Hello dear Tapori,
In this Letter, Tapori invites you to follow the evolution of the campaign "ACTING TOGETHER."
You will discover three children’s initiatives, news of the campaign around October 17 and November 20, a greetings card and a small project sheet to continue participating in 2020.
All over the world, children, Tapori and non-Tapori, who are shocked by unjust situations, are showing courage and doing something at their level. As you will see, some speak publicly, others take up a paintbrush or go on strike at school. They try to change things and pass on messages to awaken the consciousness of adults.

**In France**, Arthur Soufflet is 9 years old. He was four years old when, while on vacation, he met a homeless person. He was very sad for this person because he said, “We had a home and he did not.” So he wanted to help homeless people. He used his paintbrush to fight misery. He does paintings which he sells at exhibitions that he organizes. The money he earns from his paintings is for these people. He buys them basic necessities (gloves, socks, hats, handkerchiefs, meals etc.). He also started saving money as he wants to buy a building for homeless people.

**In Democratic Republic of the Congo**, these young leaders are former Tapori children from Bukavu. Each of them had already participated in the radio program “Children of Courage”. It goes on air every Sunday at 3:15 p.m. for 30 minutes on the radio station “Neno la Uzima” (The Word of Life). The idea of participating in a radio program was started during the Tapori exhibition of children’s silhouettes in Bukavu in October 2007. Journalists who came by to cover this event appreciated many of the messages that accompanied the silhouettes.

According to them, if they found a large platform, these messages could transform the world. They talked about what the children had in their hearts, what they would love for all children and what they were willing to do. The Tapori children of today still continue to participate in this radio program.

**In Sweden**, Greta Thunberg, born on the 3rd of January 2003, is a young Swedish climate activist. She has made a name for herself in Sweden through her ecological commitment. Since the start of the school year, she skips school classes every Friday to demonstrate in front of the Swedish Parliament and call on politicians to take stronger measures to fight global warming*. She is known worldwide for having given a simple and powerful speech at the 2018 UN Climate Change conference in Katowice which questioned adult responsibility. “I care about climate justice and a living planet,” she justified. “Our civilization is sacrificed to allow a small handful of people to continue to make huge amounts of money. Our biosphere is being sacrificed so that rich people in countries like mine can live in luxury.” At a world economic forum she declared, “It’s unimaginable that so many famous people who talk about the climate came in private jets. It is time for young people to get angry and turn that anger into action.”

Greta really wants young people to act and think about the future of the earth, and for adults to not just put words to the climate issues, but to act too.

*Global Warming or climate change refers to the Earth’s warming at an ever-increasing rate, resulting in rising sea levels, the appearance of more and more climatic disasters (such as droughts, floods, hurricanes) and increasingly difficult living conditions for humans, animals and plants. This rapid warming is caused by human activity such as cars, airplanes, factories and intensive livestock farming that produce greenhouse gases.

Source: https://france3-regions.francetvinfo.fr/hauts-de-france/nord-0/cambrai/cambrai-neuf-ans-ce-garcon-vend-ses-tableaux-acheter-manger-aux-abri-1597949.html
Children take action!

What do you think about what Arthur, the Tapori children of the DRC and Greta are doing? Why do you think so?
Do these children need adult support?

Do you know other children like Greta, Arthur and the children of the DRC who are committed to changing unjust or unacceptable situations? What do they do?

How can we strengthen children’s messages so that they reach more adults and push them to join forces with them?

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Name: ___________________________ Age: ______________
City: ___________________________ Country: ___________________________

Send to: Tapori
12, RUE PASTEUR
95480 PIERRELAYE
FRANCE

“We want all children to have the same chances!”
Today we are shaping tomorrow’s world!

Do Greta’s and Arthur’s commitments also inspire you to do something?

For 2020, Tapori invites you to dedicate yourself to an ecological, cultural, social, or other project.

- To begin, identify a situation that you find unacceptable and which needs to be changed.
- Next, see what you can do to change this situation.
- If you are alone, you can ask your friends to join you to set up and carry out a project together.

Write to Tapori to share your project:

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Discover the different ways in which children around the world have acted together!

Several groups of children have said NO to poverty, refused exclusion and marked the 30th anniversary of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child. They mobilized for October 17 (World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty) and November 20 (Universal Children’s Day).

SPAIN

The Tapori Ventilla group from Spain and students from New York mobilized at the United Nations* in New York for October 17

Three Tapori delegates from Ventilla went to the UN. On their return to Spain, they went to the radio to share their testimony:

“Our rights cannot exist without the rights of our families.”

To listen to them, go to fr.tapori.org.

*The United Nations (UN), is an intergovernmental organization composed of 193 countries.

UNITED STATES

On October 18, they visited the 5th grade students of Gregory Jackson “Jocko” School who were also present at the UN on October 17 and offered them a fan made by their group.

