Outdoor game “On the way to school”

**Goal** – to make students aware of problems which children and youth of the Global South have to overcome to get to their longed school (poverty, lack of water, hunger, illnesses, work, distance, weather anomalies, military conflicts).

*The course of action – students go from the village in Gorkha region (start) to school in Arupokhari (finish), and they must overcome many obstacles (5 stations).*

*Duration time – 45 minutes (5 minutes per station)*

*Materials needed:*

*for each group:*

*a thin notebook (of few sheets of paper), newspaper, chair, 2 bottles of water (5l each, one empty, one full), a narrow board, one bandage.*

**START:**

*Introduction to the outdoor game*

Over 57 million of children in the world do not go to school. The most important barrier in the access to education is poverty. Prices of books and notebooks are much higher than those in the European Countries. Each group will get such a “precious notebook”.

Make a newspaper sleeve for it like Nepalese children do. In this notebook, on appointed pages (they have to be prepared – number of stations and tasks written on them), you will write down your answers, as well as your conclusions and impressions after each station. You will hand in your notebook after getting to our school in Arupokhari.

*Making the newspaper sleeve for the notebook- 2 mins*

The next problem is a chair which, every day, children have to carry not to sit on the bare floor. Each group will get one chair which must be carried and brought to school in Arupokhari.

*Distributing chairs- 1 min*

One person from each group is asked to draw lots with a number of the station from which the given group will set out to school, and afterwards they will move towards the next station according to numbers. Each group should complete all tasks at 5 stations to finally get to school in Arupokhari.

**STATION 1 (DISTANCE)**

*Short info*

Every day, Zambian children walk to school the distance of 10 km, they have to march a lot of hours in the burning sun. However, they are delighted that it is them who can go to school. Their siblings are not as lucky as them.

*Task*

Children from Zambia have to walk **12 kilometres** to get to school. Walking with the speed of **1,5 m/s**, they pass the distance in **8400 seconds**. Today they had to overcome some extra obstacles. The stream that they used to cross in **5 minutes** became a huge fast-flowing river. It took them **15 minutes** to cross it. There was also an army stationing on the way. Bypassing it took them **another 41 minutes**. And there were 3 landmines in front of the school. Bypassing one lasted **120 seconds**. How much time did their way to school take them today? How many minutes longer did they walk to school? **Write calculations in your notebook!**

*\*calculations – 8400s + 15 min – 5 min + 41 min + 3x120s = 3 h 17 min*

*3h 17 min – 2h 20 min = 57 min*

*The students carrying out the game (Leaders) check the task completion, and if it was done correctly, they put a stamp, if not, the group must correct mistakes. At the end they remind them:*

Before you set off to the next station, write down one sentence of afterthought about what you have found out here.

**STATION 2 (ACCESS TO WATER)**

*Short info*

Children in South Sudan, instead of going to school, have to carry water from a remote well situated a few kilometers away. Daily, they walk through this way few times and carry very heavy canisters with water.

*Task*

Remembering how precious water in Africa is, pour 5 litres of water from one bottle to the second one without missing even one drop.  
  
*Leaders check how the task was done, and if it was done correctly, they put a stamp, if not, the group has to correct mistakes. At the end they remind:*

Before you set off to the next station, write down one sentence of afterthought connected with what you have found out.  
  
**STATION 3 (WAR)**

*Short info*

Natural disasters are a serious barrier on the way to school but war and riots are even a worse one. Millions of children in countries at war don't attend school. In Afghanistan, children go to school trough mine fields.

*Task*

1. Enumerate 3 countries which are at war now and where because of it, children can’t go to school.

(Possible answers: Syria, Iraq, Turkey, Yemen, South Sudan, Ukraine)

2. Make and put on a proper dressing on the leg which is possibly broken and bleeding.

*Game leaders check how the task was done and if it was done correctly, they put a stamp,*

*if not, the group has to correct mistakes. At the end they remind:*

Before you set off to the next station, write down one sentence of afterthought connected with what you have found out.  
  
  
**STATION 4 (POVERTY)**

*Short info*

The biggest problem in countries of the Global South is the lack of healthy and valuable food. Malnourished children in countries of the Global South get sick more easily, they are apathetic and because of hunger, they can't focus on learning. Often, instead of learning, they have to work to survive.

*Task*

Get familiarized with the lyrics of Michael Jackson’s song "We are the world" and Band Aid's song "Do they know it's Christmas". What message do these songs convey? Enumerate concrete ways of helping starving children in the Global South.

\*Extra task: If it’s possible, sing one of these songs (in English or in your mother language)

*Leaders check how the task was done and if it was done correctly, they put a stamp. (Every interpretation and every suggested solution is correct.) At the end they remind:*

Before you move on to the next station, write down one sentence of afterthought about what you have found out here.

**STATION 5 (LACK OF TEACHERS)**

*Short info*

Quite a frequent reason why lessons do not take place is the lack of qualified teachers, especially in hardly available, mountainous areas.

*Task*

The cards with 10 words written on them in 6 languages (altogether 60 cards with words) are put on the table. Your task is to draw as many lots (cards with words) as possible within 3 minutes and give the meanings of these words. The number of correct answers equals the number of points you get.

*\*Extra task*

Try to sort the drawn lots (cards) with words into 6 groups according to languages and the meanings of the words.

*\*Below, the list of the words in English and in the languages of participating schools:*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***English*** | ***German*** | ***Polish*** | ***Italian*** | ***Swedish*** | ***Hungarian*** |
| *water* | *Wasser* | *woda* | *acqua* | *vatten* | *víz* |
| *poverty* | *Armut* | *bieda* | *poverta* | *fattigdom* | *szegénység* |
| *fear* | *Angst* | *strach* | *paura* | *rädsla* | *félelem* |
| *war* | *Krieg* | *wojna* | *querra* | *krig* | *háború* |
| *teacher* | *Lehrer* | *nauczyciel* | *insegnante* | *lärare* | *tanár* |
| *school* | *Schule* | *szkoła* | *scuola* | *skola* | *iskola* |
| *home* | *Haus* | *dom* | *casa* | *hem* | *otthon* |
| *peace* | *Frieden* | *pokój* | *pace* | *fred* | *szoba* |
| *work* | *Arbeit* | *praca* | *lavoro* | *arbete* | *munka* |
| *road* | *Weg* | *droga* | *strada* | *väg* | *közúti* |

*Leaders check how the task was done, and if it was done correctly, they put a stamp. At the end they remind:*

Before you set off to the last station, write down one sentence of your afterthought about what you have found out here.

**FINISH:**

Welcome to school in Arupokhari! But before you start lessons, you have to complete two tasks:

1. Find on the map and say where Arupokhari village (the place which, all the time, you have been walking to) is. Children from neighbouring villages live there with local families, like in a boarding-school because their family houses are 3 days away from here.
2. Write down on the marked page all the obstacles that you have overcome “on the way to school”.

Leaders look through the notebook: completed tasks, notes/afterthoughts about every station and stamps earned at each station. Taking/Accepting the notebook means that you reached the destination.