



SUMMER 2020

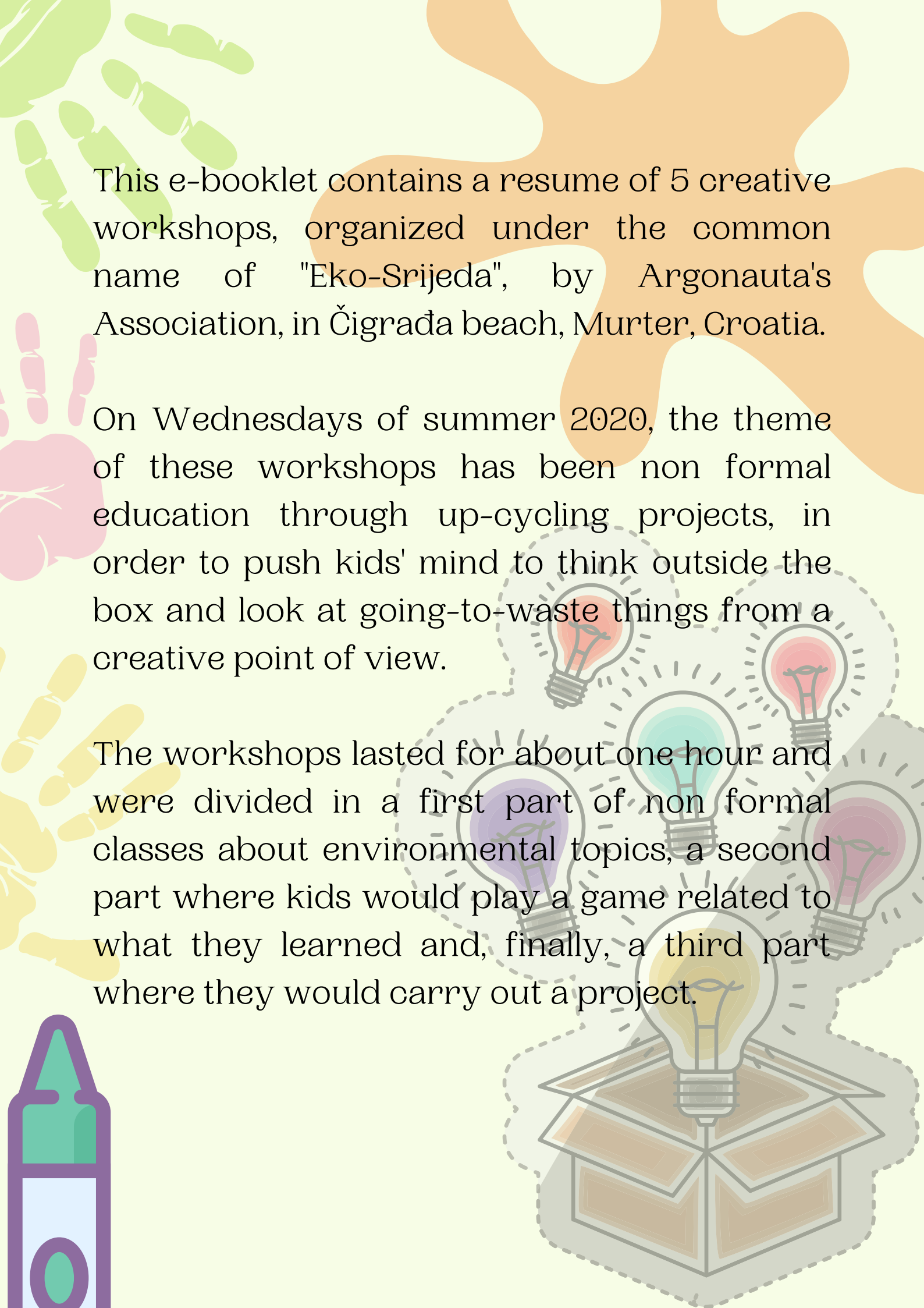


ECO-WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS

NON FORMAL WORKSHOP BOOKLET



ARGONAUTA



This e-booklet contains a resume of 5 creative workshops, organized under the common name of "Eko-Srijeda", by Argonauta's Association, in Čigrađa beach, Murter, Croatia.

On Wednesdays of summer 2020, the theme of these workshops has been non formal education through up-cycling projects, in order to push kids' mind to think outside the box and look at going-to-waste things from a creative point of view.

The workshops lasted for about one hour and were divided in a first part of non formal classes about environmental topics, a second part where kids would play a game related to what they learned and, finally, a third part where they would carry out a project.

