

## Burkina Faso

In Burkina Faso, the children of the "Tapori-Guinkouma" group wrote some true stories of friendship and solidarity.

"My puppet represents one of my friends and schoolmate.  
One day he pretended he was a parachutist. He jumped off a hilltop and he broke his foot.

I would visit him every day and bring him some déguè (yoghurt).  
I would bring him my notebook so he could copy the lessons we did."

Pamtaba Zoubika, 12  
and Simporé Azisse, 12



"My puppet is called Biba."



"My puppet is called Bancé."

"My puppet represents the sun because, for me, the sun shines for everyone, nice or not, poor or rich. He is everybody's friend."

Sanou Ida, 12  
and Pamtaba Zoulaïka, 12.



## TAPORI NEWSLETTER



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The Tapori Youth Group of Sambreville, Belgium, introduces itself on page 2.  
Discover their stories of friendship and the puppets they made.

"Here is the story of friendship we wrote together and the puppets we made to illustrate the story."

### The actors:

The rowdy one – Logan  
The funny one – Laura

The ready to help one – Marine  
The shy one – Noah



### The story

Logan knows about the Tapori workshop and, this afternoon, he is there. But he does anything and everything. He throws some pebbles. He doesn't say hello to anyone except to Mamy Rose.

He grumbles: "No and no. I don't want to do this activity. It's stupid!"

Noah arrives slowly and stays in a corner. We can hardly hear him when he says, in a timid voice: "Hello. My name is Noah. I am very shy and I come to Tapori to try to make friends."

Laura comes in, hopping and laughing: "Hello people. How are you all? Noah, you are all right?"

She goes to him and says: "What are you doing in the corner by yourself?"

Then she starts singing and juggling with a ball. But she slips on a banana peel. Noah laughs. She goes toward Logan, tries a cartwheel and falls. Logan turns his back on her.

Marine brings some hot chocolate. She goes to Logan: "You want it hot or you'd prefer it cold?"

Logan says: "I don't want your stupid chocolate. Anyway it's no good."

The others say: "Yes, it's really good!"

Laura goes to Marine, takes a cup of hot chocolate and brings it to Logan. She says: "I'll do my best for the four of us to become friends."

Maine goes back to Logan: "Come on, Logan, do like us, drink it like us. You'll see; it's really good. And you know, it's a magic friendship potion. Drink it and you'll become nice."

Logan drinks slowly. Then he hugs Marine.

Marine tells him: "What do you think, Logan, can we bring more kids to Tapori? We can do it together if you want."

Laura says: "You see. Now we are all friends."

The End



## The Tapori Youth Group of Sambreville, Belgium

In the Sambreville's Tapori Youth Group, there are about 17 children, ages 5 to 16. This group has existed for over 20 years and is very dynamic. We meet once a month in a room at the center of a public housing project, at Auvelais in Belgium.

**Why do the children come?**



Playing music



"I like the group; we are all friends."  
"In the neighborhood we don't have much chances to talk to each other. Here, we can do it!"



"I like to come because we do all sorts of team games and I like to meet my friends!"



"I like to come to Tapori. We have fun; we play; we tell stories; we do great activities!"



Singing the Tapori song.

All the children live in the same housing project but the only time they can get together is the Tapori meetings. We know some children in a shelter for refugees and we meet with them several times a year. They come to participate in our activities. And once we visited the place where they live; it was very interesting.



"No more attacks, no more wars and respect the laws."



"Respect the nature."



Once a year we do an outing with people with special needs. It's very important to meet people who are different from you. That way we can understand each other better and accept our differences.

The Friendship Tree with the children's messages