



Erasmus+

Art & Crafts Woodpeckers

20.-27. June 2019.

Pirovac, CRO

Erasmus+



The project "Art & Crafts Woodpeckers" is co-financed by European Union funds through the Erasmus + KA1 program: Mobility for the purpose of learning for individuals with a total value of 18.105,00 EUR. and is implemented in 6 months, 1.05.2019. until 31.10.2019.

The project holder is the PRONI Center for Social Education in partnership with YOUTH ALMA – Romania, Asociación para la Participación Oportunidad y Desarrollo – Spain, All-Ukrainian Association for Youth – Ukraine and Zdravo da ste - Hi Neighbour – Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Project description:

With this project, we want to consider the various possibilities of art and craftwork that can support sustainable youth programs in our organizations, especially the future of youth work programs, especially youth in risk, the development of practical skills of our young people and or the analysis of the possibilities for sustainable financial development structures or resources of personal and professional character. Likewise, the project's activities aim to raise young people's awareness of employment opportunities or self-employment through the implementation of activities aimed at discovering and understanding the methods of artistic creation by applying them to acquire special competencies needed to realize personal and professional endeavors.

Therefore, the aim of the "Art & Craft Woodpeckers" project is to improve the level of special skills and competences of young people, especially concerning their importance for the labor market, applying the methods of informal learning and practical work with which we want to encourage creativity and excellence.

As specific goals we emphasize:

- to encourage economically and socially sensitive youth groups to actively participate in solving their existential problems,
- to develop creative ideas for entrepreneurship as a way to overcome unemployment,
- to use of informal educational methods to help young people develop their own potential,
- to promote "sustainable art" by using recycled materials to increase awareness of ecology,
- to promote intercultural cooperation and exchange of customs, practices and knowledge.

Through the project, we implemented an Advance Plan Visit (APV) from May 30. to 31. 2019. as preplanned working meeting with a goal of detailed planning of youth exchange activity, exploring the venue and the place of activities implementation and defining each partner duties.

As the main activity of the project, we highlight the activity of youth exchange, which was implemented from June 20. to 27. 2019. (19. and 28. as travel days), bringing together 5 partner organizations with experience exchange, knowledge and the exchange of different artistic and crafting trades.

Participants did through icebreakers, simulation games, thematic evenings and presentations of their countries, customs, traditions get to know each other and began to recognize the similarities and differences between them that led to personal openness and group communication and collaboration. Through the working groups, discussions/debates they have learned more about partner organizations/countries, their cultures, language, experience etc., which was also the foundation for ultimate co-operation and joint action.

Name games



Constructing different objects using decomposed and thrown away wood, ropes, spades, wire and the like we found in the nature/environment of the place of implementation of project activities, we contributed to environmental protection and awakened participants about the possibility of recycling or reuse of different elements so as not to depend solely on buying similar supplies.



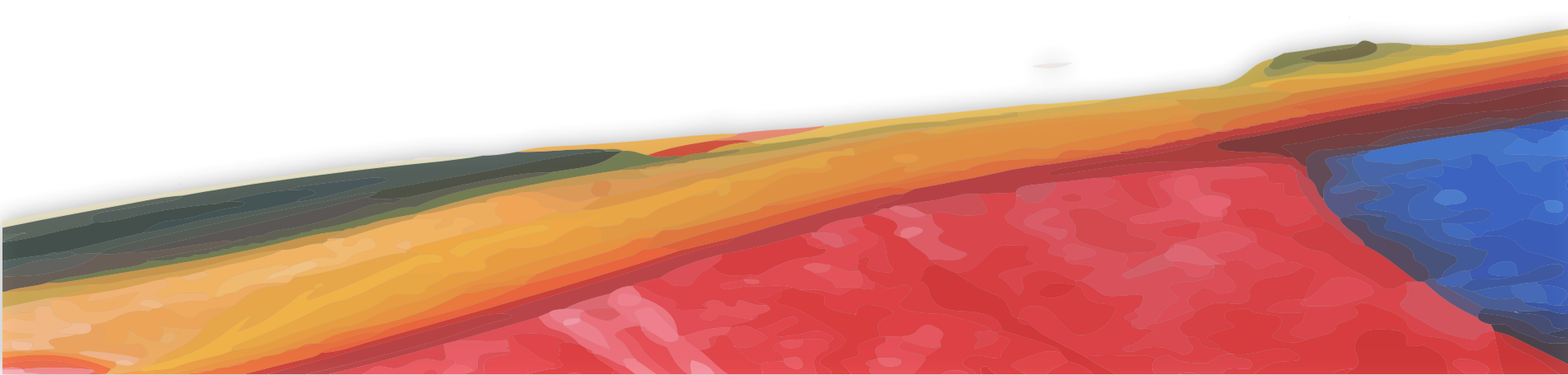
Working on group projects

By developing these elements, we have encouraged the creativity of young people and with the constant support of group leaders and facilitators of activities, presented opportunities and opportunities for advancement, self-employment, labor market competitiveness, financial independence and similar benefits that lead to mapping needs and detecting their own competencies required for professional / business activity.

