

Representatives from four schools met in Gdansk, in Poland at the beginning of December to begin a British Council School Development Comenius Project. Malgorzata and Dagamara, our hosts from Szkoła Pszczolki in Poland, Ivana Binkova from ZS Paulouska in Czech Republic, Bjorg Eiriksdottir, a well know Storyliner, from Karsnesskoli in Iceland and Gill Hardacre and Lorna Karetnyk from Kirkbymoorside School in North Yorkshire, are undertaking what is initially a year long project using the Storyline method to study similarities and differences in myths and legends in our respective countries.



When we arrived our hosts gave us a very informative tour of Gdansk, which is a beautiful city with a very troubled history, having been very badly damaged towards the end of the Second World War. Today there is little evidence of this as it has been painstakingly rebuilt in keeping with the original city. The school itself is on the outskirts of Gdansk in a large village called Pszczolki. We were treated to a tour of the school, a performance by the children in English of the Krakow Dragon and a tour of the recently opened local bee museum as this area is famous for its bee keepers and production of honey. Our hosts entertained us by sharing Polish customs and food.

The initial meeting was to agree a starting point and make arrangements for sharing work between the four schools throughout the year. Bjorg has written a Storyline for us to use. The schools in Poland and Czech Republic are new to this method so we continue to spread the word. We will begin by sending Christmas cards and traditions to each of the countries. This will be followed in the New Year by the children finding out and sharing information about themselves and their culture. These will be our characters that will begin the story.

The outcome of the project is that each country will send to each of the others, a myth that the children have written, that is well know in their culture using a storyboard and possibly a taped version. We are all excited about the project. We all meet again in the Spring in Iceland

where in addition to the project, two teachers from Kirkbymoorside School also have the opportunity to take part in an exchange visit.

In the photo from left to right
Malgorzata Gregorkiewicz (Gosia), Gill Hardacre, Bjorg Eiriksdottir,
Ivana Binkova, Lorna Karetnyk, Dagmara.

The Comenius display with figures from each country represented.



Making candles at the bee museum

