

The Erasmus journal during the mobility in Romania

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Day 1: Monday, 5th of June, 2023

This day started at our amazing school, Școala Gimnazială Șieu, at 9 AM. Our partners from Turkey and Portugal got to see the school and its beauty. After that, we played a few games like follow the leader, and a game where everyone got a worksheet that they had to complete by asking other people questions.

Thanks to those fun games, we got to know each other better.

At 9:30 AM, each group presented their country, village and school. The first one to present was the Romanian team. The presentation was short, but it was quite interesting. It talked about traditions, villages, the school and about Romania.

The next team was the Portuguese team. Their presentation was much longer, it had 44 slides. They talked about the country, their city, places you can visit and what you can do there, all kinds of different information.

The third and last team was the Turkish one. Their presentation was the longest having 66 slides. It had the most information and talked about cities, Turkish singers, a video about their school and 2 music ones, tourist attractions, sports, the country, food and much more. They got to the 50th slide when they had to pause because we were more than half an hour late to lunch.

For lunch we went to a restaurant in the village. The first type of food was a soup, a sweet soup is what I would call it. I'm not too sure, but I think everyone liked it. The second meal was chicken breast and French fries. I was already full from the soup so I didn't eat much. The last meal was dessert. We got a small piece of chocolate cake with caramel sauce drizzled on top. It was delicious.

After we finished eating everyone boarded the bus and we departed. The first trip felt like it took an eternity but, in the end, we arrived in Colibița.

There was short wait for the boats, but the Colibița lake tour started as soon as everyone boarded. The tour took around 45 minutes however I didn't even notice how fast the time flew by. We saw a lot of interesting like a building that looked abandoned and the lake's side of the dam. I admired the beautiful forests and mountains while I chatted with one of the teachers from Portugal.

It was an amazing experience but, of course, the time to go back home arrived.

We waited a bit for the bus and soon we were on our way.

The trip felt shorter than it actually was but we got home quite late, at around 19:30 or even later.

Day 2: Tuesday, 6th of June, 2023

The second day started at 9 AM. The Turkish team was able to finish presenting and we did a Kahoot game in which we answered questions about Turkey. After that, we started with our activities for the day. We were split into 2 groups. One group made digital books of nature, and the other group made a book

of nature using recycled paper. Both books had Mr. Waste and Mr. Green as the theme. I was in the second group and we were once again split into 2 teams. 2 people made the cover for the book and the remaining people were grouped evenly. One team wrote about pollution and the other team solutions to the first team's stories. I was in the first team and wrote a poem about water pollution that I didn't really like because it did not really rhyme. The other people in my team wrote mostly stories. I read some of them and I really liked them. We also made some drawings that we added after the corresponding stories.

After we finished, it was time for lunch. This time, we were on time. I don't remember what the food was that day but I believe the dessert was ice cream.

The activity after lunch was visiting Ardan. We went there by bus and then walked to our destination, which was a chalet in a small meadow. The name of the chalet was "Cabana Poienița" which would probably translate to "The meadow cottage". It was a long walk but we got to see a beautiful forest and the village from further away. Some people stopped to take photos as the view was amazing.

We arrived at the chalet and took a break since all of us were tired.

There was a dog with puppies on the other side of a fence and a lot of people went to pet them, but the mother dog was angered by one of the boys and went after him. He was able to escape and no one went back in there, but the dog was still barking at the boy and kept trying to attack him.

We were offered something to eat there while everyone was talking to each other.

Everyone was back in shape now so we started our activity, which was making posters about stopping pollution out of pizza boxes. We were put into groups and then each found a place to stay and make the posters.

We glued paper on the pizza boxes so we could draw and tried to think of what to make. After deciding, we got to work and barely finished in time. The teachers took photos of us with the posters and then everyone got ready to head back home.

Day 3: Wednesday, 7th of June, 2023

Wednesday started like every other day, at 9 AM where we talked about the activities we were going to do that day. We were once again split into 2 groups, but this time it was for a theatre show. Both groups got a story from the physical Book of Nature made on Tuesday.

The teachers found some skirts and pieces of fabric that we could use as costumes in the show. Our group wrote down the roles for the show in order to have someone write the script. The roles were: Sun, Tree, The crowd/ Animals, Teenager, Mr. Green and Mr. Waste.

We spent most of the time making our costumes while someone was working on the script. I decided to be a bird, a sparrow to be more specific. It took a while for me to make my costume, but I was able to make it using a grey skirt for the wings, a red piece of fabric to put on my head and some trash bags that I cut up to make a tail and tie it around my waist. I also made a beak out of paper and yellow trash bags that I glued to it in order to change the color.

The script was done by the time everyone finished their costumes and we started to practice.

Both of the plays were ready before lunch so the show was held earlier. Everything went well and the theatre show was amazing. I loved every part of it.

We had lunch at the same place as the first two days and everyone went home after.

Day 4: Thursday, 8th of June, 2023

Thursday was a special day because we were going to spend it in Bistrița, one of the cities in the area.

At 8 AM everyone got into the bus and we were on our way. Our first stop was at the Vocational Agricultural High School Group from Bistrița. Here we had to complete a trail with many stops. Each stop was in a specific area and had a sign that said something about the place it was in. The stops were in places like a lavender field, an orchard, in a forest and, my favourite, the sensory path. We even got to take photos with the cute animals there.

There was a lot of walking uphill in the trail but, in the end, it was all worth it because of the interesting stories and the photos we got to take in that place.

After the visit, it was time for lunch. We went to a place in the city called „Casa Someșană”. The food was really good.

The next activity was a visit to a bookshop where we learned about a book made by the last Erasmus project participants. Each person read a part of a story in the book, some reading in their native language and others in English. One of the boys from Portugal even read a story in Spanish, it was very beautiful. I found a story written by my sister and was able to read it out loud. I loved it there.

As we finished our visit to the bookshop, everyone was getting ready to walk around the city and decide what to buy. Everyone was having fun and going to the many different shops there.

At the end of the trip, everyone gathered up in a park behind one of the shops until we had to get to the bus to leave.

Everyone got home after a day full of excitement.

Day 5: Friday, 9th of June, 2023

This day was the shortest one out of all of them. It started at 9 AM just like the first 3 days. We first had to wait until the classroom was ready for our first activity.

We started the day with a science workshop where we learned about PH levels and even did some experiments. It was very interesting and everyone got to do it.

After that, it was time for the certificates ceremony. It started with a speech about the project after which we started to receive the certificates. Each delegation then gathered up in a spot and everyone said something about the project.

We took some photos and went to eat lunch. Then, we had a little party at the restaurant before the Portuguese delegation had to leave. When the time finally came, almost everyone cried as we made so many beautiful memories together.

I can't say how much this experience changed my life and my perspective about humanity. I have met new people and I understood that there are all kinds of humans on this planet, not only the ones I met in my country.

In my opinion, this ERASMUS+ project, named „Developing green skills in schools and outdoors” was the greatest project I have been involved in my whole life and I would never regret for joining it.