



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF BIODIVERSITY TIMIȘOARA, 22 MAY 2013 – GREEN WEEK 2013

On the occasion of the International Day of Biodiversity, the City Hall of the Municipality of Timișoara, in cooperation with two prestigious school institutions, have organised an ecological event.

This event comes to be circumscribed to satellite events prompted by GREEN WEEK 2013, which were approved by the DG Environment of the European Commission (ref.**RO03**) and dedicated to the environment agent AIR, under the slogan "CLEANER AIR FOR ALL". All the Timișoara events which will be organised within the frame of the GREEN WEEK display the generic title „CLEAN AIR – Mine, Yours, Ours – Timișoara 2013” and are dedicated to signal the importance of the air as vital element for mankind and biodiversity.

A number of 18, 6th grade pupils from Școala Gimnazială Nr. 21 "V. Babeș" participated in the event, being coordinated by their teacher, Ms. Mihaela MAN and accompanied by Mr Gheorghe DUMITRESCU, as well as another group of 26 pupils from the Timișoara Children's Palace who were coordinated by teachers Luminița IOVIȚONIU, Liana BELEA and Dina MOISE.

The event was also attended by volunteers from the Association Lunca Muresului - Arad who are specialists in the project "BE NATUR, improvement of management of the Natura 2000 sites".

Problems connected with the protection and conservation of biodiversity were discussed, the role of the air factor in the life of the local flora and fauna being evidenced as well as the way in which the quality and physical –chemical characteristics may influence the health state and balance of biodiversity.

The pupils benefited from presentations by specialists on the importance of biodiversity in urban areas that are more and more altered by human interventions, and on the role of Zoological Gardens in the protection and conservation of biodiversity.

The children visited the Zoological Garden and the Centre for the rehabilitation of wounded birds, developed within the frame of the Project "BE NATUR", devoted to autochthonous and migratory wild birds. The International Day of Biodiversity constituted a context for the celebration of the "DAY of the STORK", under the slogan "I WILL FLY AGAIN".

The children formulated a number of questions referring to the migration of birds, their natural habitats and their way of life. At the end of the event, both the young participants and their teachers were rewarded with diplomas. The children also received personalised T-shirts

Moreover, during the whole day, in spite of the extremely unfavourable weather, a number of 200 visitors were registered for guided visits at the Timișoara Zoological Garden, accompanied by zoology specialists.

The interest of the municipality in developing educational projects is justified by the necessity to educate the young generation on the issues of the protection of environment factors, and of biodiversity, while it has developed its Strategy on the protection of environment and conservation of biodiversity

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