

Short report of the project meeting in Mirna Pec Slovenia October 8-15.

Behind nine mountains and two lakes..." this is how a lot of Slovenian fairytales start. So this is how the "Slovenian experience" in the project Eco-Active starts too.

Behind nine mountains and two lakes our partner school is located in Mirna Pec in Slovenia. We arrived on Sunday October 8th, after having a calm flight to Ljubljana. Most of the students already knew the host families, thanks to Skype, Facebook etc. But nevertheless, it was still exciting to meet each other: no support of the teachers, English language, other bed. But.. no tears at all. Top.

Everyday we had to get up early, 6.30 in the morning. School starts at 8.20. A lot of dads and mums are going to work at 6 o'clock, so some children are going to school very early. Even young kids! The school building is really exciting: brand new, large, beautiful surrounding. Almost 300 students, 4-15 years old, "live" in this wonderful environment.

We had a very warm welcome with a lot of music. Professional! And the excursions through the school made us feel more envious again. And, every day a warm lunch in school for all the students. We at home eat our own bread in school!!

In the afternoon we visited a water treatment plant in Mirna Pec..

On Tuesday the main activity was "international lessons by the teachers of the partner schools" in international students groups. The item of course: "Water". It was a very creative activity. There was research by the pupils, drawing lesson about water and the students had to "build" the sea in a bottle. Of course ICT was used in every lesson and pupils had a quiz by using the mobile phone. After lunch the students of all partner schools presented the games about "Water" which they made in their own schools. A creative and playful activity.

On Wednesday a nature walk was organised. We walked through the beautiful Slovenian nature in the catchment area of the river Temenica, through meadows and woods, sometimes through original Slovenian clay, a trip almost 8 kilometers. During the walk there were measurement assignments: how fast flows the river, what is the water temperature, the acidity of the water etc. We also had a picnic and the weather was really nice.

After the lunch in school project coordinators evaluated the first year of the project and discussed the details of the tasks for the second year.

Thursday morning: how is drinking water coming into our houses and how do we bring polluted water as clean as possible into the nature again? This water cycle was shown to us very clearly by "The Water agent".

After this students of all schools presented the presentations they made in their own schools. Item: different aspects of "Water".

Every presentation in English! Well done boys and girls, and this for an audience of 150 persons.

The afternoon programme was very relaxed. However: first clean the back of a horse and then ride by horse through the beautiful Slovenian nature, the rural site, woods, and... nice weather too. Well organised. And at the end a very tasty and nice picnic. This in the woods, and there were nice places to play games too. We went back in the dark, for sure the students did sleep very well!

Friday: day of excursions.

6.00: wake up.

6.30: by bus to the caves of Postojna. A lot of tourists and Chinese people everywhere

12.00: Bled, tasting a special cake... In summer Bled is overfilled with tourists.

16.00: Ljubljana, capital of Slovenia. Nice guided tour along interesting places and about local hero's

20.30: Back home. And go to sleep after a long day.

On Saturday just the Dutch team was in Mirna Pec. Especially for these students some games in the morning. Thanks a lot for organising.

And on Sunday? A very very warm "good bye"!!!!

Quotes by the Dutch students?

Luuk J: "What a beautiful mountains in Slovenia !"

Noa: "Nice caves and a lot of ECO."

Max: "What a school building and nice people everywhere."

Luc B: "in houses and in school you had to wear babouches."

Ika: "I did not know that some children are going to school already at six in the morning. And they eat a lot and a lot of times. But now I know how people live here.

Guus: "Warm lunch in school. Hmmm! And water taps in school everywhere. And space! And woods!"

Conclusion of the whole team: A GREAT week in a very hospitable, clean country! THANKS A LOT!?"

More information about project, aspects, results:

<https://twinspace.etwinning.net/24120/home>