

Nuremberg Primary-school children: the future in their hands

The Bavarian town of Nuremberg organised a week-long meeting in April for two primary school classes: one of 27 children from the host town and the other of 25 children from the twin town in the Czech Republic, Prague. The two schools have had a partnership since 1992. A varied programme of learning, play, excursions, music and theatre was built on themes of mutual interest.

Stressing both the importance of local culture and the wider significance of the two towns in Europe as a whole, this event gave children a unique opportunity to celebrate both their national identity and their contribution to the diversity that makes the EU so rich.

Overall, this week provided an opportunity for children to live and learn together; to get to know children from the same school year, but from another country, and cooperate with them in learning situations. In pedagogical terms, the purpose was to help the pupils realise the importance of language for mutual understanding, have a sense of the shared history of the two countries and towns and learn to respect and tolerate cultural diversity.

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