

Project: "Discovering the world under the talking tree"

Non-profit organisation: "Zef'Cie", created in 2001

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Project goal

Using a story and a "magic trunk" to let two second-year primary school classes in a priority education zone discover five countries in five different continents – a story to foster imagination, meditation and exploration of different horizons.

Presentation of the project

The goal of non-profit organisation Zef Compagnie is to create, promote and disseminate cultural events and initiatives, more particularly in the field of live performance (creation of theatre plays, a documentary on Noh theatre and on jazz).

"Discovering the world under the talking tree" is a project based on discovering and opening up to the world catering for two second-year primary classes in the Voltaire primary school in Montreuil. Using narration of a story and a magic trunk, the children leave on an imaginary journey to the four corners of the earth. The "magic trunk" contains objects associated with the countries that the children are invited to "visit". The story and the trunk take them to Spain, Australia, Peru, Mali and Japan, to discover the smells, sounds, objects and culture of these five countries.

After this initial phase of discovery, the children create a performance based on five stories from the five countries selected.

The performance, which will be entitled "Discovering the talking tree", will be organised at the end of the year.

Involvement of parents / mentors

The project is presented to parents in advance. During the preparatory meetings, parents participate in choosing the objects contained in the trunk. They will also be involved in creating sets and costumes for the end-of-year performance.

Support requested from the Fondation HSBC pour l'Education

Funding: the Foundation grant will be used to finance the intervention of the three artists involved.

Grant awarded in 2007: **€2,000**

Human resources: Create a website, assist with communication about the project and accompany the children.