RECYCLE AND REUSE

NON FORMAL WORKSHOPS BOOKLET

ARGONAUTA
This e-booklet contains 6 creative workshops organized inside the project Sea is Life 7 of Argonauta Association, in Murter, Croatia.

On Wednesdays of summer 2018, the theme of the workshops has been Recycle & Reuse, in order to increase the awareness of children about this topic and to show them how to have fun respecting our planet.

Every workshop has been thought to improve the creative side of the children, as well as their knowledge about sorting waste and recycling.

The workshops last for more or less one hour each and they’ve been thought for children from 5 to 8 years old. They had been implemented in the villages of Murter, Tisno, and Jezera.
THE AIM OF THE WORKSHOPS

The common key in every workshop is the need to transform the recycling in a habit, in the everyday life. To easily speak children language, the workshops give a new meaning and use to a waste, waking up the creativity and the imagination of the kids. Every workshop can be open with some energizers which are connected to the sorting of rubbish (for some ideas you can check the booklet “Action Re-loaded” by Argonauta Association).

1. **Football in a Box**

The workshop has the main goal to reuse old big paper boxes since everyone buys a new TV or a washing machine with no idea of what to do with such a big package. It has been asked to the children to work alone, improving their own creativity, and to experience the teamwork too, in order to build a team chemistry, which will be necessary for the second part of the workshop. Football in a box is a creative way to reuse a big box and to discover that every waste can have a second life.
**Materials Needed**

- big boxes (opened on the top, with two doors on the two short sides and 4-6 holes on each long side);
- 4-6 long sticks (made rolling used cardboard, for instance)
- clothespins;
- players (drawn or printed, in black and white);
- green tempera;
- brushes
- colored pencils;
- glue;
- small balls.

**Description**

Depending on the number of children, they need to be divided into teams, one for each box (max 8 children can work on the same box). First, they need to paint the football field (the base of the box) with green tempera. While the field is drying, they can color the players and supporters. You can choose the theme, drawing (or printing) animals from the sea, or from the forest, and so on. Once the players and the supporters are ready, let the kids paste them on the clothespins and on the sides of the box. Put the sticks inside the holes, place the clothespins and start playing with a new and eco-friendly table football.
“Rolling to the rail” is the first of two workshops which saw the toilet paper roll as the main material. The workshop uses a waste, which is common in every house, to build a new game 100% respectful of the planet. The children can have fun increasing their creativity and they will not need a new train toy and a railway neither.
**MATERIALS NEEDED**

- toilet paper rolls (with two big holes to connect them with the twine);
- cardboard (draw the railway like a puzzle);
- wheels (made with cardboard);
- twine or woolen yarns;
- tempera (all colors);
- brushes;
- cotton;
- glue.

**DESCRIPTION**

The first task for the children is to build the railway solving the puzzle with the different parts of the cardboard. Then, it’s time to paint! Give them different colors and stimulate their creativity by drawing flowers and trees, to make the landscape around the railway more interesting. While the train track is drying, make the trains. First, connect the two toilet paper rolls using the twine (remember to do big holes to make the operation easier for kids). Let them paste the wheels and the third roll to make a funnel. Give them tempera to paint the small train. Finally, put a bit of cotton on the funnel to make the smoke.

The train is ready! Easy, right?
Plastic bottles and caps can be sorted in different ways. With this workshop, the children can learn how to separate them, starting to be collectors of plastic caps of different colors. Moreover, the kids can learn something about octopuses, where they live, how many legs they have, increasing their love for sea creatures. And they will see how plastic caps can become an interesting musical instrument.
**Materials Needed**

- plastic caps (make a hole on each);
- plastic cups;
- twine or woolen yarns;
- paper (draw on them the eyes);
- glue and tape;
- tempera (all colors);
- brushes.

