We, the Taporis, are building a chain of friendship for all the children, with the Tapori mini-books!

In Cameroon, some children read several mini-books. Then they wrote to the children whose story they read as to Ono, Patient and René in “Ono and René”, and to Mamadou in “Mamadou and Jean”.

Here are some of their messages:

“Ono, it’s very nice what you are doing for the young boy Patient. It’s very good because you went through the same thing and you had the courage to help him. Congratulation!”

Hello Mamadou. I want to help you fight against poverty and I want to fight against poverty myself. You can show this letter to Jean, so that you can fight together against poverty.”

Hello Mamadou. My name is Cedric. I was moved by your story. I hope that your mother will get better, and that you can fight together against poverty.

Hello Mamadou. My name is Cedric. I was moved by your story. I hope that your mother will get better, and that you can fight together against poverty.

In Egypt, at the Benati Association, Mahmoud read the mini-book about Leah, a girl from the United States. Leah has a hard time learning because she thinks a lot about her mom who is very sick and about her younger brothers and sisters she is taking care of.

The children from Benati listened to Mabrouk who told them the story of Leah. Here is what they said:

“I cried when I heard that the other children were bothering Leah and that she had to run to get away from them.”

“What I liked is that Antonio became her friend and said that he wouldn’t let anyone bother her any more.”

Ghada, 9 years old

“What I liked is that Leah helps her mother and her little brothers and sisters, and that she dreams to learn how to read and write to be able to read some stories she likes to children when she is older.”

Nafissa, 11 years old

“I also liked that she is dreaming to help children to read and write, and that she wants to be a nurse. Me too, I want to be a nurse.”

Salma, 6 years old

To continue this chain of friendship, you may write to these children who have shared their messages to us:

I am writing to __________________________ his country: __________________________

Here is my message: ____________________________________________________________

My first name: __________________________ my age: __________________________ my country: __________________________

You can read more stories about children with courage from Tapori website and you can request a copy too!
The Tapori of Antohomadinika in Madagascar

Many of you had expressed to get to know our Tapori friends in other places, here is the first presentation of a group prepared by the children, with the support of their facilitators. Thank you to our friends in Antohomadinika!

From Geneva, Helene conducted an interview for Tapori. It was in Antananarivo in a cybercafe. There were some adults: Honorine, Meltine, Hanitra, Totovaohangy, Gorettie, Prisco, and Gorettie who did the translation. Ten children came and spoke one after the other. It was terrific! For Helene it was like traveling on the other side of the world!

What are you doing together with Tapori?

“We share what we know. We read and we learn things together. We listen to the stories they tell us; we look at videos. It’s a place of friendship, like we gave our sympathy to the family when a member of the group passed away. And also when there is a quarrel, we do everything we can to fix things up peacefully.” Nadia, Nathanael, Princia.

What do you want to tell the other children?

“I invite children to join the Tapori group at the Antohomadinika where we meet every Wednesday. I would like to meet all the children of the world.”

“I invite the children to respect their parents and to love each other, to build solidarity and peace.”

“I invite the children who had a successful life to exclude nobody, so that there is respect and peace.” Tatiana, Rota, Christiane.

For you, what is Tapori?

“The Tapori group represents the rights of children. It’s an association of children rich and poor to build friendship and fraternity between children, for example between the youngest and the oldest of the group. Tapori gives the children a chance to sing all together.” Ezra, Jemina, Tiana.

What we like to do:

Activity:

To make a cloth flower with a button sewn on it. Each child brought a piece of fabric; we cut it in a circle, sewed around it and we put a button in the middle. Then we pull on the thread; it closes the fabric over the button and it makes a flower.

Recipe:

Chicken with a coconut sauce.

Ingredients: Tomatoes, onions, garlic, cooking oil, salt, coconut milk, water, chicken.

Story:

“I fara Maley sy koto be bibo.” This is a story like “Hansel and Gretel.” The moral lesson of this story: Don’t reject a sheep when it’s small because we never know if it might have twins.

Games:

Soccer, basketball, a ball game called ten passes, and marbles.

There are 130 children in the Tapori group of Antohomadinika in Madagascar! They meet in the neighborhood library and do various activities.

In Madagascar, Tapori exists also in Tulear in the Anketa neighborhood with 30 children, and in the Anketraka neighborhood with 15 children. There are 5 adults who facilitate for the two places. There are other projects also, for example in some public schools.

Recently, with the Cyclone Chedza there was flooding in the neighborhood and also in the Andramiarane neighborhood. Over 100,000 people were affected and there were several deaths. In spite of all this, the children were happy to come together and pose for a photo and to send it to Tapori!

There is a song that describes Antohomadinika:

“Antohomadinika is in the south of the center of the capital of Madagascar. A long time ago it was a rice paddy. Then it was filled up with dirt and now it’s full of houses.”

“In our neighborhood, there is the Andianaty canal, a soccer field, a bridge, the grade school, the church, the clinic, the NGO Sentinelle, many associations, a cafeteria by the Red Cross for the little children, the library building, a water fountain, a wash house, and the public showers and toilets.”

The children of the group from Antohomadinika said: “Our neighborhood is in a low area, a poor area. There is poverty and there is flooding.”

There is a song that describes Antohomadinika: “Antohomadinika is in the south of the center of the capital of Madagascar. A long time ago it was a rice paddy. Then it was filled up with dirt and now it’s full of houses.”

“In our neighborhood, there is the Andianaty canal, a soccer field, a bridge, the grade school, the church, the clinic, the NGO Sentinelle, many associations, a cafeteria by the Red Cross for the little children, the library building, a water fountain, a wash house, and the public showers and toilets.”