Museum of Betina Wooden Naval Architecture



With a study visit to the nearby island of Murter, apart from recognizing the cultural and natural features of our country, we exchanged participants with the valuable cultural heritage of the region, specific to the construction of old wooden boats. We visited the Museum of Betina Wooden Naval Architecture, which is very important for the development of creativity, market independence and self-sustainability. In fact, with this visit, we met the participants, not only showing a part of the rich history of the region we were staying in but also encouraging participants' thoughts about nature creation processes through resources which are offered to us through the use of skills gained by exchanging experience and knowledge.





Mapping the community

After introductory presentations and lectures, the participants started exploring the community in search of the discarded natural elements that will later be used for the creation of practical things/subjects with the leadership of the group leader and moderator of the meeting, in which participants were given the opportunity to present and understand the essence of recycling and craft opportunities.



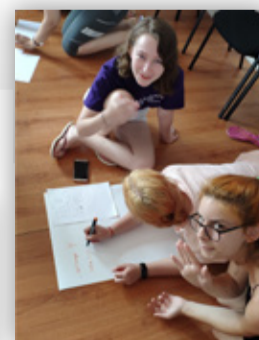
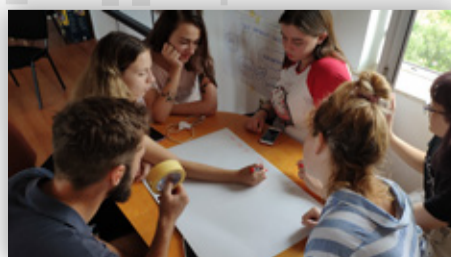
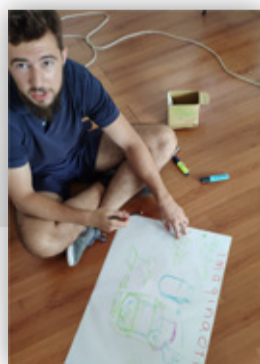
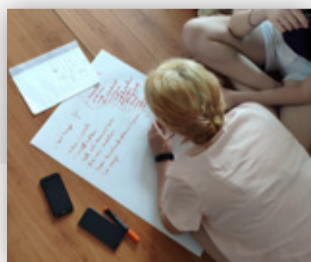
Sorting gathered materials

By mapping the community and meeting with the local population of the Municipality of Pirovac, there was also the group's visibility and of the project itself, while the gathering of the material for the work has also had a direct impact on the awareness of residents and their guests about the ecological and preservation possibilities.



Sketches and plans for projects

Gathering different elements from nature, marked the start of sketching, sorting and eventually creating interesting objects that the participants themselves designed and then independently created.



With the interesting topic, project activities have influenced the improvement and achievement of different competences of young people, mostly in the social aspect, because the methods of work themselves opened up opportunities for exchange of experiences and learning at several levels.



Gaming time

The competences that participants have gained are of great importance for their personal and professional development and if we emphasize each one we should keep in mind their understanding of what they ultimately expressed by emphasizing the acquired competencies. Communication skills, focusing on expression through "art" within the framework of practical work, were highlighted within the co-operation and mutual communication between the participants, which was also crucial for achieving the ultimate goals. We also emphasize communication in the mother tongue and foreign language as the ability to listen and understand, and the ability to express thoughts and ideas, the ability to analyze, summarize and act upon finding appropriate solutions to the identified difficulties or problems in the work. Also, we can not skip the skills of body language and attitudes expressed through self-confidence, public speaking and self-control and ability to deal with certain situations, even improvisation is crucial to the realization of all segments of activity implementation.



Youthpass time

During almost all actions within the exchange, participants were encouraged and supported in creation, through the emphasized priorities, describing the topic of set tasks and expressing it acquired competencies through self-assessment. By following the schedule of activities in time schedule, it is evident that the learning outcomes were varied. Participants learned how to choose resources from nature to work, how to dispose of waste or natural materials, and make some new usage routines, the importance of recycling for sustainable development, the increased awareness and interest in the importance of exploiting and redefining resources, new entrepreneurial ideas, acquired practical skills making use of useful items, using various tools, preparing an exhibition of their works, communicating with the public, and attracting interest, generally organizing an event, digital skills, especially video and photography.

