalains [which gives it its dark colour], that work to support our liver, helping with the process of detoxification, explains **our teacher, Carmen Dragomir,** As a source of fibre, beetroot can help to feed the gut bacteria and maintain a healthy colon. It's also high in nitrates, which may help us with blood pressure management - drinking beetroot juice has even been used by some sports trainers to help increase performance. Beetroot can be eaten raw or cooked, and even though pickled beetroot may have slightly less nutrients than fresh, it's still a good source of fibre.

Shinrin-Yoku

Shinrin-Yoku is the Japanese art of forest bathing - a simple method of being calm and quiet among the trees. Without, interruption, observing nature around you while breathing deeply is an instant de-stressing exercise anyone can do. You can practice in a park, walking along a canal, or in your garden. The aim is to slow down, switch off, note the smells, textures, and light around you, and to regulate your breath. Scientific studies conducted by the Japanese government found that mindful exploration in a forest could reduce blood pressure, lower cortisol levels, and improve concentration and memory. They also found that trees release chemicals called phytoncides, which have an antimicrobial effect on human bodies and help to boost the immune system. And as many of us have now tried running and cycling outdoors while the gyms were closed, taking some time to decompress among nature is an easy added bonus.

Postbiotics

We've been hooked on prebiotics and probiotics, but now comes the turn of postbiotics - to improve our gut health and therefore our whole body health. Prebiotics are food for the live beneficial bacteria in our gut, known as probiotics, and postbiotics are the by-product of probiotics. Simply put, when probiotics eat prebiotics, they cause a fermentation process in the gut that forms postbiotics. And these dead bacteria are still beneficial. Try taking a supplement in either capsule or drink form, which contains a combined pro, pre and postbiotic.

The evolution of technology over the years has been fantastic, from playing with 2 lines and a dot in 1972 to making whole new digital worlds in 2022.

By Adrian Tănase, 8th grade Coordinator Teacher: Răzvan Pătrașcu

Computer science has become one of the most interesting and looked after invention in the world. Games nowadays can give you a rush of adrenaline, such as Call Of Duty, games such as Minecraft take you to a entire different world and letting loose your imagination while helping children learn with its education edition, and League of Legends made gaming into a whole new sport with esports.

Computers can help people to do all kinds of things, from writing letters to flying space rockets. They can store lots of information and do complicated sums very fast.

Inside the systems unit, the part of the computer called the CPU, or the central

processing unit, is like the computer's brain. The works things out and tells all the other parts to do. Computers can't actually think for themselves. People have to write sets of instructions for them called programmes. These are stored inside the systems unit in the hard disks. The computer uses these instructions to carry out tasks.

Streaming and filming yourself playing games has become a carrier option with platforms such as Twitch and YouTube.



Creating a new game nowadays has become pretty profitable and fairly easy with all of the developer engines but its also incredibly time-consuming and fairly risky. If your game flops you pretty much just blew money on "experience", but then again that experience can help you succeed in the future, take for example Fortnite. The game was first released with the Save the World experience and it didn't really do well, but when the developers added the Battle Royale game mode the game instantly became one of the highest played and beloved games of all time.

Older generations make fun of the newer ones for playing on their consoles, phones and computers all the time but the old generations don't realize that our future is most likely in the digital world. We already have two companies trying to create a virtual world similar to the real one, those being Meta, formerly known as Facebook and Microsoft. who started buying a lot of huge companies to add to their already huge collection. Now the future of the virtual world is a mystery for everyone. Who knows what awaits us, but I, along side millions of other players hope it'll be a very bright one filled wih lots of joy and knowledge. The evolution of technology over the years has been fantastic, from playing with 2 lines and a dot in 1972 to making whole new digital worlds in 2022.

We've also seen the rise of crypto currencies such as bitcoin, ethereum and dogecoin. You can buy one and after some time you can gain a lot of profit or lose a lot of money on it. I personally don't know a lot about NFTs but they are also a kind of crypto currency that you can bid on. They go from anywhere between 210.000\$ and 69.3 Million dollars. They can be used as a token to represent real-world items such as artwork and real-estate. It's usage is in it's name: Non-Fungible Token. Some of these NFT's can even let you in special clubs, such as the bored ape yacht club.

Computers and the internet also offer much to the human race, which is why a lot of people use it maliciously. In the internet you can have some of your belongings stolen without you even known so. For example a hacker can get into your credit card and take most, if not all of your money from it.



Computers are very useful for people of all ages. For children they provide a ton of ways to have fun and interact with friends and for adults it helps them a lot with work and getting things done faster. Computers also provide the opportunity to work from home instead of having to go to the office every single day. In most domains computers have become a must have and you can't work without them.

In the 21st century, life revolves around technology, kids are playing on the computer, teens study on it and adults work almost everyday on it.

Technology is part of our lives and we can't evolve without it.

Now, the future of the virtual world is a mystery for everyone. Who knows what awaits us, but i, along side billions of other users hope it'll be a very bright one filled with lots of joy and knowledge.

The computer was, is and will be humanities best friend.

The evolution of technology over the years has been fantastic, from playing with 2 lines and a dot in 1972 to making whole new digital worlds in 2022.



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Fashion and new trends

By Popa Diana, 9th grade **Coordinator Teacher: Viviana Capel**

Why have I chosen a field like that? What clothes and fashion represent to me? These are questions of which I have learnt at the Children's Palace, where I've been studying that fashion is a part of our lives and you can bump into it wherever you are, everywhere in the entire world.

To start with, people may have first worn clothes to protect themselves from the bad weather. Over time, clothes became a way of showing where you come from, what job you did and how rich you were.

From my point of view, a fashion is a style that is only popular for a short time, so fashions change all the time. Some of the clothes on sale in shops are based on styles first seen at big fashion shows in New York, Paris, Milan.

Following fashion

People who want to be gashionable wear the latest styles however unusual they may be. Things such as huge wings and skirts, that were once very popular, often look strange to us now.

Traditional clothes

In some places still wear the style of clothes they have worn for centuries. They follow tradition rather than fashion. A country's traditional dress is called its national costume. For that, we have our national costume, and for its beauty and





unicity, it is already known in the whole worl. We can be proud of our Ia, a traditional wearing cloth, made by cotton decorated with beautiful geometrical figures.

Fashion in 2022

Fashon is on of the most talked topic in our days, these generations of kids and teens having crazy lifestyles and busy schoolife.

Having a specific style is called having an <u>AESTHETIC.</u>

There are many interesting aesthetics you can choose from, these are the most "common" or popular aesthetics: Grunge, Cottage core, Streetwear, Dark Academia, Light Academia, 90's Vibes, Y2K, Soft Girl, E-girl, Basic/Normalcore, Art hoe, Baddie, Alt, Indie, Emo, Goth, Girly, Chocette.

Many of us are just too lazy to have a style or we don't really know which style to pick so we dress as we pleased in the day or we use apps like instagram, pinterest, Tik Tok to look for inspiration to help us with our fits. You can even use shows as inspiration for your styles or try to recreate them in your own style. Celebrities are also a free inspiration for us, as well. Having a bigger community with all of us from 1995 to 2010 made our confidence grow up and protect every unlike style from the mad Karens (crazy racist and homofobic women) that criticize all our generation.

With our unlike styles comes also crazy makeup looks but with that comes our complicated skin care routines that are necessary for everyone on this planet for clear skin that complete our final look.

You don't necessary need that much money, you can find gorgeous things in supermarkets, drug stores, normal stores, thriftstores, boutics and so on you just need a close look an open mind imagination and creativity.

Designer pieces are not affordable for everybody, so if you don't want to spend so much money on them or you have an



90's/Y2K style you can go in thrift stores and you will be amazed by the things you find there. For a thrift trip you need a reusable bag, headphones/ earpods (if you go alone to listen to music on your trip),wallet, some sanitazer and water.



