

PIA//FRESH PEACES: CREATING PERSPEKTIVES



CONCEPT



FRESH PEACES – Creating perspectives!

STATEMENT OF NEED

The theme “youth violence” is on everyone’s lips, and the need for innovative educational strategies to prevent violence is great. Every day, children and young people experience violence in the media as well as in their own lives. Therefore creative concepts and experiential knowledge are needed to juxtapose these pictures and experiences with positive images: Fresh Peaces make non-violent potentials for children and young people visible and discover places where they themselves can create and mold their own peace.

Discover personal peace and peace in public spaces and constructively deal with the theme of violence in humorous and fresh new ways!

AIMS

- To prevent violence through creative and positive means (advancing peace-competences, fostering civil courage),
- To discover and organize instantaneous places of peace in normal living spaces.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

- Extracurricular youth work, children and youth groups, after school centers, etc.
- Publicly in neighborhoods, media, among families, etc.

PROJECT FOCUS:

1. Advancing the competence for peace

All participants (children and young people, as well as colleagues in the supervising organization) will gain the knowledge, proficiency and capacity to incorporate the theme of non-violence and peace into their lives. Children and young people will enjoy standing up for themselves with peaceful means and discover their own courage to found peace.

2. Making peace an experience

Children experience much violence in their everyday lives: in the family, at school, among their peers, in the media and in their own living spaces. Within the scope of this project, children and young people can develop and experience a feeling of peace, peaceful places and peaceful people. After all, children and young people are the “bearers of peace” and our future – this should be made visible to them and to the general public.

3. Documenting and visualizing peace in public spaces

A culture of peace in community spaces should be made visible and be documented (e.g. in the form of a Fresh Peaces Photo Safari and/or of a map of peace, on which children and young people can mark the places where they have experienced peace). In this way, the perspectives of children and young people can be visualized and contrasted with the one-sided picture of the world created by the media.

4. Leaving peace behind

The project leaves behind a trail of peace – signs in individual communities and for the village/city (e.g. trails of peace, mural paintings). The perspectives and wishes of the children and young people involved are taken seriously and are communicated openly to the public and to public officials.

DOCUMENTATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS

- Homepage, www.peaceinaction.net and related local partners
- exhibition
- photo series, etc.

INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

The General Assembly of the United Nations (UNO) has declared the years 2001 to 2010 as the “International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence for the Children of the World.” Our project series “Fresh Peaces” is linked to this global action program. (www3.unesco.org, www.culture-of-peace.info)

THE TEAM

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Lena Freimüller (1975), MA. MA., is a clinical psychologist, peace pedagogue and trainer who develops innovative and creative educational concepts based on political and social challenges. She is the initiator and a co-worker of Peace in Action, PIA! Contact: lena.freimueller@peaceinaction.net

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Fresh Peaces comes to You – Invite us!

Invite the Fresh Peaces Team and create a non-violent perspective of their living space for children and young people!

We will happily accommodate your wishes and adjust our project concept to fit.



BE AN ACTIVE PART OF FRESH PEACES!

Materials for the Fresh Peaces Photo Safari (instructions and playing cards) are now available for download. Let us know how your own Fresh Peaces project turns out! Please send us photos or reflections on your experiences with the PIA! materials. We would love to show them on our site, and we welcome suggestions.

PILOT PROJECT FRESH PEACES PHOTO SAFARI

The first workshop of the “Fresh Peaces” series took place on May 17, 2008 at “Café Bikolo” in the Bickendorf district of Cologne and was initiated by the Children and Youth Forum of Ehrenfeld in Cologne.

