

# CULTURE, KNOWLEDGE AND COMMUNITY: INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF LIBRARIES

## Good practices workshop

### 1. Entity data

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Library name: Mikulov Public Library</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Full address: Brněnská 337/15, 692 01 Mikulov, Czech Republic</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Territorial sector, thematic area and population: Mikulov, a town in Břeclav District, 7,200 inhabitants</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Name of the responsible person and position: Mgr. Ilona Salajková – library director, educator and project manager</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Contact details of the person responsible. Email, phone and web: <a href="mailto:knihovna@mikulov.cz">knihovna@mikulov.cz</a>, +420 773 873 657, <a href="https://www.mikulov.knihovna.cz/">https://www.mikulov.knihovna.cz/</a></li></ul>

### 2. Type of presentation

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Oral presentation (mark with an X)</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Digital presentation (mark with an X)     <b>X</b></li></ul>

### 3. Good practices project

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Title of the project Delicious Stories From Around the World</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>General description (300 words) The project represents an innovative way to make the library an attractive place for a wider local community including those who usually do not come to the library. It is a series of interactive sessions focused on finding out more about the world's cuisines through cooking and educational activities. The overall aim is to connect</li></ul>

education and entertainment and create a friendly space in which people of all ages can meet.

Each session is dedicated to a particular country and its cuisine and usually lasts approx. 90 minutes. The children's task is to make use of hints provided by the librarian and guess the country's name. The hints are provided in a variety of formats – as fairy tales, nursery rhymes, pictures or objects typical for the country's culture. A brief discussion of the country's geography, traditions and cuisine follows; furthermore, participants learn the basic phrases from the country's language.

The cooking itself is designed in such a way to make sure children of all ages can be actively involved. They receive recipes in different formats – younger children get pictures and the older ones work with texts. Parents and grandparents support their children, e.g., during the least popular activities like washing the dishes. Cooking together develops the ability to collaborate, be patient and think critically in children.

One of the most popular sessions was the one in which we prepared sushi. The children experimented with unusual ingredients.

The project is based on the use of local produce and, at the same time, sticking to traditional recipes and healthy ways of preparing meals. The culinary experiences are complemented with creative workshops.

Delicious Stories From Around the World is a successful community project which supports interpersonal relationships and can inspire other libraries trying to engage its community. In 2023 this project received the Bibliotheca inspirans award from the Open Society Fund Foundation.

• Recipients

Children aged 3+ with their parents, grandparents or other accompanying persons.

• Location and coverage (neighbourhood, district, city, town, country)

Mikulov Public Library, Mikulov, Břeclav District, South Moravia, Czech Republic

• Activities and tasks

The librarian (educator):

- prepares recipes in written and graphic form;
- searches for hints, literature, objects and images;
- buys ingredients or chooses alternative ones in case the ones that have originally been selected are not available.

The participants:

- use hints to determine the country, its geographic location, cultural elements and fun facts;
- figure out the recipe;
- process the ingredients,
- arrange the dish on a plate.

During the session:

- creative workshops (if time allows), reading, theatrical performance and storytelling (based on sources relevant for the selected country) take place.

At the end of the session:

- the meals are served, eaten and discussed.

• Resources (human, material, infrastructure, economic)

Human resources:

- the educator and adults accompanying the children.

Material resources:

- printed recipes, cookbooks, travel books, books with stories from a given country, encyclopaedias, kitchen utensils, oven, cooker, Remoska, ingredients, art supplies.

Facilities:

- kitchenette, space for creative activities.

Financial resources:

- a symbolic fee (approx. EUR 2) which participants pay to help cover the costs of provided ingredients (if they do not bring their own foodstuffs);
- the session as such is for free.

- Scope (check 1 of the following 3)

**Sustainability**

Reading

Democracy

- Insert QR (with the Web and links to videos or photos)

Information about the project on Mikulov Public Library's website:

<https://www.mikulov.knihovna.cz/chutne-pribehy-z-celeho-sveta/> (in Czech only)

Information about the project on the Open Society Fund Foundation's website:

<https://osf.cz/mestska-knihovna-mikulov/> (in Czech only)

An article about the 2023 Bibliotheca inspirans awards:

<https://www.culturenet.cz/stalo-se/oceneni-bibliotheca-inspirans-2023-ziskaly-knihovny-ktere-originalne-pecuji-o-komunitu/> (in Czech only)