THE AIM OF THE WORKSHOPS

Each workshop had a different subject, but a common aim: make the children realize the power of the environment and its natural forces and how to interact with it, in a creative, up-cycling way.

Using daily-life materials of waste we tried to push the kids to change their perspective with which they look at things, to make them have a dynamic and imaginative view of each and every object.

The first workshop has been opened with a sorting of rubbish game, in which kids had to distinguish between recyclable, up-cyclable and waste materials (about this topic, you can read more informations and ideas in the "Recycle and Reuse" booklet, by Argonauta).



https://www.argonauta.hr/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Booklet_RecycleReuse.pdf

1. BIRDS FEEDER & PLANTING POT

This has been the first of two workshops that had as main up-cycling object tetra-pack boxes. This well known material, worldwide used, despite being really safe and hygienic for our food, has the big problem of being hardly recyclable. So here we come!

Birds feeders and planting pots are just few ways, as you'll see next, to reinvent this material in an environmental approved outlook and have fun!



MATERIALS NEEDED

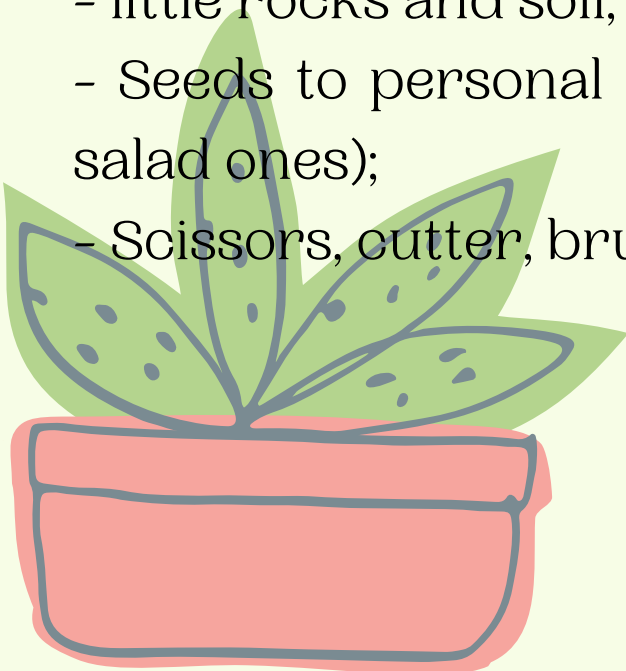
BIRDS FEEDER

- Any size of tetra-pack (cutting a window in each side, leaving enough space in the bottom part to fill with seeds and place a stick for them to sit on);

- One wooden stick;
- One thread or string;
- Mixed seeds for birds;
- Scissors, cutter, brushes, tempera;

PLANTING POT

- Any size of tetra-pack (cutting only one big window on the largest side of the box, making few holes on the bottom for the water to drain);
- little rocks and soil;
- Seeds to personal preference (we used rocket salad ones);
- Scissors, cutter, brushes, tempera;



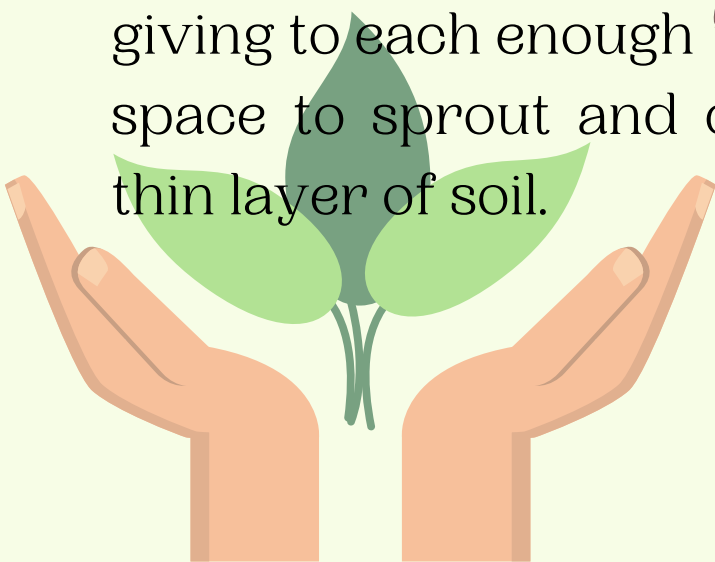
DESCRIPTION

Each child should have his own tetra-pack and with scissors, depending if it's building a bird feeder or a planting pot, should make windows-cut on the side(s) of the box.

