



Water and Its Magical Power

Erasmus+



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“The Using of Water Today” – Course in Brétigny-Sur-Orge, France

9th–14th May 2015

Leaving home, Day 1

On 8th May we met on bus station in Brno at 8 p.m. Our team went to France to take part in the third meeting within the international Erasmus+ project entitled “Water and Its Magical Power”. The members of the project team were the teachers: Daniela Szmeková and Jiří Stibor and the students: Renáta



Kadlová, Daniel Galanský, Vít Procházka and Martin Tůma. We travelled overnight by bus to Paris and safely arrived at 1 p.m. next day. Then we went by train to Brétigny-Sur-Orge where the French hosts were waiting to take us to their homes.

Day 2 by Renáta Kadlová



The second day of our stay in France started with breakfast in our host families. After that we arrived to school where the bus picked us up after short waiting to drive us to the main

Základní škola a mateřská škola Brno, Křídlovická 30b, 603 00 Brno, Czech Republic

point of our program – to palace Versailles that has been built by king Louis XIV. Here we first visited the interior of the palace. The interior was beautiful, the ceilings were painted with various sceneries and the walls decorated with marble and paintings. There was neither the place that would be featurless nor too overdecorated. After visiting interiors, the gardens followed.



The far – reaching gardens were breathtaking. We can speak about numerous marble or bronze statues or about various fountains – everything had its own magic. Because we were lucky and the tour happened to be planed on a partiucullar day, we saw gorgeous water show accompanied by classical music in form of Beethowens Ode to joy. The music was spreading across the whole area, thereby gentle accompaning and magnifying the atmosphere of ubiquitous beauty and precission. It took us a long time until we went through every road with colorfull trees growing alongside it and with carefully maintained lawns. At the end, we had to part away with all this beauty and after some waiting we went by bus back to school. I finished my day with dinner in my host family with my mind still in palace Versailles which entirely charmed me.

Day 3 by Daniel Galanský

This day started in the family. We had to be at school at 9 a.m. We started with a presentation about French school. The next program was visiting French school. After this presentation we had lunch. At 1 p.m. the presentation about another country started.



When this presentation was over, our teacher wanted us to prepare a water rocket. We made a launch pad for the rocket. The rocket was made from a plastic bottle and could be designed by its author. We finished at 5 p.m. and went home. After the program we could do what we wanted with our hosts.

Now something about French food. The French food is different from the Czech cuisine. For breakfast you can take what you want. For the first dinner I had four courses and a salad had different dressing.

Now something about the house where I live. The house seemed to be nice from outside but inside it was a little older than I expected. But staying in the house was different for me because I normally live in a flat. Adriens family was good and friendly.

Day 4 by Martin Tůma



We met in front of the school in the morning. Everyone was in time. After a short waiting, which is probably normal in France, we continued with water rockets. Everything went well until we found out that there was no compressor so that we had to pump by hand. Our rocket was finished as the first one

so we immediately went to try it out. Not every rocket was done well. Some of them didn't seal and the air escaped from them. But two of the four rockets were perfect. After that we had a lunch and then we went by train to Vitri sur Seine. There we attended three workshops. The first one showed us how to obtain drinking water from dirty one. It was necessary to filter water through sieves, then through sand and finally through carbon. The result was that we got water that was indistinguishable from normal drinking water but we couldn't drink it because we didn't



have chlorine to add as the final ingredient. After the workshops some of the friends went home but we took a bus and went shopping to the neighboring town.

Day 5 by Vítěk Procházka

We spent most of today in the historic centre of Paris. First, we could visit Notre Dame cathedral which started to be built in the 12th century. Then we went through the centre of Paris, for example over a bridge where lots of padlocks hung. We had lunch in a restaurant near Louvre. The food was quite good, a bit better than it's usually in our school canteen. After that we visited the Tuileries gardens next to Louvre, which was originally a palace of French kings, often damaged and repaired again. From there we went several stops by underground and came under the Arc de



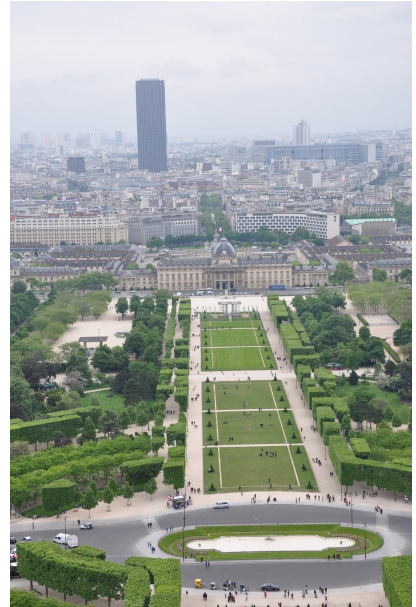
Triomphe. It has been erected by Napoleon I. to commemorate his victory at Austerlitz. Our visit to Paris was finished with a cruise on the River Seine, during which we saw again some of the places we had already seen but also some others, e.g. the

Eiffel Tower. Tomorrow we will say more about that.



The last day in Paris

Thursday morning we met at the stop Champ de Mars – Tour Eiffel which is, according to its name, very close to Eiffel Tower. Despite cloudiness we had a beautiful view of the tower and fresh wind cooled us when we climbed endless stairs. On one side, over the bridge Pont d' Iéna we could see Pallais de Chaillot and on the other side the building of Tour Montparnasse jutted out. It was easy to find also the arc de Triomphe and on the horizon our today's destination – the hill Montmartre with the basilica Sacré-Coeur.



After the lunch we took the underground to reach Montmartre. It started to rain so we couldn't entirely appreciate the charm of Moulin Rouge. Fortunately the rain abated so that our journey to Sacré-Coeur passed of in better conditions. On our way back to school we were leaving from the stop called Stalingrad.



Then our last evening came. Parents of the French students prepared a great refreshment for us and the fun started. Some of us were dancing with a real enthusiasm. We all enjoyed this evening and the whole unforgettable week will stay in our hearts forever. Merci!

