

One day one culture



Brief description of the activity

One day one culture is an aggregative event in which the youth centre promotes one culture, adapting all its activities for one day.

One day one culture

Objectives:

The objective of this activity is to promote interculture by transforming the youth centre for a day into a centre dedicated to a specific culture.

This way, both participants and people from the community can have a direct contact with the culture in question, overcoming stereotypes, but exploring it through non formal activities such as events, games, music, culture, cuisine.

Participants can explore several aspects of a culture, enjoying the food, the music, participating in typical games and activities related to that particular culture.

Methodology:

The methodology used is to create a non-formal context in which participants can show various aspects of their culture, and share their cultural background with others.

The youth centre provides the venue and support to the participants to help them organizing the activities, in order to create

the right environment to show the essence of their culture.

The activity consists of three phases:

1. Preparation of the activity
2. One day one culture event
3. Debriefing

1. Preparation of the activity:

Participants (a group from the same community, with the same cultural background) will be involved in planning the activities of the youth centre, in order to transform it for a day into a monocultural centre. This phase is crucial because it allows participants to express themselves freely and to design together both the setting, and the activities to carry out in the center.

They will have the entire center and the support of the tutors to design a series of activities that give people the perception of being "physically" in their place of origin.

Prepare with the participants the programme for the day, emphasizing the importance of showing the features of their community. It is advisable to give them some areas (activities connected with music, cuisine, art, games, rituals etc...). Be sure to design activities with the participants so that these activities linked to an event, a story, an explanation, a tradition, and not simple performances to enjoy.

2. One day one culture event:

This is the core activity, in which participants can show what

they have prepared, sharing their community-related activities with others.

During all day, it will be possible to explore different aspects of a culture, supported by the participants that will guide and inform people about their background.

It is advisable to show activities related with music, cuisine, art, games, so that it is possible to create an informal environment in which people can enjoy while learning something new about the focus group culture. This way it is possible to encourage a horizontal transfer of knowledge and experiences among participants.

3. Debriefing:

At the end of the activity it is important to have a moment to discuss with the group about the experience.

The objective of this phase is to allow everyone to have an overview of the activity that has taken place and to get conscious of what has been learned.

It is crucial to share personal impressions to everyone to develop empathy and to share ideas and different points of view.

The discussion should be guided in order that everyone will feel free to express themselves without being judged. Everyone should take part in this phase, in order to have different opinions.

The participants should be encouraged to explain concepts and start a common reflection among all.



Duration:

The preparation of the activity should last one day. Make sure to have time to prepare with the participants the programme for the event. Facilitate the distribution of roles among the participants and who will be in charge of which activity, and make a list of everything they might need that day. Set also a time schedule, so that each activity has enough time to be carried out.

One day one culture event should last one day. Set the time tables in advance, so that starting from the morning, till evening, all the activities of the youth centre will be transformed into monocultural ones.

When it's possible, set some activities in the evening, such as the cuisine part, which can be a non-formal event, where people can spend time together and socialize, while learning something on a designated culture.

Location:

The location is crucial to this kind of the activity, and it should be the youth centre. The purpose of the activity is in fact to transform the usual program and setting into a monocultural day-event.

According to the meals to prepare, and if they can be prepared before or at the moment, there should be Some facilities for this purpose nearby (kettle, socket, stove...).

Materials:

- Tables
- Chairs
- Cooking facilities
- Food according with the meals to be prepared (agreed in advance with the participants in charge of preparation)
- Music (agreed in advance with the participants in charge of preparation)

- Decorations (agreed in advance with the participants in charge of preparation)
- Art supplies (agreed in advance with the participants in charge of preparation)

Staff needed and eventual specific skills required:**358**

No particular skills are required

Participants involved:

The group of participants who are involved in the organization of the activity must be monocultural, therefore they should come from the same community. The event can then be repeated, in other days and dedicated to other cultures, so that everyone can feel equally represented.

Participants who simply attend the event can be indeed a mixed group, formed by both locals and foreign people

Steps:

Before

The preparation of the activity

Involve a group of participants from the same cultural background, to plan the activities of the youth centre, in order to transform it for a day into a monocultural centre.

In this phase participants can express their ideas and which activities they want to organize in order to share their culture with guests.

Elicit among participants a reflection on the role and importance that each single activity has in their culture, as well as particular traditions behind it, the origins and curious stories connected. This way, participants will not only show and carry out activities, but they will use the spaces of the youth centre to talk with others about their culture, transferring knowledge in a

transversal way in a non-formal gathering environment.

Give the participants some areas to plan activities on, such as music, cuisine, art, typical games or rituals.

Make sure to provide participants with materials or decorations.

As a final step, elaborate with the group a strategy to promote the initiative, with the goal of involving as many participants as possible, from different countries.

During

One day one culture event

This is the core activity, in which participants can show what they have prepared, sharing their community-related activities with others.

The Youth Center will be transformed into a monocultural center during the whole day, with a series of activities and games aimed at discovering and exploring

this new culture.

The participants will guide the guests in trying all kind of activities, informing them at the same time on the stories, context and traditions related.

It is advisable to perform activities related with music, cuisine, art, games, so that it is possible to create an informal environment in which people can enjoy themselves while learning something new about the focus group culture. This way it is possible to encourage a horizontal transfer of knowledge and experiences among participants.

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After

Debriefing:

The objective of this phase is to allow everyone to have an overview of the activity that has taken place and to get conscious of what has been learned.

The discussion should be guided in order that every-

one will feel free to express themselves without being judged.

Everyone should take part in this phase, both the participants and some guests, in order to have different opinions.

The participants should be encouraged to explain concepts and to start a common reflection among them all.

The discussion can also take place spontaneously, in this case the facilitator must make sure that everyone respects their turn and that everyone is listened to.

Alternatively, the discussion can be conducted through a series of targeted questions. Here are a series of questions to guide the debriefing, grouped by aspect.

1. Overall experience

- How did the experience go?
- Did it go as you expected? What happened that

you did not expect? Why?

- Which aspect of the culture did you focus on the most? Why?

2. The group

- How was the relationship with other participants?
- Did you all agree on which activities to set?
- Did something curious happen during the activities?

3. The participants

- Which was your strategy with other participants to plan and perform the activities?
- What did you think during the activity?
- What were your fears towards this experience?
- Why was what you expected different from what happened?

- What could you have done differently?

4. Future

- What did you learn from this experience?
- How is your connection with other participants now?
- Which culture should we focus on the next One Day One Culture event?

Innovative aspects for the promotion of interculture

One day one culture is innovative because it allows participants to express their culture through an event in which guests can experience different aspects of a culture by interacting with it.

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It offers a real exchange, in which participants themselves promote interculture. This way the youth centre becomes a place where people, in a non-formal context can meet and combine an experiential moment with a transversal exchange of knowledge.