For the bird feeder, you will have to make four holes: two on top, for the hanging string to pass through, and two in the bottom part, just above the seed bed, to place the stick. Once everything is placed, you can start to paint the box and fill it with seeds.

For the planting pot, after cutting one big window, you must make few little holes on the bottom and start placing first a bed of little rocks and then, on top of it, some soft soil.

After that you may plant your seeds, giving to each enough space to sprout and covering them with just a thin layer of soil.



2. BUGS' B&B

We started explaining the kids the importance of bugs in our ecosystems, what's their role, what's the difference between an endemic and an alien



specie and how to protect them. You probably heard about Bugs' Hotels, which usually are made out of wooden boxes filled with different materials,

to make space to various species of insects. Well, why buying a prefabricated wood box when we are submerged by going-to-waste tetra-pack boxes? Let's get creative and build not a simple hotel, but a Bugs' B&B, where they can find shelter and snacks!

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Any size of tetra-pack (cutting only one big window on the largest side of the box and opening the bottom to store snacks);
- toilet paper rolls;
- wooden sticks;
- leaves;
- pine cones;
- soil and/or sand;
- cutter, glue, brushes;



DESCRIPTION

Each child should have his own tetra-pack and, using the cutter, you should open one rectangular window on the large face of the box, leaving enough space on the bottom to make a second cut, which will contain the snacks. Always with the cutter, you must cut two parallel lines on the side of the box, around the center of it, in which we will fit what's left over from the first cut, creating a second floor in our B&B.

Last cut to be done, is on the top back of the box, creating a hole to be able to stick the B&B on a tree branch or nail.

Now you can pass to the filling of the "rooms"; in here everyone has to use his own imagination and designing skills, using toilet paper rolls, pine



cones, wooden sticks, leaves, snail shells and whatever material tickles your creativity.

Finally, you must cover all the outside with liquid glue and cover with soil, sand, crushed leaves..



3. HANGING WIND VANE

This time we wanted the kids to learn about winds and orientation; we spoke about how winds are formed and their characteristics depending on where they are coming from and what do they do to our climate. We focused on the four most important winds of Croatia: Bura, Jugo, Levenat and Pulenat.

Then we passed to self orientation; in those cases where electronic devices are not available and we happen to not have a compass, you can help yourself using the sun during day and at night you can look for Ursa Minor and its star: Polaris.

Then we passed on building a wind vane, with which kids could see where the wind was coming from, understanding which one was!



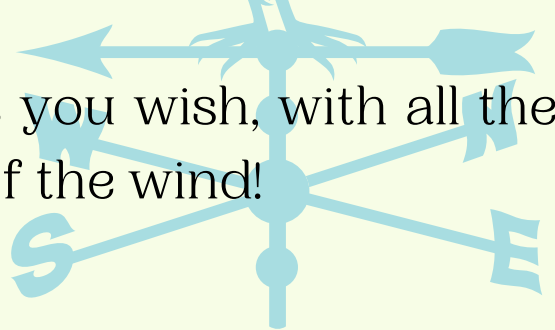
MATERIALS NEEDED

- Top half of a plastic bottle;
- strings;
- corks;
- cutter, brushes, tempera;

DESCRIPTION

Using the cutter, cut the top half of a plastic bottle, then make three holes, one centimetre upper the cut, at the same distance one from each other and more two holes in the cap, for the string to hang the wind vane; make two cuts along each cork side, for the string to have a path; insert a string in each of the three bottle holes and make sure both sides have the same length and enough to tie three corks in a row. Insert and tight one last string on the cap.

Paint as you wish, with all the colors of the wind!



4. 3D PUZZANIMAL

In this occasion we decided to talk about protected animal species and we placed pictures of them on Croatian map, depending on their natural habitat. What puts them in danger? What does actually mean for a hole specie to be endangered? What can we do to avoid its extinction? Then we spoke about the four most representative ones in Croatia and we finally passed to building up 3D DIY puzzle of them.



MATERIALS NEEDED

- Cardboard;
- pencils or markers;
- scissors or cutter;
- brushes and tempera;



DESCRIPTION

You can choose between free hand drawing, or using a reference figure to draw the outline on the cardboard, with a pencil or a marker; remember to draw a little line where

your puzzle is supposed to be assembled. Cut the outlines using a pair of scissors or a cutter and then paint the pieces.