"We all just had a lot of ideas. And now, that we see all our projects done it is an amazing feeling. You can just say: This is amazing!"

"Nothing was individual. We were all one big team."

Ana-Maria - RO

Woodpeckers projects



Project logo

Materials used:

- slice of discarded wood
- water paint
- lacquer finish
- small nails

Tools used:

- sandpaper for smoothing surface
- paintbrush 10 mm & 30 mm
- small pencil for Ruf sketch

Tips:

First, sand the surface then clean it with water. When it dries, roughly sketch the painting then color it with water-based paint.



Painting with decoration

Materials used:

- cardboard
- paint
- tree branches
- rope
- seashells
- stones

Tools used:

- paintbrush 10 mm
- small pencil for Ruf sketch
- small scissors for cutting rope
- pliers for cutting branches
- hotglue gun

Tips:

You can use any picture you like, just make sure that you have a strong surface for gluing accessories.



Plant holder

Materials used:

- old wood
- paint
- sea plants

Tools used:

- paintbrush 10 mm & 30 mm
- small pencil for Ruf sketch
- hand drill for making holes
- chisels for wood

Tips:

Be careful when drilling holes, take it to professionals to do it for you, or use hand chisels to do it slowly.



Materials used:

- old cloth
- rope
- sand
- cardboard

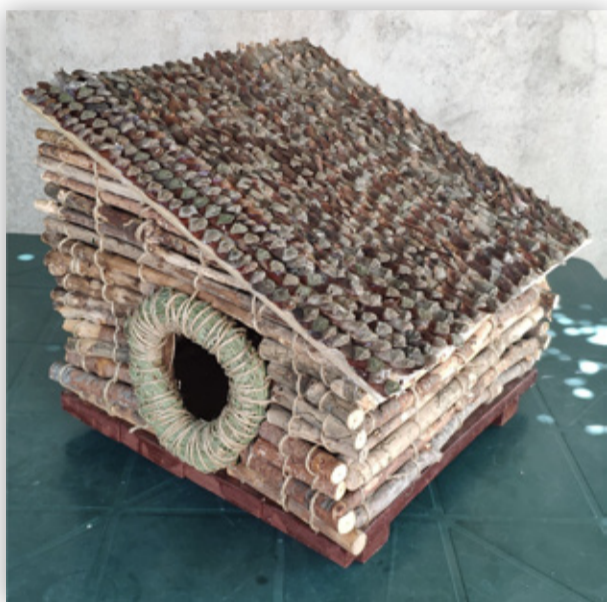
Tools used:

- small scissors for cutting cloth
- small pins
- hot glue gun
- sawing kit

Tips:

You can add as much sand in it as you like, it depends on how heavy the door is.

Door holder



Materials used:

- tree branches
- hot glue
- rope
- nails

Tools used:

- small scissors for cutting rope
- small pins for holding roof tiles
- hot glue gun
- hand drill and bits
- hammer

Tips:

Ask a friend to help you when knitting those branches. If you are using hot glue, don't leave the house on the sun, it will melt easily.

Bird house



Materials used:

- tree branches
- hot glue
- rope
- small candles

Tools used:

- paintbrush 10 mm & 30 mm
- hand drill for making holes
- chisels for wood

Tips:

Be careful when drilling a holes, take it to professionals to do it for you, or use hand chisels to do is slowly. If it's possible, us a candle with metal cups, it can get hot.

Candle holder

"I like the space we had for creativity. Because, I feel like a lot of people don't get to express themselves in the way they want to and as much as they want to."

Maja - CRO



Project badges

Materials used:

- wood slices

Tools used:

- sandpaper for smoothing surface
- pyrography tool
- small pencil for Ruf sketch
- hand drill

Tips:

You can use any wood you like, just make sure it is light.



Painting holder

Materials used:

- old wood sticks
- paint
- nails

Tools used:

- sandpaper for smoothing surface
- hand drill
- saw
- hammer

Tips:

This one was made for small painting. If you are making a bigger one, make sure you are using bigger or thicker branches.



Cloth hanger

Materials used:

- old wood boards
- pine cones
- paint
- rope

Tools used:

- sandpaper for smoothing surface
- hand drill
- saw
- hot glue gun
- hammer

Tips:

If you are planning to use this holder/s for clothes, don't glue hooks, drill them and screw them on boards, it will hold much more weight.



Table lamp

Materials used:

- cardboard
- paint
- tree branches
- roap
- pine coans
- coper wire
- bulb

Tools used:

- paintbrush 10 mm
- hand drill
- saw
- pliers for cutting branches
- hotglue gun

Tips:

Because there are electrical parts used, let the professional electrician do the wiring and connections.