TIPS FOR THRIFTING:

-go alone so if you find a goodie you don't need to share or if you go with a friend and she / he finds something you want to not start fighting over that item

-make list or a pinterest board with want you are looking for to easy your search

-take your time and look at EVERY ITEM, don t jump over anything you never know what you find

-go on sale day (ask the cassiere there when they are receiving goods and go the day before)

-don't buy things you know you are not going to wear, save that money and buy what you wear.



are often good friends for children, who usually clever. When I call his name, he comes to me play with them, give them food and clean their quickly. Flup eats a lot of vegetables, but his places. One day, our English teacher asked me favourite are carrots and cabbages. If I give to describe my pet. Here is mine! My pet's him sugar, he will come and eat it out of my name is Flup. I got him when he was three hand. If I'm not careful, he will bite me by months and I have had him for eight months. Of mistake, but I don't mind because I'm very fond all the animals that I have seen or had as pets, of him. this rabbit is the nicest and the most intelligent.

By Cadar Eric, 4th grade Coordinator Teacher: Carmen Dragomir

Animals always help and they are a source of comfort for people who have them. Everybody knows that for years animals have made people gentler and more relaxed. So, the question is how animals can change us? Some researchers believe that stroking a pet helps to relieve anxiety and tension and doctors recognize that animals' remarkable powers can be used to heal our bodies and minds. This belief has been confirmed since the discovery that seriously ill people live longer if they have a pet to care for.

Small animals like dogs, cats and rabbits His fur is white and grey and his eyes are very

You can't indulge every creature

My pet



By Sofia Golgojan, 2nd grade, Coordinator Teacher: Viviana Capel



got a big donkey and they fritter away their energy walking, instead of riding on this hot boiling. One of them could ride the donkey.

The grandson and his grandfather heard it and they decided to follow those men's advice. So, the old man rode the animal and they carried their way. But, when they were crossing another village, some women who had their shopping at the market, saw them passing and started talking:

What a heartless old man! He is strong enough and he rode the donkey instead of letting the boy because he looks like a sweated slave who is walking by.... Once upon a time, there were a grandfather and his grandson wondering high and low and they were having a donkey holding it by the bridle. While they were crossing the country, a group of people who had nothing to do and were playing cards, saw the two travelers and started to talk to each other: Look how stupid are those two: they have

Hearing this, the old man started to feel guilty. He got down and he helped his grandson to climb in. And so, they continued their journey.

But, in the next village, some old men who were sitting on a bench, saw them and said:

How wrong! How unfair! Poor man, at his age, he is walking while the boy, who is young, is riding the donkey...

Hearing this, the granddad and his beloved grandson looked at each other being all adrift and decided to ride the animal both of them. And so on, they kept on ...

But, in the next village, seeing someone, she said:

What an unsympathetic people! Poor animal! Look at them how they both are riding the animal. They may kill it!

So, the two travelers decided to take and carry the animal on their own back so it not suffer the poor animal, anymore. Hardly they had several steps, when a villager saw them for the fourth time and started to laugh:

Look those mad people! Animals should be useful for them, not otherwise.

From that moment on, the two travelers decided that the best solution was to do exactly what they wanted to do whenever they want, without carrying for what the others say, because you never indulge every creature.

Sandcastles

By Mihnea Bara, 3rd grade **Teacher Viviana Capel: European Studies**

Hello, friends. Although I am only in the third class, I like to express my creativity writing stories. So, here is my own composition! I hope you all like it and learn from it.

Anton was a young man full of dreams and most of his free time he was standing wishing for different things.



One day, he went to the market and he bought for himself a dozen of eggs. Sitting by the bench of the river, he was talking out loud to himself, imagining the bright future that it was waiting for him.

From twelve eggs I will have twelve little chicken that will grow and become real hens and they will have thousands of eggs. Then, I will sell the eggs and with money, I will buy cows and goats. Anton was very excited thinking about how marvelous the business will develop.

With cows and goats I will have milk and cheese and I will buy a piece of land. I will grow plants and vegetables. My products will be bought by farmers, I will meet the most beautiful girl in the country and I will merry her. Anton was feeling very proud of him because all his plans seemed that they had already been done.

And with the crops, I will buy camels. I will rent them to the travelers. And with the money I earn, I will buy a big boat and sail down the river. I will take the manufactures in all the country and sell them, I will become rich.

Anton was even more enthusiastically.



I will have many children and they, too. And when I am old, I will retire to one of my beautiful manors, surrounded by many servants who can take care of me. It will be wonderful!

Unable to keep his excitement, he hit the bench that he was sitting on.

Bang ! He heard. Anton looked his right. He had his hand full of broken eggs. He had broken with his fist all the twelve eggs. All of a sudden, his wonderful dream vanished at a drop of a hat. But he wasn't so easily disappointed. He said:

After the rain, the sun always comes out. I have just learnt that for building the future, you must be very cautious to the present.

So, he stood up and he returned to the market to buy another dozen of eggs.

The green friendship

By Andrei Cîrstea, 2nd grade Coordinator Teacher: Mihaela Cîrstea.

Nature gives us a lot of priceless gifts: flowers, mountains, water with translucent depths, plain fields, fresh woods..all those must be treated with respect and care by all of us.

Children see the nature like a friend of them that gives bright, warm and motion. Nature needs friends, too and this represents the necessity to offer it our respect, too. Although they are young, children can make miracles regarding the care of the nature, without which life on Terra wouldn't be. We are very happy when we see the nature in its real green. To keep and protect this colour, we can do a lot of useful things to support the environment.





Why must the nature be preserve? And why we, children, must learn to protect it? If it weren't the nature, to love us like a spiritual mother, to give us an ideality life, we wouldn't be here. From here it comes the chain nature-man-life.

The oxygen from the nature is a treasure what many people don't think it loses. That is why we must clean the green places, to stop the pollution sources, not to break the branches of the trees.

I remember the child's story who was breaking carelessly the pages from a notebook of his, without thinking that for that notebook to be made, it was cut a tree. And the forest slowly disappeared...then, the nature started to cry.

So, we must learn that we have to save the paper and to reuse it. And, of course, not to put the fire in the woods, to be very attentive to our actions concerning the nature.

Nature, of course, is a source of inspiration, being muse to many well known literature writers. Eminescu wrote a lot of masterpiece regarding the nature, on that he was always reacted. In nature, each one of us, find and relax ourselves, we refresh our forces, we charge our batteries asit is said.

Now the important question is coming why do we have to do all this, we, the youth nowadays? Because we have to be an example to the grown ups, which they don't often think about their facts.

We are the generation who can extend life on this earth. The nature must live, we need it! Nature gives daily the example to live for!

Nature has been created for good and bad, for men should push to act freely which way to go.(Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa).





The magic drop



By Briana Gogorici, 7th grade Coordinator Coordinator Teacher: Simona Marineață Hi, everyone! My name is Briana, I am 14 years old and I am a student at Children's Palace. I have been studying literature with Simona Matineață and she has been my teacher for a long time and I love her a lot. Of course, I am fond of the subject and this comes as a forward information to what I learn at school. Because I like to read a lot, I have come here to learn how to write my own compositions basically helped by my teacher. I like the sound of the rain, it relaxes me and for this reason, I've written a new composition about it and I would like to share with you. I hope you like it, too.

This afternoon I have been very happy because of the coming of my favourite season, autumn. Today, the sky could not smile anymore. The drops of the gray sky sat on my portch's house. While I was reading The Clouds tale, I heard a thin voice:

"Hello, is anybody there? Helloo!"

