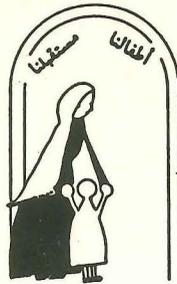


American Friends Service Committee
Early Childhood Resource Center
El Bureij - Gaza Strip
UNRWA P.O Box 61



خدمات الكويكرز
مركز الموارد للطفولة المبكرة
البريج - قطاع غزة
وكالة الغوث ص.ب. ٦١

Date - 5.3.1989

Report from R.C. Staff

Dear Cathrian ,

First of all , our thanks to every person participated in the selcection process to choose us for the job in the Early Child-Hood Resource Center in Gaza Strip ,

At the same time we want to emphasize that we have a strong believe in the big responsibilities which are given to us to carry on .

We began our work in September.5.1988 with a good understanding for our specializations, Although of this understanding, we couldn't work according to our specializations because of the work nature in this period.

The first Step of our work :-

In fact, the first thing in our work was focused in making discussions with Mary Khass , the Director of Resource Center, for few days to identify the starting point , we agreed at .-

- Visiting Kindergartens as the first step, and according to this , we adapted three different sheets .
- Pre-School Questionnaire . just to have informations.
- Evaluation sheet, to evaluate each kindergarten according to informations which we got in Questionnaire.
- Activity evaluation sheet, to evaluate each activity .

After that we actually began to visit kindergartens in the 10 th of Sept.1988 and we can say that, the aim of these visits, as a beginning, took two sides, the first one was making out reach for Resource Center, by using the prusure which was translated in to English Language also , the second side to get infor- mations about kindergartens. brochure

Every person in the team could establish a good relationship with some kinder- gartens through discaussions and a good explanations about our new ideas, met- hods and our aims .



Brigid Presence .-

At the end of Sept, the visits were stopped because of our assemblies with Brigid , preschool education consultant. , the discussions were stressed in recognizing the important activities which suit most kindergartens to include them in their programs .

besides other subjects we concern the results of assemblies :-

- We chose four activities (science, playdough , story and sand and water).to prepare a set of slides , to use them in pre-school training workshops.
- We decided to select and collect a set of suitable stories and songs from Quaker's kindergartens .

For achieving those goals, we decided to work directly in two Q.K.Gs, one of them in Jabalia camp and the other one in El-Bureije camp, so we divided ourselves into two groups .

Subhia and Saber worked in Jabalia, they were responsible for story telling and (sand and water) activities .

Rula and Jasser worked in El-Bureij , they were responsible for science and play-dough activities .

Working in Kindergartens :-

In the beginning of october ,1988 . we began the work in Q.K.Gs. and we can mention the successful steps which we followed during the work :-

- Giving teachers a clear idea about the importance of slides. .
- Developing the program of each kindergarten through discussions with teachers .
- Teachers and us cooperated in preparing materials and equipments that activities needed .
- Re-arranging for the comers inside the rooms .
- We participated in all activities and sometimes we ourselves were responsible for some activities to let teachers have opportunity to observe us .
- Making discussions after each daily work .

On the 22th of October ,1988 Brigid and Jo attended to get pictures for slides . In fact, on that day most of us were sorry because our efforts through the twenty



days were not invested in a good way owing to the following reasons :-

- Mary Khass , Brigid and Jo arrived the kindergartens late , because of the transportation problem .
- The time was not suitable for children to practice the activities we need especially in Jabalia because children were prepared for eating time .
- We obliged children to practice certain activities so the pictures lose the main factor ' spontainuasily ' .

Therefore , we felt in our need for Jo to return again, On the 26, of Febr.1989, Jo came and took about 90 pictures , we overcame the problems above , except the last one.

The result we recognized from this experience is : It is essentially for every person of the team to have acamira during visiting kindergartens to take pictures he/she needs in spontainuase way .

Preparing sets of stories and songs :-

At the end of October.1988 we began the work in preparing sets of suitable stories and songs , so we asked teachers in each Q .Kindergartens to choose the best two stories and songs from they have and to provid us with them , then we evaluated stories again to select 15 stories, After that we gave each kindergarten a story and asked teachers to copy 10 copies for the story we gave them . we ourselves participated in this work by drawing and colouring .

