Integration through Science?! The example case of the project "Physics for All"

"Physics for All" is a project of the German Physical Society (DPG) and the Georg-August-University of Goettingen, which is funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). The goal of the project is to provide children and youths in refugee shelters, initial reception facilities nationwide and to teach the world of physics by means of simple experiments. It is about a playful research and education offer with language-promoting elements. Beyond that the project "Physics for All" also intends building bridges between different cultures and educational backgrounds. The project is fundamentally supported by the commitment of many volunteers.



And this is how the project works:

Volunteer helpers can engage as experimental aid or coordinator on site.



Entire institutions can register as a helper team, for example, a whole institute of a university.



Schools or classes are committed either to a refugee class within the school or to a refugee site nearby under the guidance of their teachers.

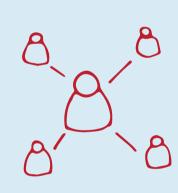




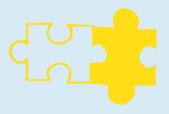
School with Refugee Class



The experiment material is compiled centrally and sent to the sites.



In terms of content, we offer our helpers two curricula. On the one hand, there are hands-on experiments, which are carried out using household matter. The second curriculum offers learning modules, on different topics, which are grouped together as subject boxes and fill approximately 10 to 15 learning units.



Within the framework of two-day-workshops, the learning contents are communicated to volunteers, who then disseminate these contents to other volunteers in Germany as multipliers.

"It was a great experience I would not want to miss. The laughter of the children showed me that we do something good and meaningful. In addition, the project has proven that even a few can change something; because we were able to inspire the children with our experiments and give

(Volunteer from Zweibrücken)

"The children are especially enthusiastic when there is something to tinker. Then, they are also very concentrated. Communication was never a problem. To make parents bringing their children to the events timely, was a particular challenge. The shining faces, when the experiment works, however, is making up for organizational difficulties."

Experimenting connects:

(Volunteer from Berlin)

"The language barrier is not really a problem - if necessary, everything is done with hands and feet. And children, who at the beginning still had quarrels due to different origins, finally sat together wonderingly around an experiment. Physics as an international understanding!"

(Volunteer from Hamburg)

them variety and joy."

The physical and playful experimentation is to offer a diversion from everyday life and a gesture of welcome culture.



Physical phenomena are universal and global. In order to carry out experiments, you do not need special language, religion or a special place. They are the same for all people on earth, no matter where you are, what language you speak or what faith you have. Physics is exciting, entertaining, educational and experimenting generates selfconfidence. Physics is fun ... and it's everywhere!



We want to use the experiments to arouse the curiosity of the children and adolescents and stimulate them to deal with nature and the environment and their laws. In this way, we promote self-confidence and the concious and independent action of the children in a new environment.

Within the project we do offer an integrated language course within the project in the form of an illustrated list of words. Thus, the German concept is associated with the object of experiment.



With the help of many voluntarily committed people in Germany, we want to promote a positive attitude towards knowledge, insight and education and thus, facilitate the integration into our educational society. Everyone can contribute a small part.