I couldn't realise at first where the noise was coming from, but I rose and went lazily through the window. I opened the window and I saw a drop of rain, sliding unhurried on the window.

"Is anybody here?" I asked a little frightened.

"Yes, yes! It's me! I'm here, can you see me?"

"Are you a drop of rain?"

"Can you see me?" It asked me.

"Of course, but can you talk?" I asked it back.

"Well...I am a drop of rain with magical powers".

"I have never met a talking drop of rain. But, wait! What can I do for you?"

"I am sent by God to reward you for the good job that you have done. So? What wish do you want to accomplish?"

"I don't even know. Could I take you and put in the flower pot that I have and you can keep the ground always wet?"

"Of course. Gladly. I like flowers", it answered me.

"Sure, this is your place".

From that moment, the drop came unstuck the window and flew in the purple flower pot. "Are you still there? Do you hear me?"

"Yes, I am here and I can hear you. I have a question. While I was flying, I saw a book on your bed. What were you reading?"

"It is the Clouds tale! It is very beautiful, I could read it over and over again. Do you want me to read you?"

"I would be delighted, but before you read it, you can tell me what your name is?".

"I am Izzy. What's your name?"

"I don't have a name. Do you want to find me one?"

"Hmmmm. I've found! How about Poli?"

"Yes, I love it!"

After I read the Clouds tale, I went to bed because it was very late and next day I would wake up early for going to school.

Since then, every night, I have been reading to Poli a bed time story. I am so glad that I have a new friend!



Butterflies

By Cadar Eric, 4th grade **Coordinator Teacher Carmen Dragomir**

Butterflies are among the most colourful types of insects, most live for only a few weeks. They find a mate, lay eggs, then die.



Butterfly wings

Butterfly wings are covered in tiny coloured and shiny scales. The shiny scales reflect light, which is why butterflies shimmer when they fly. This butterfly is called a common blue. It has spread its wings to soak up the Sun's heat. Open and shut

WHERE DO BUTTERFLIES LIVE?

All butterflies are terrestrial, meaning they live on land. Although most known species are tropical, butterflies can be found living throughout the world – from the tropics on the equator to northern regions above the arctic circle, and from sea level to mountain tops over 6000 metres tall! Butterflies can be found in nearly all types of habitat, including desert, wetlands, grassland, forest, and alpine. Some butterflies in the family Lycaenidae spend part of their lives underground! Their caterpillars are tended by ants in exchange for providing the ants with sweet honeydew. A butterfly's habitat depends on its species. There are many species, such as the Karner Blue (Lycaeides melissa samuelis), left, that have very specific habitat requirements and can't live anywhere else. The Karner Blue butterfly depends on a rare ecosystem called an Dak Savannah for its habitat, and since most of Ontario's Dak Savannahs were destroyed, this species no longer lives in Ontario and is now extirpated (locally extinct) from Canada. Alternatively, butterflies such as the Cabbage White are very adaptable and can be found in many different habitats and on many different continents.



When a butterfly holds its wings open, it is gathering warmth from the sun. this helps give it the energy to fly. When its wings are closed, it is resting. It faces the sun, so its shadow is small and enemies are less likely to spot it.

Butterfly with wings open.



Butterfly with wings closed. The circles on a peacock butterfly's wings look like eyes. This frightens enemies.

An Arctic ringlet's dark wings help it soak up heat. The patterns on this tortoiseshell's wings help it attract a mate.



Wing patterns

A butterfly's beautiful, patterned wings help other butterflies spot their own kind. Their wing patterns help butterflies in other ways, too.

An African Monarch is poisonous. Birds learn not to eat it.

A comma's ragged wings disguise it as a dead leaf when it is on the ground.

A female butterfly lays her eggs on a plant. When an egg hatches, a caterpillar comes out and feeds on the plant. When the caterpillar is fully grown, it turns into a pupa, and then into a butterfly.

A caterpillar ready to turn into pupa. The pupa forms inside the body. It splits the skin. The pupa hardens. Inside, it is a changing. The butterfly's body hardens and it flies off.

Did you know? Butterfly Wings Are Transparent

How can that be? We know butterflies as perhaps the most colorful, vibrant insects around! Well, a butterfly's wings are covered by thousands of tiny scales, and these scales reflect

light in different colors. But underneath all of those scales, a <u>butterfly wing</u> is actually formed by layers of chitin—the same protein that makes up an insect's exoskeleton. These layers are so thin you can see right through them. As a butterfly ages, scales fall off the wings, leaving spots of transparency where the chitin layer is exposed.

BUTTERFLIES CAN'T FLY IF THEY'RE COLD

Butterflies need an ideal body temperature of about 85 degrees Fahrenheit to fly.

1 Since they're cold-blooded animals, they can't regulate their own body temperatures. As a result, the surrounding air temperature has a big impact on their ability to function. If the air temperature falls below 55 degrees Fahrenheit, butterflies are rendered immobile—unable to flee from predators or feed.

2

When air temperatures range between 82 and 100 degrees Fahrenheit, butterflies can fly with ease.

3 Cooler days require a butterfly to warm up its flight muscles, either by shivering or basking in the sun.

BUTTERFLIES OFTEN LIVE JUST A FEW WEEKS

Once it emerges from its chrysalis as an adult, a butterfly has only two to four short weeks to live, in most cases. During that time, it focuses all its energy on two tasks: eating and mating. Some of the smallest butterflies, the blues, may only survive a few days. However, butterflies that overwinter as adults, like monarchs and mourning cloaks, can live as long as nine months.



The chrysanthemum

Once upon a time there was a poor widow who had a sick son, named Duo. Duo was ill and his kind mother was desperate about him. She had gone to all doctors but they gave the woman no chance that her son live or he got well

Finally, she went to a very old man who was living in a cave deep in the mountain and was very well known for being a wise and respectable man. When the poor woman told her sorrow, the old man said:

Bring me a chrysanthemum and after I count its leaves (petals), I will tell you how long your son lives.

The woman left and found out a flower, she picked it up to bring the wise man. But she sadly realized that the flower had only four petals. So, she looked for a lot flowers like the first one but all of them had only four. The child's mom, who loved his son dearly, did not show fight. Therefore, she picked dozens on chrysanthemums, she tore the petals to all of them and spent the night sewing until she made a flower with thousands of petals. The next morning she went to the cave, searching the long expected answer. When the old man looked over the flower that mother brought, he smiled warmly. He even threw several tears of thrill. For a long time he hadn't cried. He tried to count the petals, but they were so many that his work became impossible.

Woman, I have never seen in my life such love and sacrifice, nor hope, he said. Go in peace. I see in the flower you brought that your son would live more than you and me together. And, indeed, the next day, his son started to feel better and soon he became strong and powerful like an oak. His mother thanked God for this miracle. Since then, these flowers have had so many petals (before they had only four) and they can extend people's lives.

Europeans can stay in touch via mobile phone more easily and more cheaply By Alexia Teleu The IXth grade

Since July 2009, Europeans using phone will travelling in another EU country have been paying less for texting. These changes are the result of new rules which are expected to cut roaming holidaymarkers' and business travellers' bills by 60. Sending a text message from abroad in EU now costs a maximum of 0.11 euro.- almost three times cheaper than the previous EU average.

Calls are even cheaper than before and pre-second billing saves money as subscribes now only pay for the actual length of each call. Making a roamed call in another EU country must not cost more than 0.43 euro per minute, and no more than 0.19 euro to receive a call.

Surfing the web, downloading movies or sending photos with mobile phones can be done without fear of bill shocks while roaming, thanks to cut-off available to consumers from 1 March 2010.

And soon, mobile phone users will have fewer worries about batteries going flat. EU pressure has convinced manufacturers to standardize charges, doing away with with the inconvenience and waste of different systems for different phones.