Belgium

In October, the children of Willebroek gathered around the story “Good Friends Change Lives” (Tapori Letter N°422). This story reminded them of Marieke Vervoort, a disabled Belgian athlete. Despite her physical conditions and illness, she won a gold medal at the Paralympic Games. The children wrote a message for her.

CROATIA

The children of the Society of Children Opatija sent their friendship bag. They put in their identity plant, their answers to the Tapori Letters 421-422 and the symbols of their City, Opatija, which are important to them.

MAURITIUS ISLAND

Children have gathered around the Tapori Campaign.

SWITZERLAND

In Bern, on the morning of 17 October, a delegation of 26 children from Fribourg, Locle, Basel, Porrentruy, Rorschach and Geneva was received by Ms. Marina Carobbio, President of the National Council. They gave her a tree containing their messages.

On 18, 19 and 20 of November at the United Nations in Geneva, there was an exhibition day in which Tapori participated and three days of conferences to examine whether the rights of the child are respected. Participants made recommendations on how to improve the situation of children. These recommendations will be presented to country leaders.

NEW ZEALAND

The children of the Society of Children Opatija sent their friendship bag. They put in their identity plant, their answers to the Tapori Letters 421-422 and the symbols of their City, Opatija, which are important to them.
On October 17, Algerian Tapori group participated in a public event: an exhibition on the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty and for the Rights of the Child. There were testimonies and a children’s drawing contest. It was an opportunity to choose a name for the group together: “Tapori Espoir” (Tapori Hope).

On October 17, the group Tapori “Les talents cachés” (The Hidden Talents) read their message: “Like a plant, I need land, a country, a village, a community to live happily with my family...” They offered a copy of their “identity plant” to the Mayor who was present.

On October 17, the group Tapori “Les talents cachés” (The Hidden Talents) read their message: “Like a plant, I need land, a country, a village, a community to live happily with my family...” They offered a copy of their “identity plant” to the Mayor who was present.

On October 17, the group Tapori “Los Amigos de Mil Colores” performed the song “Multicolor” in the school auditorium.

Launch of the Tapori Campaign at the Julio Verne School!
In Dakar, the children and teenagers of Sam Sam 3 and Grand Yoff worked on the Rights of the Child inspired by the drawings of Tapori’s Letter. Each group has chosen the image which seemed to best symbolize rights. A professional artist helped to enhance the images. On November 20, they shared this work in front of parents and other guests.

In Bangkok, more than 30 children with their parents participated in an art workshop on October 26. They made beautiful creations from the book “Nothing Can Limit Your Dreams.” It is made up of fun pages to color in and to encourage all children to dream in a world free of misery.

Seven of them took part in the “Demôkrankizy” or “children’s democracy” debate on children’s rights organized by UNICEF on November 20. Their interventions focused on the rights to health, food and to expression.

Since 2018, cases of the Ebola disease have appeared in the northwest of the Democratic Republic of Congo, resulting in several deaths. This year 2019, new cases have been detected in Goma. There was a Tapori gathering there in July. Shaking hands and large gatherings were banned to prevent the risk of contamination. The facilitators managed to convince some parents to let their children come to the Tapori activity. When they meet up, hand washing with antiseptic soap is compulsory and they greet each other with other friendly gestures.

The situation has not managed to take away their friendship and their joy of meeting each other.

You are invited to use the box below to create a card and write a small message of solidarity and encouragement to our Tapori friends in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
In full animation and with the Tapori Letters in their hands, the Tapori of Kavumu Airport send us their greetings.

In Bukavu, the Tapori Etoile (Star) of Burhiba have celebrated on November 20 by inviting other children around their neighborhood. They have presented various poems and sketches around the rights of the child.

In Goma, on October 20, the children went to Radio Maria to present the campaign Tapori and talk about the World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty. In the afternoon, they presented a play inspired by the daily lives of the poorest people to get recognition for their efforts in life.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (continued)

In Elementary schools:
Tapori suggested that the pupils create their own messenger bird: a bird for the right that they think is important for them. You will find some of them in this Tapori Letter, like the one on the left. Some birds have been exhibited in Clermont-Ferrand. See the pictures below.

MAYOTTE

Some very original and beautiful identity plants from our Tapori friends from Passamainty!

FRANCE

In Lyon:
For October 17, the children of Tapori Lyon and other children, had discussion time around the rights of the child. They focused on the right to expression.

In Marseille:
The Tapori pupils of the Bugeaud School did some acrostics around the story of Nicolas (Letter from Tapori N°423).

A Messenger Bird Exhibition at Clermont-Ferrand, France

A bird with a message made by a child from Sambre Avesnois

Children from Franc-Rosier School

Children from Philippe Arbos School

Children from Jean Mace School