



SIDE BY SIDE BOARD GAME

Bir İZ Association



Bir İZ conducts preventive mental health projects in order to inhibit psychological disorders and contribute to the wellbeing of children, adolescents and adults. It works on social peace to disseminate the culture of living together with differences without minding religious, linguistic, gender or ethnic differences. <https://www.birizdernegi.org>



Introduction

Side by side is an innovative bilingual (Turkish and Arabic) education tool which aims to reduce discrimination towards Syrian refugee children and support social inclusion of the refugees in the scope of Psychosocial Support Project for Syrian children.

The game is designed as a communication and inclusion tool together with the consultancy of psychologists and educators. It is played in 72 different schools together with 3.500 Syrian and Turkish children in Istanbul.

Conclusions

Side by side board game helped both Turkish and Syrian children to develop friendship and solidarity.

The game also supported the children to include the other children who are excluded from the group.

As a result Side by Side Board Game helped Turkish and Syrian children to be together in a more inclusive environment.

Results

120 Teachers	73 Therapists	4050 Children
32 Interpreters	26 Volunteers	28 Towns
1980 hours Group Therapy	1200 Lessons	500 Board Games
72 Schools	17 NGOs	38 NGOs got the game
152 hours Training	76 hours Supervision	72 Schools got the game



Materials and Methods

April – May 2017: Determining the needs of children, teachers and psychologists.
16 November 2017: Interpreters education
26-28 October 2017: Group Leadership Education to 31 volunteer psychologists.
November 2017: Training for 93 volunteer teachers
November 2017 – September 2018: Psychologists applied the program in 24 institutions
November 2017 – May 2018: Teachers applied the programme in 72 schools.

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Literature

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