Protecting animals on land and in the oceans

Commercial seal-hunting has few friends in Europe, and during 2009 legislation was passed to limit the sale of seal products. The EU cannot ban seal-hunting, but it has now decided to make it illegal to put seal products on the market.

Traditional music

By Andra Stoica, 5th grade Coordinator Teacher: Viviana Capel

Hello, everyone! My name is Andra and I am an eleven-year old student. I have been studying English Culture and Civilization at the Children's Palace for six years with Viviana Capel. Because I like singing, I want to share my passion with you and to introduce into a new world that is very popular and appreciated by every citizen in Europe. Of course, folk music or traditional music is very well-known, especially among our people, but it has a good view throughout our nation neighbours.

My passion is traditional music. I have been doing it for a long time and I like it very much. Overtime, I have been to many festivals, performances, shootings, even televisions. I sang at the Harvest Festival, the Christmas Fair, the Carol Festival in Campulung and on Realitatea TV and Muscel TV. I liked it the most when I was on Muscel TV. We went to film some songs for Easter. First, we filmed two songs in group, and then and then each individual. I filmed three songs. The only downside was that it was very hot.

I liked it the least when I went to the carol festival in Campulung. It was very cold. We went to the parade, and then we sang two carols. But after we sang we received gifts and sweets and that made us feel better.

I like to sing traditional music because it is very beautiful and it represents me. It is not easy, but if you always study it, you will like it.

I love going to festivals and shows, it's so interesting! Sometimes I feel like a real star singing on stage! With all those people watching you, it is awesome!

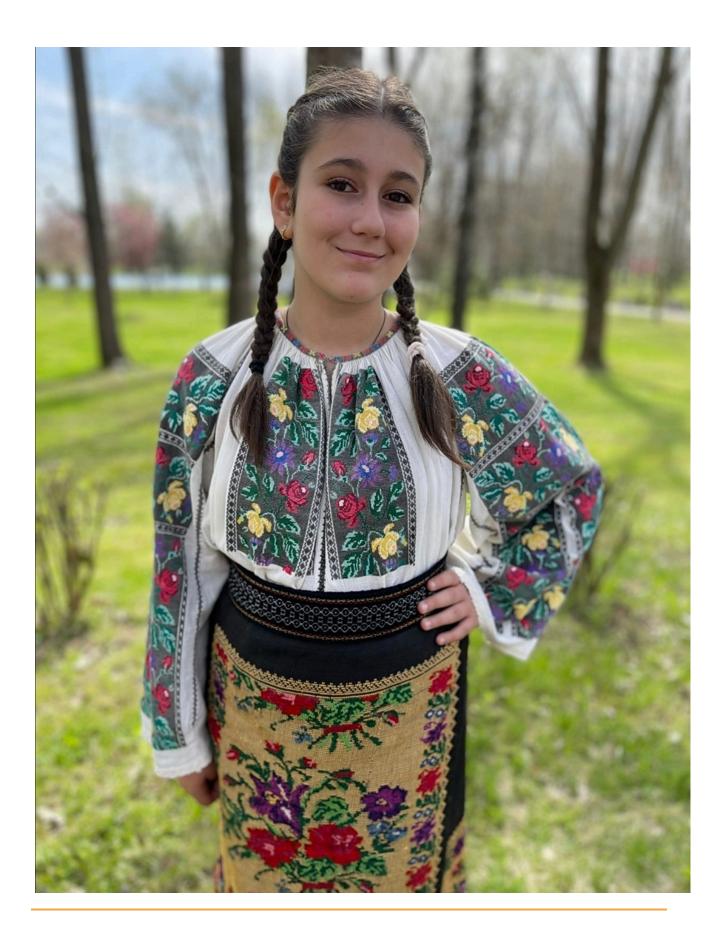
At the shootings, sometimes it's tiring to stand up when it's cold and sing the same thing over and over again, but the end result is wonderful!

When I go at the televisions, sometimes I am scared that I am going to sing wrong, but I am going with confidence and I sing.

I love traditional music and I hope that one day I will sing at events!



Me, in my traditional folk costume



MY HOLIDAY IN ENGLAND

By Felicia Avram, 12th grade Coordinator Teacher: Viviana Capel





In the middle of London, having fun in a double-decker bus

Buckingham Palace, The Queen's summer home At 11.23 or 11.47, there is the changing guard, an impressive event for every tourist but so common to the Londoners, because they have the opportunity to see it every day.





The statue of the Queen Victoria named Victoria Memori



Good chocolate with mars hmallows from the kiosk, good place to stay and admire the square and people around

2 kilometers of messages written on the wall



Fine architecture in London and a special church, part of Westminster Abbey



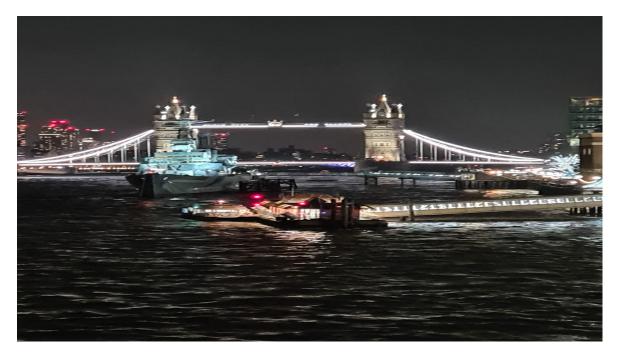
Would you like a ride in London Eye? For up, you can see the entire capital city.

With only £ 40 you can have a wonderful view and have fun for half an hour. Scarry? Not for me, even though we got in while the big Wheel did't stop and we stepped into it while it was spinning.

Tower Bridge- another symbol of London and a big attraction for tourists. It was so closed for us...what a pitty!!!



The Big Ben. Can you imagine that the clock in London has been in renovation for more than three years? Still, the Londoners aren't in a hurry, because they want everything to be perfect in the end. Go figure!



Can you see the impressive ship? It's from the Two World War and it has been in use since 1939 when the war started. It has almost 200 m length and almost 7.000 tones. It is a British War ship and it has 28 cannons and 8 machine -guns. Now it is used as a museum to the Imperial War Museum and it can be booked for performances.



The National Covid Memorial wall

Since my parents have been abroad for three years, I had the courage to go to them for the first time this winter vacation in England. It was my first experience with the plane and the first time I went to a foreign country. My only fear was that I was alone and I didn't have enough confidence to rely on the knowledge I had gained over the years. Although I did not stay in the English for a long time, namely 3 weeks, I managed to visit some of the main tourist attractions with the thought that in the near future I will definitely return to continue this journey to know. During the 3 weeks I managed to walk the English streets, visiting a lot of attractions, reaching the end of each day to be left with pleasant memories.

I didn't stay in London but I stayed in a town near London which was also fascinating. My parents surprised me and rented a hotel room and we managed to stay one night in the middle of London. The main tourist attractions I saw were: Buckingham Palace, Green Park, London Eye, British Museum, Hyde Park, London Bridge, Tower Bridge, Big Ben, Parliament Palace. I also rode the boat and got on the wheel when it got dark. I could see all of London from above !!

I found it interesting to approach people. The day before Christmas I was walking in the park with my parents. And a lot of civilized people told us a Merry Christmas without us knowing them. Given the country we live in, I was pleasantly surprised at how civilized and educated the people of England are.

One thing that really impressed me was opposite the Palace of the Parliament, it is a special wall dedicated to people who died because of the covid. On it are painted hearts and in each heart is the name of a person who died because of this virus. I also rode the boat and got on the wheel when it got dark. I could see all of London from above !!

Here you have some photos from my holiday!