Wall decor

Materials used:

- old wood sticks
- paint
- tree branches
- screws

Tools used:

- paintbrush 30 mm
- hand drill
- saw
- pliers for cutting branches
- hotglue gun
- screwdriver

Tips:

If you are planning to decorate your outside house wall, use paint that can be used in wet conditions. Add as much branches as you wish but then make a bigger frame.

"This group was so cool. I feel so safe here, so happy."

Mariia - UKR



Decoration

Materials used:

- wires
- hot glue
- rope

Tools used:

- hot glue gun
- sewing needle
- pliers for wire

Tips:

You can use wire to make any shape you like, even, you can make a lamp shade from simple wire and rope.



Various hanger

Materials used:

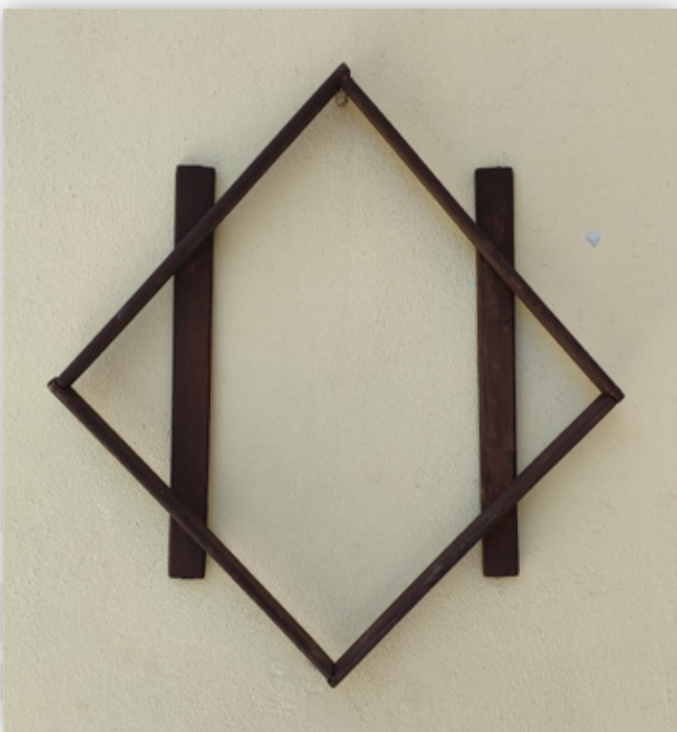
- tree branches
- hot glue
- wood slices

Tools used:

- hot glue gun
- saw
- pliers for cutting branches
- hand drill

Tips:

This one was made for holding shades, different hair strings, hair bends, etc. You can make it bigger and use it for holding your coffee mugs.



Wall decoration

Materials used:

- wood sticks
- nails
- paint

Tools used:

- hot glue gun
- saw
- hand drill
- hand screwdriver
- paint brush

Tips:

This one we made from an old chair, what a perfect way to reuse old stuff.



Cloth hanger

Materials used:

- old wood boards
- pine cones
- paint
- rope

Tools used:

- sandpaper for smoothing surface
- hand drill
- saw
- hot glue gun
- hammer

Tips:

If you are planning to use this holder/s for clothes, don't glue hooks, drill them and screw them on boards, it will hold much more weight.



Painting

Materials used:

- cardboard
- paint

Tools used:

- paint brush 10 mm

Tips:

This one was made by our participant who has a great skill in painting. He says with a few tips and tricks, a lot of creativity, everyone can do it.



Wall shelf

Materials used:

- wood sticks
- nails
- paint
- screws

Tools used:

- paint brush 30 mm
- saw
- screwdriver
- hammer

Tips:

When crafting a shelf, be sure what the usage will be. It has to be strong enough to hold your stuff.

"It was a great experience, I learned a lot, I've met new people and their culture. This project gave me a new chapter in my life. So grateful to be part of something like this."

"Everything needed to happen. Even if there were bad things we managed to make them happier."

Ana-Maria - RO



Desk decoration

Materials used:

- jar
- rocks
- rope
- hot glue

Tools used:

- hot glue gun
- scissors

Tips:

A perfect way to reuse your empty jar. With a few rocks, you can manage this like table decoration. Also, if you have some LED lights laying around, stick them inside, it can be a beautiful lamp.



