

Name of the activity: Jugendkonferenz (Youth Conference)

This idea comes from: Janusz-Korczak-Schule

(Name of school)

Aspect of relationship (focus): Teacher-Pupil-relationship

Short description of the activity (How to do?):

The Jugendkonferenz is mostly abbreviated as Juko and can be translated to youth conference. It provides place for communication and exchange for the students. During the conference, they can exchange ideas or say what disturbs them. On a regular basis, the children are given the opportunity to present the projects they worked out in class in front of the whole school to practice speaking in front of an audience and to get the recognition they deserve for their work.

Moreover, the students can make suggestions for the school's arrangement.

The conference enables students to practice the main principles of democratic participation and teaches them to assume responsibility.

Every Friday, the Juko takes place in the last lesson of school and is previously prepared by each class and their teachers, for example they democratically vote on feedback, criticism and recommendations that will be discussed later on in the conference. The results are set out in writing for students that are chosen to present them as an assistance.

A permanent team gets together once a week to plan and prepare the Juko. The team as well guides through the conference.

The Juko itself always has the same structure.

After the students arrive in the conference room and remain quiet, they are greeted by the team and interesting or special information or rules will be announced, as well as birthdays celebrated. Sometimes, guests will be introduced or interviewed. Then, the children can present their work or projects in front of the audience. After the presentation is finished, the children present their previously prepared feedback, criticism, and recommendations. These are listed by the team and will be discussed in the teacher's conferences later. To keep the school's cleanliness, the team assigns different tasks to each class and asks, if the previous ones were accomplished. Before the Juko ends, the team announces the winners of the "Aktion der Woche". It can be translated as offer of the week and is a game that occurs once a week during a school break. The offer is prepared by the team and is mostly a sporting activity with a competitive character for the children, to help them to experience a school break well spent. Also, the game for the next week will be introduced.

After saying goodbye, every student gets candy.

Requirements (What do we need? Staff, material, rooms, time, ...)

- A room big enough for the number of students.
- A schedule to structure the event.
- If required: computer, projector, microphone and speakers

- a big box of candy 😊

What else?

Think of a different structure if you perform this activity with younger children.

Corona makes it necessary to split the youth conference in smaller groups.