Art and its importance

By Ionescu Andreea12th grade **Coordinator teacher: Badea Mihaela Alina**

Art is all around us. Whether you hear your favorite song on the radio or drive by a gorgeous mural, you experience art every day. We know that these meeting points elevate our everyday experiences, but it's common to lose sight of the overall impact of the arts on communities.

Our goal here is to dive into this topic and answer that question: "Why is art important?" By answering it with insights from research, we hope to provide studio owners and teachers alike with the solid information they need to share their love of the arts with their wider communities. As humans, we're naturally drawn to art as a form of expression and communication. Toddlers love to draw, sing, and dance. It's a way for them to express themselves before they're verbal.

In fact, participation in the arts may even assist kids with language, motor skills, and visual learning development. Research indicates that young people who regularly participate in the arts are <u>four times more</u> <u>likely</u> to be recognized for academic achievement later on.

In therapy settings, art also provides an opportunity for digging deeper and

expressing emotions that are difficult to discuss.

<u>Art therapy activities</u> can help children (and adults) cope with their circumstances, both past and present. In one important study, children between six and 12 were asked to draw a house as a distraction after thinking about something upsetting. This group was able to <u>improve their mood</u> when compared with children who were instructed to draw the negative event or simply copy another drawing.

The importance of art in society goes far beyond what we do in our free time. It can also help people work better.

When someone applies for a job, there are certain hard skills they need to have like data analysis or bookkeeping. However, many employers also understand the very important need for <u>soft skills</u>. These intangible attributes are hard to measure and often difficult to define. Some examples include a person's ability to adapt to change, think creatively, or collaborate with team members.

The arts are a universal way to develop these necessary soft skills that make us better people and coworkers in the workplace.

Art and human history go hand-inhand. This is why people dedicate their lives to studying cave art, Shakespearean plays, and so much more.

When we take the time to dive into art created in the past, we can learn about other generations and eras. We can study art to find out what those before us were facing and how they overcame it. In the same way, future generations will learn about our current events through the art we leave behind.

As the <u>The Metropolitan Museum of</u> <u>Art puts it: "Looking at art from the past</u> contributes to who we are as people. By looking at what has been done before, we gather knowledge and inspiration that contribute to how we speak, feel, and view the world around us."

Art is often controversial or groundbreaking. And when art creates a stir, it has the potential to spark healthy conversations that lead to improvements across a society. Rather than impassioned debate, art gives us an opportunity to analyze, respond to, and create social change.

How does this play out in direct impacts? Surveys show that high school students in the United States who engage in the arts at school are twice as likely to volunteer than those who don't. They are also 20% more likely to vote when they become young adults.

Beyond personal development, the overall social impact of the arts is essential to understand. Cultures big and small unite through the arts to build better communities. From fine art showings to community theatre in the park, the arts provide an opportunity to gather with other people from all walks of life. Several <u>case studies</u> have actually demonstrated that art in rural communities specifically can help boost economic growth. Further, it strengthens the bonds between people in these places.

It's also worth noting the importance of art in society when it comes to tourism. Cities like New York City and Seattle are full of endless museums and theatres. But even in smaller communities across the United States, and the rest of the world, the arts provide unique economic opportunities. This type of tourism leads to jobs, revenue, and areas for growth.









Adventures with Autumn Fairy

By Alexe Maria, 5th grade

Coordinator Teacher: Simona Marineață

The great show for autumn is starting. The summer birds are leaving with the sun on their wings. The wind is sliding a whisper, like a prayer through the branches of the trees. I am walking through the dusty paths in the park. I see how the autumn appears from the hill, in its beautiful carriage, painted in old and inner shading blood. I am running through it to see it better. As I was close to it, it seems to me like an angel come from the dream, sent by God to bless our Earth. It had got rusty hair and eyes in a moist, mud 46 colour. It had a necklace made from beautiful dew pebbles and a wonderful tiara made of colourful chrysanthemums. And the dress was sewn from thousands of rufous leaves. It seems that the rain clouds follow it wherever it goes. I can see it talking to a leaf that tells it:

"My dearest child, have you found the spell that transforms back into a human been? We are tired of sitting into the house for people not stare at us like we are real monsters!"

"Yes, I have, but I need the chosen child from the magic book to fulfill".

"And who is he? Have you found him or her?"

"I haven't. But her name is Maria Alexe. Have you heard something about her?"

"No, I haven't", I answered.

Hearing my name, I came out very shy and I said:

" It's me".

"Oh, Thanks God!" Said the leaf. " I have finally found you. I guess you've heard our conversation. So, do you want to help us?" "Gladly", I said.

The next day I fit out to leave in the trip. The fairy was waiting for me with a huge book in which it was written the special spell. I was excited until it was told:

" I hope you have taken the branch with you because we need to fight with a dragon ".

"Wait. What are you saying?"

"Don't panic. It's not that hard as it seems. I would do it myself, but my spell doesn't work."

"But why did you choose me to fight?"

"Let me see. It is written right here: ""And the chosen child, named Maria, should take a precious stone from the Emerald Dragon." Now, that you know, let's go".

It said a conjuration and in front of us appeared an emerald bridge. At its end the dragon was waiting for us. And, unfortunately, it was awaken, too. When it saw, it took off ruby flames from its mouth. Being aware that I have no chance to win in front of this fierce dragon, I said:

"Dragon, please, give us an emerald to make a spell".

"Of course I give you, because you asked me nicely".

"Thank you so much".

And it gives us a beautiful sapphire. We come back and I ask:

"What should we do now?"

" We should take a little from the Phoenix Bird ash now".

"OK. Let's go."

The fairy whistled easily and a beautiful, colourful rug came to us. We arrived at a huge nest and in it there was the bird ash. Autumn Fairy told me to take it, but I couldn't do without the bird accept, so I said: "Phoenix Bird", I started.

And the bird arose from the ash and asked:

"Do you want something?"

"We want a little from your ash"

"You can take only as a pinch of salt otherwise I can't arise next time".

"Thank you. We'll be careful".

We came back home, to the leaf house, we put the ingredients into the cauldron full of water, and after that, Autumn Fairy said:

"Now we have done. But there is something more written: "The ingredient don't have value unless they are taken by the chosen child". So, you understand why you are that child, because you always take the best decisions".

We make the spell and the leaf transforms into the Old Year's wife, who, although it was an old lady, it has a special beauty. After it thanked me, it disappeared with its daughter.

That day I learned that everything must be done with kindness, calm and good intentions to rise the wanted result.



The enchanted tree

By Ghimpețeanu Nicolas, 4th grade Coordinator Teacher: Simona Marineață

It was autumn, on a beautiful day of Saturday, in October, when I was wondering with my parents into the park. Suddenly, I saw a tree that had all its leaves green. I was very amazed. I asked my mum if I could go further that tree. When I arrived, I was looking at it speechless. But the tree started to talk to me:

"How are you, little one?" it asked me.

When I heard the tree talking, I was very surprised.

"Very well, thank you", I said.

"What's your name?" the tree asked me.

" I'm Nicolas. And you?"

"My name is Greenness".



"I was really wondering how come you are so green and your brothers are so callow?"

"I am an enchanted tree. Come with me and I will show you something".

When I entered that place, everything was so green, as if it had been spring. And everybody from there was very happy.

In the distance, I saw a table full of yellow quinces, muscatel and red apples like fire. The tree asked me if I want to show me something else. I accepted and then, it took me into a forest in which the leaves were all over the soft and velvet ground. Some of them were dancing like ballerinas. You could smell a tender and soft autumn breeze, with clean and chilly air.

"I'd love to stay with you, but I have to come back to my parents", I said to the tree. It was an amazing trip and I would like to do that again!

Fall Fairy

By Iordachita Sofia, 3rd grade Coordinator Teacher: Simona Marineață.