Phone powered lamp

Materials used:

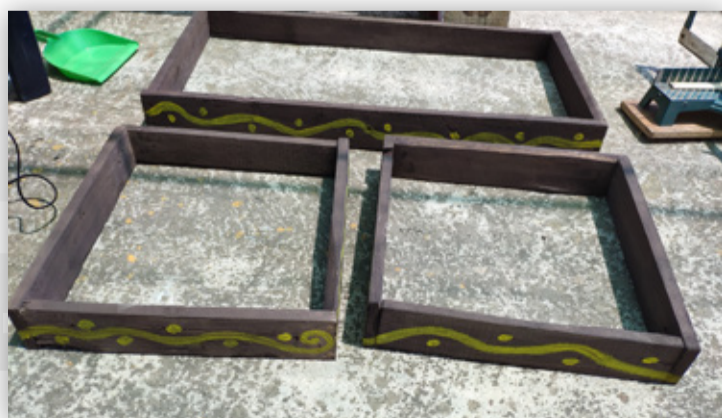
- slice of wood
- jar
- rope

Tools used:

- hot glue gun
- scissors
- hand drill

Tips:

Using your imagination, you can craft anything, like this lamp, made for your smartphone. It lights up when you put smartphone in it.



Flower beds

Materials used:

- wood boards
- water paint
- brush
- screws

Tools used:

- hammer
- screwdriver
- hand drill
- saw
- paintbrush

Tips:

Great way to organize your planting actions. Plant beds are not just for decoration, if done right, you are free of bugs and ground weeds.

"Thanks to this youth project, I'm not only discovering new things for myself but also got acquainted with wonderful guys with whom it was nice to do things that inspired me."

Karina - UKR

The strength of teamwork is certainly a valuable lesson we have emphasized during teamwork and through constant reflection, they have developed a sense of initiative, planning, management and leadership skills that were also expressed and used in the context of taking responsibility for deciding how to implement certain actions.

Intercultural dialogue and awareness of the differences, competencies we emphasize as very important and indisputably crucial for the implementation of such events because of their intercultural nature, the project gives importance to a willingness to cooperate and work of apparently different countries.



Intercultural evening - Ukraine

It is indispensable for us to mention, given the project theme and the actions that have been carried out, acquiring practical skills, handling with a certain tool, creating different objects and elements from natural and recycled materials. The same was, of course, influencing the achievement of the competencies that contributed to reflection on self-employment, crafts/entrepreneurship, self-organization, self-discipline and similar competencies needed to improve their own attitudes and life and which will provide the opportunity for the development of the parent organizations from which the participants come.

Through project activities, we have built interest and motivated participants to participate in programs where young people can learn and work directly with hands, gain experience through work and set goals that help develop the feelings of belonging and values needed to think and implement their own initiatives in the business environment.

By our experience, most participants who participated in youth exchanges have thus acquired mobility experience and will be involved in other projects of similar character, while some of them interested in implementing the acquired knowledge that will develop at a later stage and ultimately apply.



Woodpeckers 2019

Participants profile:

In total, there were 27 participants involved, 5 from each partner organization/country (4 young people, age 18+ and 1 youth leader, who is employee, member, or volunteer of the organization, also age 18+, with capacity and experience in supporting the group) and one process facilitator on behalf of hosting organization as well as 1 support staff, in charge for technical and organizing issues.

Participants summary:

- Be above 18 years old, an equal number of female and male
- Willing to learn and work practically
- Art and craft-oriented
- Willing to explore different materials, tools and art forms and they're creative potential
- Be open to exploring more possibilities for fund-raising development, employment.

Youth exchange results:

- Gained and improved practical art&craft knowledge and skills through theoretical and practical work,
- Increased self-confidence in artistic meaning and creation of different objects through individual and group work,
- Gained knowledge and ideas for art and craft production,
- Discussed possibilities to develop sustainable art&craft activities and programs for an individual participant or their organizations,
- Learned about the local community and nature as a constant resource of art&craft materials,
- Increased the financial possibilities of youth organizations through possible entrepreneur venture,
- Discussed and set plans for future cooperation and joint project conducting,
- Gained knowledge of a different culture,
- Gained experience in traveling,
- Gained experience in managing in a new environment,
- Had fun and enjoyed art through a new friendship.



www.proni.hr/art-crafts



www.facebook.com/PRONICentar/



www.instagram.com/woodpeckers2019

The project is being implemented by:



PRONI Centre for social education
www.proni.hr

In partnership with:



Asociatia YOUTH ALMA
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P.O.D. ASSOCIATION
Asociación para la Participación, Oportunidad y Desarrollo
www.pod-org.com



All-Ukrainian Association for Youth Co-operation
Alternative-V
www.alternative-v.com.ua



Zdravo da ste - Hi Neighbour
www.zdravodaste.org



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