

Project Hope Progress Report - 24 July 2004

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- A. English Classes in Jayyous**
- B. Art in Nablus**

Life in Palestine is very grim right now, but we are trying our best to try to bring some light to the lives of the people there. No innocent child deserves to suffer the way children suffer during military conflict. Below you will find two quick reports on the two of the main programs we have been able to carry out recently. Since you are likely used to getting grim reports, we want to try to provide you with something uplifting.

A. English Classes in Jayyous

We have been particularly lucky to have a large English program in the village of Jayyous, despite a very modest budget. Our coordinator and head teacher in Jayyous, Rasim Al Kateeb, has managed to do a great job devising a program to get countless kids into English classes. Currently is the summer break from school, so the academic English classes have slowed down, but it should be a busy September.



B. Art in Nablus

We have a variety of art classes currently under way, to which thanks for much of the funding is owed to the “Near East Cultural and Education Foundation of Canada.” A lot of support for us to operate this summer has also come from “Zatoun” in Canada (www.zatoun.com). This is not mentioning the many great individuals who have tried to help in some way, and in particular to our really great volunteers in Palestine who are

working under extreme stress under what really are the most difficult of circumstances, at their own cost.

Below find an assortment of pictures of various art projects. Descriptions are provided.

1. *RIGHT* Children at a workshop in Dar Al Fatayet, illustrating “happiness.”



2. *LEFT* Also at Dar Al Fatayet, the children chose one color to represent themselves in the drawing they want.

3. *BELOW* Monsters! Monsters were drawn by everybody in the group, each for a few minutes. Then the paper was passed on to the next person. The monsters were meant to be scary. It was a lot of fun for everyone: they did noises for the monsters, had interviews and painted faces.





4. *LEFT* A big “free-draw” session in Balata summercamp. They were not all drawing the same single idea, and decided to illustrate it individually.

5. *RIGHT* Photographs of their own faces were copied and then collaged upon. The participants chose materials according to mood, expression and feeling. Some were really harsh and bright, while others were more subdued in both color and texture.



6. Everyone was split into groups of around five, and one person was drawn around. Colors were then chosen to represent that person, and then things got crazy: finger-painting and hand-slapping paint on, drawing in the figure and generally making a mess of one another. The figures were really mysterious, specter-like. Some looked strong and defined, and others like they were flying. Six were created in total.



7. This picture followed on a previous exercise, where the participants drew something relating to the adjective “precious.” The box was made as a secure environment in which to secure this precious thing, and was illustrated as they saw fit for such a purpose.



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