It was a warm, sunny autumn day. I was walking my dog, Max, through the Trivale Park. Suddenly, Max started to run into a path that leads in the middle of the forest. I run a lot after him. The leaves were soughing behind us. My heart was beating into my chest. I ran a lot after Max, when suddenly, he stopped on the top of one hill. I climbed myself very careful and slowly. There, I saw some beautiful chrysanthemums. In the middle of them, there was a magnificent creature who was picking up the flowers and was singing a divine song. I didn't want to disturb it, but I couldn't take my eyes from it, either. It had a ruddy hair, like the leaves, the dress was made from ruddy leaves and I'll never forget it. The most I liked its shoes: they were made from coloured cristal and decorated with a little leaf.

On a branch, above the creature from another world, Max saw a squirrel and started to bark at it. The creature scared and ran away.

"Max!" I yelled. He growl at me.

"Is there somebody?" a beautiful, soft and warm voice heard from somewhere.

I watched above the hill and I saw the creature. It didn't run.

"Hello!" I said.

"Hi, little girl!" it answer to me. "don't be scared of me, I am the Fall Fairy."

"Nice to meet you! I am Sofia! I'm sorry if my dog has scared you!"

"No problem for me! I love the animals, but now I have to leave to a meeting with my sisters, the other seasons. I'm glad we meet each other! Maybe we see sometimes."

I said good bye to the fairy. It was a wonderful day for me!

The fall bell

By Negru Stefan, 4th grade

Coordinator Teacher: Simona Marineață.

The fall is here with a lot of wonderful colours. The fruit and vegetables are luring us with their smell and the wind is playing with the leaves which, when they get tired, they fell on the groud, taking the shape of a swishing rug. When I came out of the house, I saw this beautiful and interesting rug. After I watched very careful to everything around me, I felt that I was sitting in the eden of warm colours. The shade of red and orange were so beautiful, that I felt I was covered with a fluffy and warm blanket. It was a very pleasant sensation.

I got in the car, because we had to leave, when, my mum said to my dad:

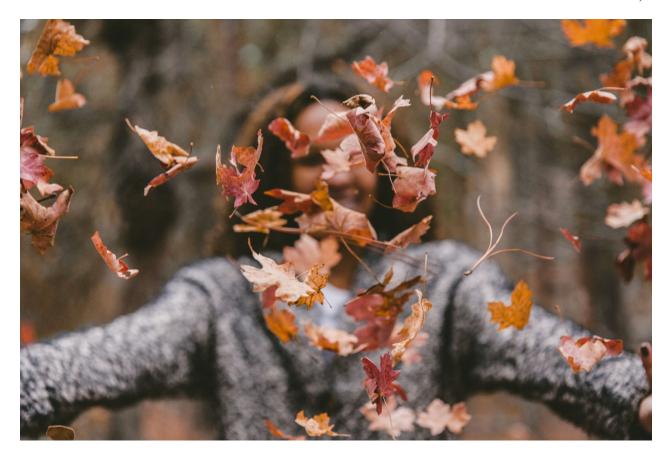
" stop the car! I forgot my purse!"

After she came back to the car, with her purse, we left. On the way, dad explained me about the new life we had to begin. He also told me that school is more difficult than the kindergarten, but it is more interesting, too, because we'll learn a lot of things.

I arrived in the schoolyard. It was very noisy and all children were very happy to see each other. Mum told me to go in a direction where my now teacher and colleagues were. It wasn't so long and I realized that I had a lot of wonderful fellows, although we knew for such a short time. I forgot to tell you about my new teacher. She had a voice like an angel, she was very beautiful and elegant! That day was wonderful. After classes, I went and told my dad about my day. He told me that now I can do whatever I want. Of course, I chose to play with Maya, my little dog. I spent my day until it was dark outside, then I ate, I brushed my teeth and I went to sleep. In my bed, I wondered: "What will I do tomorrow?"

Friends to play with

By Oanță Andrei, 6th grade Coordinator Teacher Simona Marineață



The animals woke up with the thought to find friends to play with, but few knew that the rough autumn came and until it would go, a lot of time would pass. Since this morning, the squirrels have been wondering what happened with the calm, summer atmosphere. The wind has started to blow their shelters. This tends to aim to the leaves, not to the hollow.

The smashing enemy didn't intend to affect the little animals with their bushy tails. In fact, it didn't intend to damage neither of the animals' shelters. In the trees, in little holes, in the ground or even in a small, little place, the wind broke them all. The leaves, which was once green like grass, there were now dotted about the ground. Where did they have that rusty colour? I think they ask themselves the same thing. The animals found them on the ground and they used their brain – if only they could play with the strange and irregular figures which seemed to be an infinity?

It is right, that when they were hanging to the week branches of the trees, they were invincible. Now, being fallen down on the ground, there is much easier to test them. When the squirrels and other animals were jumping in the pile of the leaves, those were flying through the

air like little falling stars. The atmosphere became more joyful. The little friendships link between the animals and the leaves. Now they are friends who play to each other. The woodpeckers seem to sing in the same time with the wind. Some of them join the game, others build their homes in the trees dressed in autumn colours.

Some shy leaves stayed stucked on the branches, as if they were afraid of the unknown. In their transformation, of the playful friends, some leaves were swishing and broke. This was very sad, of course. And so, the entire park came to be covered in brown, orange and red.

Soon, the squirrels had no play partners with whom to share the joy of the game. Everything is broken, lost...

But, we don't have to forget that there is always hope. Some woodpeckers start to peel the tree that had got the most shy leaves. Being old, the tree was trembling by the pain and because of the years that passed by. The animals find the hope.- the birds. The squirrels, being good climbers from their birth, are climbing in the tree and are speaking with those woodpeckers in an unknown language to us, people. Suddenly, other leaves were falling from the tree. The joy came back again, the birds entered with a big noise in the pile of the leaves and so they start the game again. They played for such a long time...

The best part is that, around them, a beautiful, rusty rain of leaves was falling, while people in the park were taking pictures the moments when the animals and leaves were playing...

The tale of the Fall

By Rada Anastasia, 4th grade Coordinator Teacher Simona Marineată

The cold and bad fall has come. The summer ended so fast, as if it kept only a second. The school has started and Ariana has just come back from school. She wanted to start doing her homework, when she heard a noise in the window and suddenly, a strange lady appeared in a dress made of flowers and dry leaves.

"who are you?" asked Ariana.

I am Fall Fairy. I am the creator of everything you can find in this season".

"Really? I don't believe you!"

"Come with me and you'll see".

The fairy took Ariana her hand and they flew away to a floating carriage.. then, the fairy started to show the girl, the forest covered with beautiful autumn colors that enjoyed your sight. The leaves seemed to have their own show, they were dancing into the air and they fell on the ground, sitting on the rusty carpet. The gold ball tried hard to send its heat to the Earth.



They flew away thro and fro and they saw peasants who were gathering red apples like fire,, wooden nuts, rimy plums, muscatel and a lot of other goods. They saw everything from the biggest dark clouds till the least rime of grain that made a wonderful necklace for the fall. Although everything was amazing, the fairy took Ariana to see how much people were doing wrong things. On their walk, the fairy showed the little girl some polluted rivers and fields full of garbage. At the end of the day, the fairy took Ariana at her home and told her:

"I'll come another day to continue our trip,but until then, remember that we must keep the nature clean to enjoy it. If we continue to pollute it, it won't be very blossom and full of greenish, it will become bleak".

The next day, Ariana went to school and told all her colleagues that they had to take more careful to the environment.

Meeting the Autumn Fairy

By Alexe Ioana, 2nd grade Coordinator Teacher: Simona Marineață

It was a beautiful autumn day. I left school and I decided to walk into the nearest park. Suddenly, a daughter of a tree sat on my hand, she had nose, mouth, eyes. I asked myself "Why?".

