

Mon Voisin Summer Camp in Moudon 2008

This is the third consecutive year that Neighbours Global Connections ran their annual summer camp (21. - 25. July 2008) at the EVAM Centre in Moudon. We have been running these summer camps in addition to the weekly children's program and special organized event programs in this centre since 2004.

This year's theme for our summer camp was the story of Joseph (Joseph – le roi des rêves), focusing on “helping the children to learn to deal with their conflicts in positive ways” (conflicts the children experience personally, within their family, community and/or other social areas of their lives). We began each day by having an input, watching part of the Joseph DVD together, and then split into smaller groups for discussion of the story, making it applicable for their lives. After this, we worked in three groups with various activities which were different for each day (painting T-Shirts, drawing pictures from the story of Joseph, baking cakes, decorating cookies, playing games, etc.).

On Wednesday we had an outing with the children. We left the EVAM centre in the morning and took the train to Lucens. From there we walked up an hour through the forest to a tiny lake where we had our lunch break and played several different games before we walked back downhill to the station in Lucens. On arrival back in the centre the kids were tired but happy.

At the end of the camp we invited all the parents and families to join us for the last 45 minutes of the afternoon so that they could see the creative works that the children did throughout the week.

Looking back we have to say, that this summer program was a great success. It is not only the children who enjoyed the time with us, but we too had a wonderful time with them.



What motivates and inspires us?

We see the potential strengths that children possess within their lives. We believe that our work among children is creating a constructive environment for them to receive restoration for personal experienced traumas as they integrate with other children and our team. We see the possibilities for the children to develop and grow as persons, and through their social interactions with children from different cultures learn many important skills for their personal lives. We believe that our supportive gifts of care, creativity, compassion, love and presence are important values for making a positive contribution to “build a culture of peace” among the children and their families in the EVAM Centre of Moudon. We believe that the strength of our summer camp program and our other community programs lies in our ability to build ongoing relationships of trust among the children and their families.

Accompanying and working alongside Sydney and Ruth Moyo, was an incredible team of seven volunteers. It was such a joy to work with this team. They served very well and were all committed to the care, development and support work for the children.

Sydney and Ruth Moyo

Program Leaders - ‘Mon Voisin’ Summer Camp