

The 2nd International camp 21st May - 27th May 2017

Tesáre



The end of May was full of excitement and expectations for all the kids and teachers from our project because of The Second International camp. The place chosen for this occasion was an ideal for such an event. It is surrounded by mountains, having a creek running through the camp area – perfect conditions for successful camp.



After being accommodated in recently built dormitory and individual wooden cabins it was just about the time for festive opening ceremony. In the beginning, our friends from Czech Republic, who had hosted camp last year, handed over the relay as a symbol of friendship and cooperation.

It was followed by short programme

created by every country in order to introduce them. We made posters with pictures depicting typical features of each country. Although we started in the evening, this day was tiring for everybody, especially those, who had travelled from distant countries, so we introduced schedule for the following day and went to bed.



The main topic of the year two is transportation in the present and therefore all the activities were focused on various means of transport of these days together with everything connecting to moving nowadays.

MONDAY

On Monday, we visited the town of Trenčín. Trenčín is one of the oldest towns in Slovakia. It was first mentioned in chronicles and written records in the middle of 11th century. The main reason why we decided to visit this town was Air Repair Service located there. It is also known as LOTN and it is traditional Slovak company specializing on fixing and maintenance of airplanes. Even though it has already been working for decades; it still keeps the pace with modern fabrics and has profile



of modern and successful company. Employees in this factory don't fix only local machines; they are focused on repairing civil together with military aircraft and helicopters from around the world. Large area of this place enabled us to get to know and explore process of repairing helicopters. The importance of these vehicles has always been huge and we use them especially for extra fast transportation. There are being used by doctors, mountain rescue service, police, or fire fighters for saving people's lives and helping everybody, who is in danger. At the time of our visit, the workers were fixing the helicopter, which had arrived from Afghanistan. The process of repairing a helicopter is challenging and time consuming procedure. We were showed all types of breakages and defects and the professionals explained us how to fix all of them. We were proud of our children who were interested in the topic and asked a lot of questions. They also had a chance to explore the machine from the inside.

The afternoon program included visiting the town Piešťany. This town is well-known spa resort in the Slovakia. The great experience for all of us was taking a boat ride along the river Váh. We embarked on the small tourist ship, which took us downstream until the place called "The Island of Birds" and back to its docking place. Shipping on the river is providing service mainly for passengers, not for cargo



ships, so the sailing is without any disturbances. During sailing we saw another ship mining broken stone and a lot of birds. There was a pleasant music on the boat, the weather was perfect, sunny with mild wind – this beautiful afternoon trip has remained in our memories until now.



TUESDAY



The following day – Tuesday, the Mine of Cígel' was waiting for us. This mine lies in region of upper Nitra. Coal mining is till of great importance, because coal is, even nowadays, being used as fuel for households and also for certain means of transport. As soon as we arrive, we had a small lecture about safety in the mine, because mines, in general, are dangerous places to be in. After the educational part we put on special clothing designed for stay in mines, we received small

flashlights and head-pieces and we got on our journey.

The tour of the open-air museum of Cígel' s mine started by taking a ride on a specialized mine train. IT took us for a 2.312 metres long ride. When we got off the train, you continued on foot walking through mine' s corridors, which were located underground. It took you 80 metres deep under the ground. Walking part of the tour was 566 metres long. During the tour, the guide told us everything about working methods, which were used in mines in past centuries. At the end of the tour, we learned how to say goodbye like if we were miners. „Zdar Boh!“ It means „greetings from God.“

Our children were again very curious, kept asking good questions and for some of them – this was their first time to be in a mine. The coal supplies around the world are not the biggest ones, but coals remains as an important source of energy, also used for the transportation purposes.

WEDNESDAY

The next stop on our camp journey was The Nuclear Plant and Energoland, which are located in Mochovce. We visited them on Wednesday. Nuclear energy is the most used source of energy these days and probably in the near future as well. There have been several renovations in the plant in the past few years and now it fulfils very high standards of professionalism and also safety.

The newest section of this area is called Energoland – a blend of words energy and land. Every visitor explores here the history of energy starting at its very beginning with the Big bang, when the universe was created. Our kids were able to see things and inventions which we don' t have yet, but will be part of our lives in the near future.