"Hello. I am Ioana".

"Hello, beautiful girl, I am Autumn Fairy".

"Autumn Fairy, why are you a leaf?"

" A thousand years ago, a witch made me in what I am today. Since then, I have been falling the first from the tree where I am, to announce the most plentiful season of all".

"But can the spell be broken?" I asked.

"Of course, but only The Wizard from the Carpathians can do that".

"Don't you want to go to him ?"

"Sure, this is what I want most. Let's go!"

"Meanwhile, would you like to stay at my place?"

"Gladly!", she replied.

We had a wonderful time that week. It was wonderful. We went together to the cinema, to school, in the park and many other places. The day when we had to go to the wizard came and we took our backpacks and left.

"We'll have a long journey!"

"That's right, but we'll succeed."

We finally arrived and in front of us there was a magnificent castle. We entered through a huge door. We saw a bid cauldron, potions and some strange things.

"Hello, Mr. Wizard, I am Ioana and this is my friend, Autumn fairy."

"What brings you here?" it asked us.

"Can you change me into the Autumn Fairy, because a witch made me a poor leaf?"

"Sure, I'll do this because a little child had the courage to come over here with you."

The old wizard poured some liquids into a big glass and said:

"Done! You have to drink this orange potion."

After she drank everything from that glass, the leaf changed into a beautiful woman, dressed in a wonderful yellow dress with brown leaves on it. She told me:

"Thank you for helping me!"

After she had said thank you to the old wizard, the fairy invited me into the fairies'world, as a reward for giving her a hand. She took a magic wand, she waved it three times and we found ourselves in a world full of fairies and also the three sosters of the Autumn.

" Ioana, they are my sisters. Spring, Summer and Winter. How much I am pleased to see them again!"

I spoke to them for a while and then I had to go home. But we decided to see the fairy again, next autumn.

"Good bye, Ioana!"

"Good Bye, dear friend!"

It was a wonderful adventure!



Random curiosities around the world

By Matei Andrei, 8th grade CoordinatorTeacher: Dana Dragnea

- There are more twins today than ever. This is because the later you decide to have a baby, the higher is your chance to get twins and people today tend to create families later than ever before.
- There are more things living inside your body than there are people on Earth. Bacteria make up from 1 to 4 kg of your body weight.
- If feeling threatened, some lizards will leave their tail behind in order to confuse predators. But don't worry – they can later regenerate it.
- Similarly, starfish can regenerate their lost limbs, but going further, even a limb can regenerate the whole starfish.
- If taken together, all ants in the world will weigh more than the whole human population.

- Purple is the least favourite colour when it comes to national flags. There are just two countries that use it in theirs: Dominica and Nicaragua.
- Two thirds of the people have never seen snow in real life.
- Sweden is the largest island country in the world. It has over 221,800 islands, only about a thousand of which are inhabited.
- Because it's made up of 95% water, a jellyfish can melt under direct sunlight.
- Human fingers are extremely sensitive. If your fingertips were the size of Earth, you could feel the difference between a one-story house and a car sitting on it.
- China is home to the most bicycles in the world. However, the most bike-friendly city is Copenhagen in Denmark.
- A giraffe's tongue is so long that the animal also cleans its ears with it.
- The Greenland Shark has the longest lifespan of all vertebrate species. It is estimated between 250 and 500 years.
- However, there are animals considered to be immortal, such as a variety of jellyfish known as Turritopsisdoohmii, or more commonly, the immortal jellyfish. When it's sick or injured, it reverts its cells into a younger state, effectively "cheating" the aging process.
- During a flight on an airplane, our sense of smell and taste is 20 to 50% lower than usual.
- The Nishiyama Onsen Keiunkan is the oldest hotel in the world. Situated not far from Mount Fuji, in Japan, it has been welcoming guests since 705 A.D.
- French was the official language of England for about 450 years. In 1066, William the Conqueror, who was of French origin, brought the language to the country.
- Some of the first graffiti of the similar kind we have today appeared in Pompeii. They date back almost 2,000 years.
- Cows can have best friends, whom they spend most of their time with. They also become upset if they get separated.
- Goats are the only animals to have rectangular eye pupils.
- It rains diamonds on Jupiter and Saturn. This is because methane turns into carbon, which then hardens to become graphite and, eventually, diamond.
- High heels were originally worn by men. In Ancient Egypt, butchers wore them to avoid blood on the floor.
- Contrary to popular belief, dogs don't see the world in shades of grey. They can see colours, but just fewer of them than people.
- Cotton candy was invented by William Morrison. Ironically, he was a dentist.

Art in the classroom

By Bunea Dragomir Alexia, 9th grade Coordinator Teacher: Camelia David.

Hello, friends! I am a student from the Art Class at the Children's palace and I I have been studying this subject for more than 4 years with Camelia David, my teacher. I would like to share with you the things that I have already learnt. So, here they are!



As the saying goes, 'Art is all around us'. In its many forms it presents fantastic opportunities for discussion, focused language work and skills-based activities.

However, this bottomless cultural resource is largely underused by many language teachers. In this article I will describe its place in the classroom by exploring the following areas and discussing some practical ideas

Why use art? Lessons based around works of art have many benefits for both the teacher and the students.

1. Responding to art can be very stimulating and can lead onto a great variety of activities. In its simplest form this might be describing a painting, but with a little creativity all sorts of things are possible. For example, the well-known 'grammar auction' activity can be redesigned as an art auction, where the students have to say a sentence about the piece of art - anything they like - and then the rest of the students bid according to how accurate they feel the sentence is.

2. Using art provides a useful change of pace. While many teachers use visual images to introduce a topic or language item, actually asking the students to engage with and respond to the piece of art can encourage students to become involved on quite a different level.

3. Incorporating art into the class or syllabus can take the students out of the classroom and encourage them to use their language skills in the real world. A visit to an art exhibition or an assignment that involves research on the internet can 4. Thinking about or even creating art can be very motivating. It can take the emphasis off of accuracy and put it onto fluency and the ability to clearly express thoughts and ideas. This is great for students whose progress in speaking is hindered by a fear of making mistakes.

5. Responding to art has the potential to develop students' creative and critical thinking skills. Students as low as pre-intermediate level will be able to read a short biography of an artist and discuss how their art depicts different aspects of their lives. These are just some of the reasons why art can be successfully used in the language classroom. Now let's have a look at some of the common problem areas and try to identify some solutions for these.

Potential problems and solutions Problem: As we all know, art is very subjective and therefore we may be faced with students who are reluctant to engage with the chosen examples of art.

Solution: Encourage students to either choose which works of art are explored, or alternatively ensure that a variety of styles are represented. Choosing art that has some relevance to the students is always a good idea, either from its subject matter or the background of the artist.

Problem: Students (and teachers!) may not perceive some art-related activities to be useful for language learning. Solution: As this is our primary goal, it is therefore very important to structure activities carefully so that there is a clear outcome and learning point. For example, a simple discussion about the meaning behind a piece of modern art can be combined with input on functional language for giving opinions and agreeing and disagreeing. Meanwhile, other activities can be language-led. For example, using a piece of art to generate wh- questions which are then given to another pair of students to answer. Considering structure will also help to control the direction of discussion/lessons based around responding to art. This can otherwise sometimes be difficult.

Three ways of using art

1. Looking at art

There are lots of different activities that involve students looking at and responding to pieces of art. For example:

A ranking discussion where students choose a famous work of art for the school to hang in its lobby or voting for the winner from the Turner Prize shortlist

Ask the students to choose a character from a painting or sculpture and write a minibiography or story about that character

Compare two pieces of art with similar subjects, practicing comparative language and adjectives

Ask the students to look at the website of a famous gallery (see some links below) and write a quiz about the works of art to swap with the other students to answer Write questions to ask an artist or a character in a painting. Then role play the interview in pairs, followed by writing up a news article about the interview (using reported speech).