**Description**

Since the “Dancing octopus” lasts less than 1 hour, it can be associated with the game “Fishing” which is a good energizer to explain to the children the plastic pollution in the ocean. To make the octopus the children first need to prepare the head, painting the plastic cup. After it is dried, they will paste the eyes of the octopus. To make the 8 legs, prepare 8 pieces of twine for each child. They need to make a knot with the string and then put it inside a cap, in order to keep the caps on the same leg a bit distant from each other. Once all the legs are ready, paste them to the head, inside the open part of the cup, using the tape. Children will have a new friend from the marine world and a new musical instrument made of reused plastic.
4. Shark’s Lunch

One new workshop using toilet paper rolls and exploring the beautiful world of the marine species. “Shark’s lunch” is a creative way to reuse the rolls from toilet paper to make small fish and old cardboard to make hungry sharks. During this activity, the children will have fun using pieces of old magazines to make the fishtail, reusing a material which is always collected in our houses.
**MATERIALS NEEDED**

- toilet paper rolls (cut it as a fish);
- cardboard (cut it as a shark with open mouth);
- pieces of paper (triangles);
- stripes of old magazines (wide 1 cm);
- glue;
- colored markers;
- brushes.

**DESCRIPTION**

The workshop starts preparing the shark for his lunch. The children need to use the small triangles to make the teeth, pasting them all around the big mouth. Then, they can take one toilet paper roll for each and draw their own fish. Give them colored markers to help their creativity. If you prepare the paper stripes using different kinds of magazines, the children will be able to realize wonderful tails for their fish, pasting the paper in the final part of the roll. Finally, it’s time to play. Depending from the number of children, divide them in lines, each in front of a shark. They can use their fish to play to feed the shark throwing the fish inside the mouth.
All of us like eggs but we never know what to do with the egg carton boxes. This workshop shows an easy way to reuse them and it increases children awareness of another beautiful marine species, the turtles. Using their creativity and through the game, the children will create their own small turtle learning something about the problems that the small turtles need to face when they try to reach the water of the sea.
**MATERIALS NEEDED**

- egg carton boxes (cut them in single dimpled form, one for each child);
- paper with the shape of a turtle (one for each child);
- cardboard (cut it as waves);
- pieces of old magazines;
- drawn fish (black and white);
- glue;
- colored markers;
- tempera (blue);
- brushes.

**DESCRIPTION**

The children, divided into groups, paint the waves using the blue tempera. While the sea is drying, give them the fish to color and then to paste on the waves. For the turtles, give 1 paper with the shape of a turtle and 1 piece from the egg carton box to each of them. First, they need to color the body of the turtle, then paste it with the small house. Encourage them to use the technique of collage for the turtle’s carapace, using the glue and the pieces of old magazines. It’s time to play! Using the tape prepare the squares for hopscotch, putting also pieces of plastic close to some squares. Tell the kids the story of the small turtles which, just born, need to cross the beach to reach the sea. Divided into teams, they need to bring their turtles to the waves jumping in the squares, collecting a piece of plastic from the “beach”, and go back to their teams in less time as possible.
This workshop uses a material which everyone should reduce as much as possible: the plastic bottle. When deleting the use of it is not possible, this is a way to reuse it having fun and learning something about the bees, which are so important for our planet. With a game, the children will act as bees and they will reach the flowers helping our nature to regenerate.
**MATERIALS NEEDED**

- plastic bottles (put a black paper around it, where the label usually is);
- cardboard (cut it with the shape of the hive, on for each child);
- wings drawn on white reused paper;
- drawn small bees (black and white);
- trash (or other objects) to be the “pesticides”;
- old newspapers;
- glue;
- colored markers;
- tempera (yellow);
- brushes.

**DESCRIPTION**

We start preparing the scenography of our game so let the children paint the hexagons of the hive, while you tell them something about the house of the bees. Then, they can colour the small bees and paste them on their hive to they can recognise which one is their own. To make the bee from the plastic bottle, give them again the yellow tempera to draw the stripes on the black label. They can draw and colour the wings and then glue them on the back of the bee. To make the antenna roll some old newspaper and tie it around the neck of the bottle. Now you’re ready to play! Divide the children in two teams, each of them with their bee. With some trash, make two lines which go from each team to a flower where you stand with candies. When you call two names, one from each team, the two kids called need to take their bee and run into you avoiding the “pesticides”. The first kid who reaches the candy can bring it to his/her team, like bees with pollen.
Argonauta is a non-governmental, non-partisan and non-profit organization born in 2005. Today, Argonauta is present at the local and regional level with the mission of contributing to the sustainable development of the community through the preservation and valorization of heritage, the promotion of civic activism (especially youth) and cross-sectoral cooperation and the development of social entrepreneurship.

To know more about Argonauta’s activities, check our web page, the Facebook page and Instagram profile.
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