As a result of that process there were already 20 stories to lend the teachers. Concerning to songs , we selected about 50 songs which are recorded on a casset in Febr.1989 , through the cooperation between Jasser and Moneera in El-BureiJ Q . Kindergarten who has a good voice .

The idea of producing a book .-

In November,1988, The Director demanded us to produce a booke containing subjects, that teachers in kindergartens are inneed to improve their teaching skills in dealing with children . So, we made several discussions to define the important subjects . We began writting directly about four subjects . Each member took the responsibility for a certain subject as the following .-



Subhia took the responsibility of writing about playing .
Rula took the responsibility of writing about art corner .
Jasser took the responsibility of writing about science .
Saber took the responsibility of writing about library corner and story telling .

At the end of Febr,1989, we finished writing about the previous subjects to continue the writing about the rest ones which the book will include according to the idea above .

Developing Kindergartens Visits :-

During November,1988, our visits began to take another side.
Most responsible people and teachers whom we met , became able to understand us more and more , we felt that they are happy to cooperate with us , and as the result of this we began the practical step by :-

- Providing teachers with circulars we prepared concerning :- Stories , Playdough , Guidance , Blocks , Definition of Kindergarten and Role of teacher in Pre-School.
- Making discussions and workshops with teachers about those subjects .
- Giving teachers the opportunity to borrow stories to use them with group of children .

After this interaction with teachers, they became more comfortable to discuss their problems which face in the kindergartens frankly , ofcourse this pleased and encouraged us to work and increase our efforts more and more . at the same time, we can't deny that some other responsible people are not cooperative with us especially in this situation and this care doesn't annoy us because we have a deep understanding about the conditions that people in Gaza Strip are living .

Preparing a report for Welfare association :-

In December,26,1988, the Director asked us to prepare a report for welfare association including the following points :-

- Informations about all kindergartens we recognized .

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- Making an evaluation for each kindergarten depending on the needs of each one . the aim of this report is helping welfare association to recognize the needs of kindergartens in Gaza Strip, then to support them . During this work Saber was imprisoned for 16 days and stayed at home after getting out for another 14 days because a healthy problem .

The report was completed on the January , 2,1989, then the team continue the visits for kindergartens .

In 22,2,1989 the Director asked Subhia to stop her working in Q. Kindergartens and she asked us to make a new schedual for visits involving a list of kindergartens which we haven't visited yet to complete the report above which must be finished in coming June , 1989 , so we prepared a new Pre-School Questionnaire to suit this goal and she also asked us to divide ourselves into two groups .

- The first group consists of Jasser and Subhia , they are responsible for making initial visits just to get informations and complete the kindergartens evaluations .
- The second group consists of Saber and Rula , they are responsible for following up visits which representing the practical side of the visits .

Preparing for pre-school training course :-

Finally , we can say that , the big succes we got was when a responsible man from El-Shorouq kindergarten from Khan-Younis and three supervisors from Lejan El-Amal El-Nisa'i El-Falistini , visited the recourse center and asked us to help them in developing their kindergartens and to establish pre-school training courses. In 27,Febr,1989 the team will begin to arrange for the course for teachers and supervisors .

Concerning the work of subhia :-

The work at the recourse center or any effort which was done , I was sharing the team with .

Inspite of having all activities in Q.Kindergartens , I noticed that they are inneed for visits , because the ways and methods we want to follow are greatly different from what they follow .

For example , the stories which colleagues lend the special and governmental kindergartens are found in the Q. Kindergartens , I just discuss and clarify the ways of stories telling and teachers role which they need .

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Sometimes my visits have another subjects such as writing , rearrangement corners and science and so on.

In fact I face some difficulties with all teachers of long experiences and following an old style teaching children in pre-schools .

It is very difficult to exchange those old ways in short time .

I demanded from teachers to try using the new methods Finally at El-Nuserat Q.

Kindergarten , there were continuous visits , in these visits we discussed many things.

In this time, my visits to Q.Kindergartens are stopped according to the new schedual .

Thank You
R.C's Team