2. Sharing art

Ask the students to identify and bring in a copy of a piece of art by an artist from their country. Make a gallery in the classroom and ask the students to decide on a title for each piece of work in groups.

Ask the students to bring in a photograph they have taken and ask the other students to write a short story about the events leading up to the moment the photograph was taken (practising past tenses) and/or what happened after the photograph was taken. Then check whether their guess was right with the owner.

Get the students to bring in a piece of art that represents their childhood and ask the other students to form sentences about what they 'used to do' and/or write questions to ask the owner who brought it in.

3. Creating art

Put the students into groups and ask them to create a piece of art using a variety of easily found materials – plastic bags, string, tissues, cardboard boxes – whatever you have to hand! Get them to title their piece of work and judge them according to originality, teamwork and use of materials

Do a visualisation exercise where you get the students to imagine painting the most beautiful picture they have ever seen. Then ask them to describe the picture to a partner who tries to draw it

Get the students to record vocabulary by writing the letters in a way that depicts the meaning of a word – this works best with



adjectives. For example, 'happy' can be written in the form of a smile.

To get feedback on a course, ask the students to draw a picture in groups to represent how they felt about the course and then describe/explain it to you and the other students.

Conclusion

As I hope I have demonstrated in this article, art definitely has a place in the language classroom and can be used in many different ways. It is a great resource for discussions as well as practising a variety of language. Activities incorporating art are motivating for students, provide an often welcome change of pace and can stimulate and develop creative and critical thinking skills.

- Running
- ✤ Skating
- ✤ Jumping
- Playing with the computer
- ✤ Walking fast
- ✤ Dancing
- Playing video games
- ✤ Watching TV
- Working on the computer

Check off the activities you think you make your heart beat faster:

If you checked running, skating, jumping, walking fast and dancing, you are correct!

These activities make your heart beat faster and it is healthy to be fast every day.

Did you know? Your heart beats 30 million times a year!

How often does your heart usually beat in a minute when you are not being active? If you said between 75 and 110 beats a minute – good for you! Bravo!



Let's sing a song together!

Complete the gaps with the correct words below:

bad mistakes, keep on fighting, No time for losers, fame, I consider, the champions, keep on fighting

We Are the Champions



've paid my dues time after timeI've done my sentence but committed no crimeAnd....., I've made a fewI've had my share of sand kicked in my faceBut I've come through

And we mean to go on, and on, and on, and on

We are the champions, my friends And we'lltill the end We are the champions, we are the champions

....., 'cause we are the champions of the world

I've taken my bows and my curtain calls You brought meand fortune And everything that goes with it, I thank you all

And we mean to go on, and on, and on and on

We are....., my friends And we'll keep on fighting till the end We are the champions, we are the champions No time for losers, 'cause we are the champions of the world

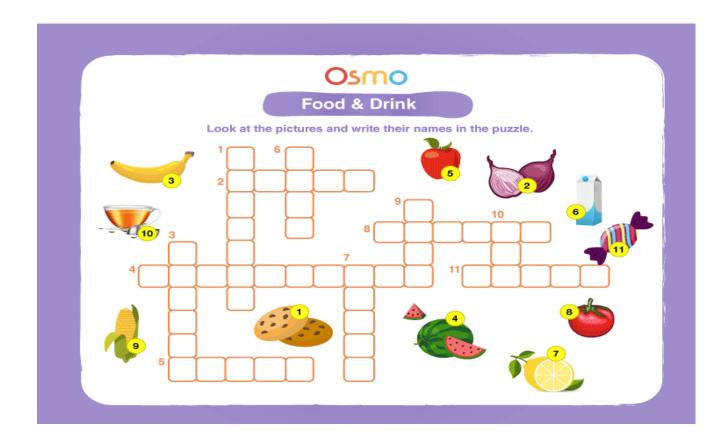
We are the champions, my friends And we'lltill the end, oh We are the champions, we are the champions No time for losers, 'cause we are the champions

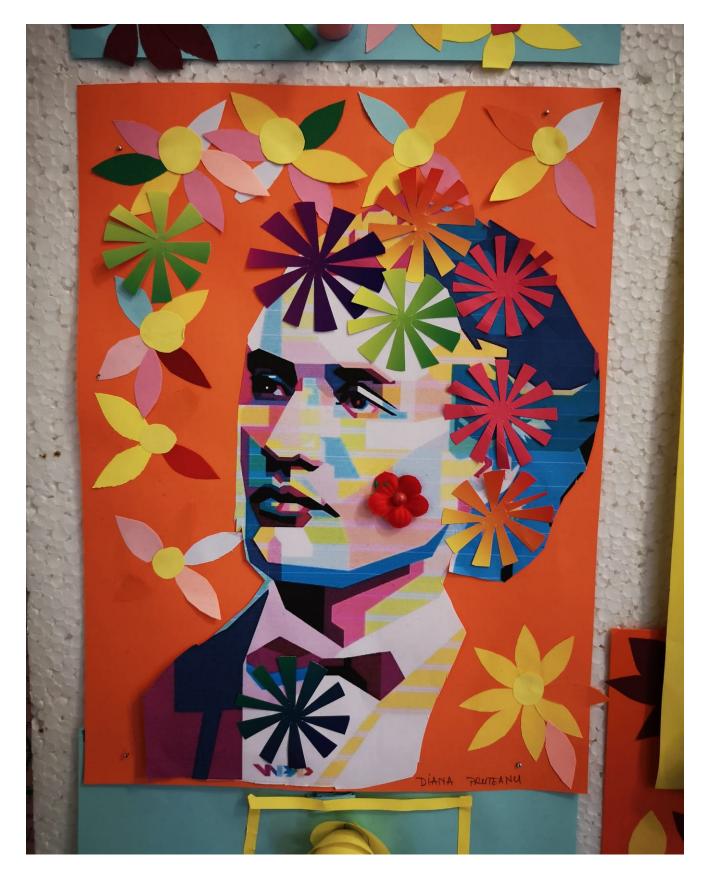




Walk to School

Activity Exercise Neighborhood Routes Sidewalk					Bicycle Health Pedestrian Safe Traffic						Community Highway Physical Safety Walking				
	D	V	Z	С	G	С	s	ШE.	0	н	w	Y	L	Е	Z
	R	1	v	м	H	s	D	L	L	S	L	D	в	L	в
	L	A	C	1	s	Y	н	P	к	C	Q	s	v	w	L
	Y	т	E	F	A	s	x	A	Р	Y	Y	D	A	x	L
	т	R	A	F	\mathbf{F}°	1.1	С	Y	w	T	0	C	E	F	$^{\circ}\mathrm{T}$
	D	Z	s	D	w	т	N	G	н	0	N	н	I	U	E
	Y	Y	L	1	1	к	А	в	н	×	A	0	E	в	Z
	s	U	т	v	w	z	G	R	L	D	I	E	0	м	Y
	v	1	1	- I	N	\mathbf{v}	0	Q	Y	Y	R	\mathbf{x}	G	1	D
	D	т	D	R	N	в	G	A	R	R	т	Е	N	н	x
	Y	w	N	Е	н	U	w	т	0	т	s	R	I	Е	н
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	\mathbf{x}	D	1	A	G	А	т	м	Z	x	D	1	\mathbf{L}	L	R
	x	E	C	1	U	E	L	R	0	F	Е	s	A	т	м
	N	A	H	U	s	D	т	K	0	C	Р	E	w	н	G



















Cenaclu literar/Creatie literara Prof. Simona Marineata

















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Thank you!