Energoland consists of 33 thematically designed parts. During our visit we watched very interesting movie about the origin of our planet until the far future. Our children were given a chance to play unusual games connected to energy. They learnt how we produce energy from various sources, or how to influence certain phenomena. Children gained a lot of new knowledge in interesting, funny and entertaining way. They tried sitting in an electric car, hot air balloon, and many other means of transport running with different kinds of energy. Many inventions, which we know only from movies were there, ready for our kids to try them.



One of the funniest moments was when children created static energy, their hair went up and they looked like witches.

THURSDAY

In order to keep everybody interested and excited, we changed the course of action and Thursday was day full of activities. After breakfast, we stayed in the camp area and welcomed a group of police officers with trained dogs. They showed us how can these dogs discover possession of drugs with passengers at the airport, for example, or how can they catch a criminal. These special dogs were champions of Slovakia, some of them even champions of international competitions. A policeman, the owner of some of the dogs had an interesting speech about caring and training of them. They showed us really amazing tricks and situations.

Policemen brought special glasses, which simulated the eyesight of a drunken people. We all tried them, just to see the difference. Part of the show was also checking on the new police cars with modern equipment.

After the police had left we got on our trip to Radošina. Radošina is located in the western Slovakia. It is surrounded by hills from two sides and fruitful fields from the other two. There is small stream going through our village and we also have our own spring with drinking water right in the centre of our village. The first stop on our tour was visiting company Ematech. It is one of the biggest companies in Radošina. It sells and repairs agricultural technologies – various machines used for working in fields and woods.

The strongest experience was taking a ride on a huge tractor in the company parking lot. Our children learnt about the importance of agricultural machinery and working in the fields. New technologies are well developed and powerful. One of the new machines can replace couple of the old models from the past speaking of the amount of work and time needed. What is more, these new machines are also environmentally friendly and very safe. Company Ematech cooperates with other companies from Germany, Italy and many others. Every kid was given a model of tractor by the owner of the company.



We walked from there to our school area. There was great programme waiting for our arrival. It included singing, dancing and traditional folk dance. We had very tasty lunch in our school cantina followed by tour inside the school building. "Tour guides" were chosen according to the list of pen pals. It means that our pupils from the third class welcomed their friends from Germany, because they know them from their letters. They exchanges small presents and used their language skills to get to know each other better.

Once they went back outside, games and sport competitions were ready to begin. There was a huge variety of refreshments brought by parents of our children. Very nice enrichment was visit of local fire-



fighters,
who
brought



their new car, fully equipped. They set a paper house on fire and using the modern car also put the fire down. This car was given to them as a reward for their great results by Minister of the Interior of Slovakia.

FRIDAY

The programme for Friday included the most foolproof mean of transport – our feet. They always get you everywhere, where we need to go, so we decided to use them. There was a village located only 3km from our camp area. At the end of this village, the forest begins and there is a lovely ranch located. It is a huge area with its private ZOO, two lakes with real fish and many playgrounds. Journey through the forest was about 5 km long and it took us approximately 2 hours. We also had guides in order not to get lost there.



When we reached the ZOO, we created couple of groups out of our kids. Every group was given a paper with questions about the animals. Children were supposed to find concrete animal in the ZOO area and fill up the blank space with the information on the cage of the animal. When they found all the information, they brought the paper to group of teachers to be evaluated.

We also took advantage of the playground and relaxation areas. It felt really great to listen to the excited stories of our kids, who were sharing their experiences from this day on the way back to the camp.



Camp Tesáre is really a paradise for sport fans - there is playground for tennis, basketball, volleyball, table tennis and even the racing track. We dedicated some time for creating handcrafts every day. Topic was, of course, transportation. Children were given pieces of puzzle, they put them together and glued on paper. They painted them afterwards.



Using pictures from magazines and children's drawing skills, we created posters with various situations on the crossroads. We successfully used natural material (wood, paper) for creating small boats. Children attached a small tea candle on every one of them and we let them sail in the waters of the small spring in the camp area.

We cannot forget to mention the celebration party for those of us, who had their Birthdays during the camp. We even had a cake!

Every evening, we spent couple of minutes rehearsing a dance on the tune of famous folk song, which we performed during the final ceremony. We also organized a barbeque party one evening and we always found some time for sport activities in the camp area.



Our children taught their foreign friends games, which are well-known for us, but were new for other kids.

One of the highlights of a day was "bedtime song". Every evening, before we went to beds, we sat together and listened to popular children songs from every country.

We finished the camp with great disco.

Every moment of this camp will remain as a beautiful memory on minds of our children and teachers for a very long time.