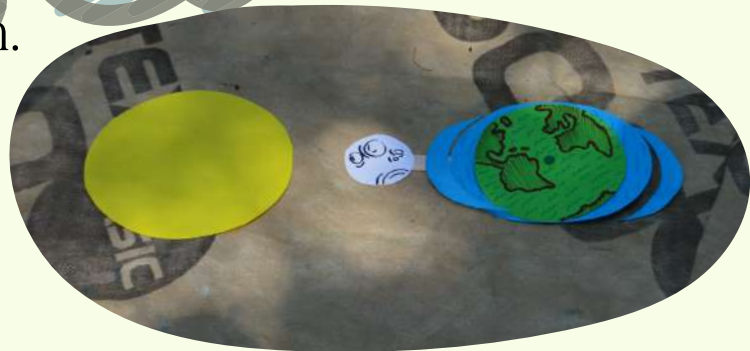
Assemble your new handmade puzzle and enjoy!



5. HAND-CHARGING PROPULSION BOAT

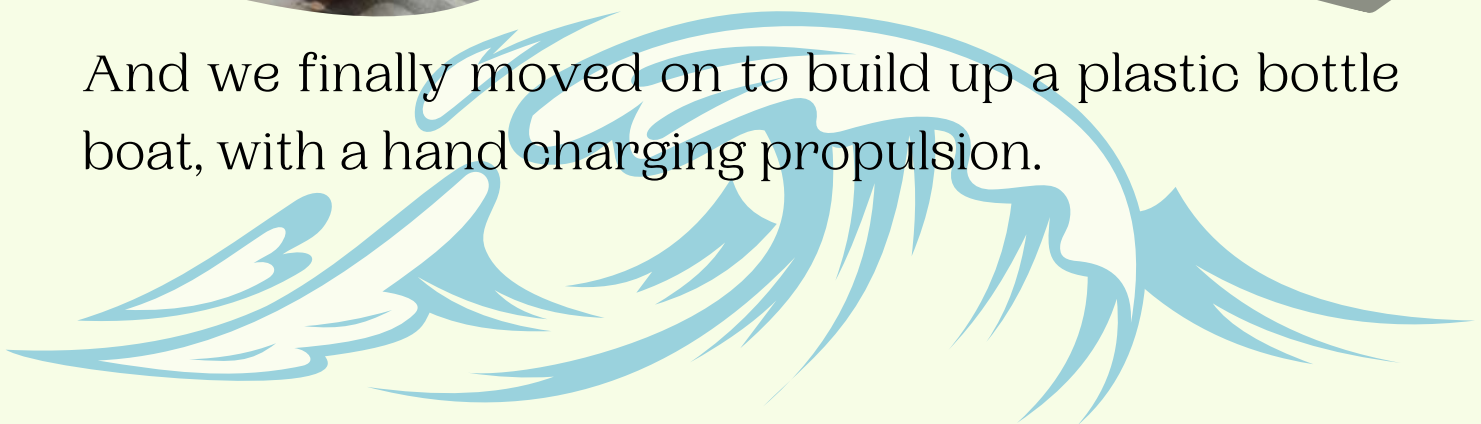
This time we started talking about the so called "Seven seas", the Oceans, and tried to name them and positioning them on the world map.

We then focused on the tides: what are they, how do they form and we explained the key role that the moon plays in this natural phenomenon, helped in some occasions by the sun.



We tested their understanding of it making them running around a "human Earth", chasing the movements of a "human Moon".

And we finally moved on to build up a plastic bottle boat, with a hand charging propulsion.



MATERIALS NEEDED

- Plastic bottle;
- plastic spoons;
- markers;
- wooden sticks;
- wooden toothpicks;
- elastics;
- scissors or cutter;
- duct tape;



DESCRIPTION

Using the cutter, make a rectangular window in the bottom half of the bottle, prolong the cut in the two corners of the front side, in a way to be able to fit what's left from the cut as a sail for the boat. Make four more cuts at the very end of the bottle, two parallel in each side, to fit the wooden sticks. Make a hole in each stick to fit the elastic, which will be stopped by using a piece of toothpick in the external part.

Break two plastic spoons around a centimetre from the rounded part and tape them together, one opposite the other and place them between the elastic.

Decor your boat with permanent markers, change your propulsion by spinning the spoons and enjoy!



UDRUGA ARGONAUTA

Argonauta is a non-governmental, non-partisan and non-profit organization born in 2005. Today, Argonauta is present at the local and regional level with the mission of contributing to the sustainable development of the community through the preservation and valorization of heritage, the promotion of civic activism (especially youth) and cross-sectoral cooperation and the development of social entrepreneurship.

To know more about Argonauta's activities, check our web page, the Facebook page and Instagram profile.



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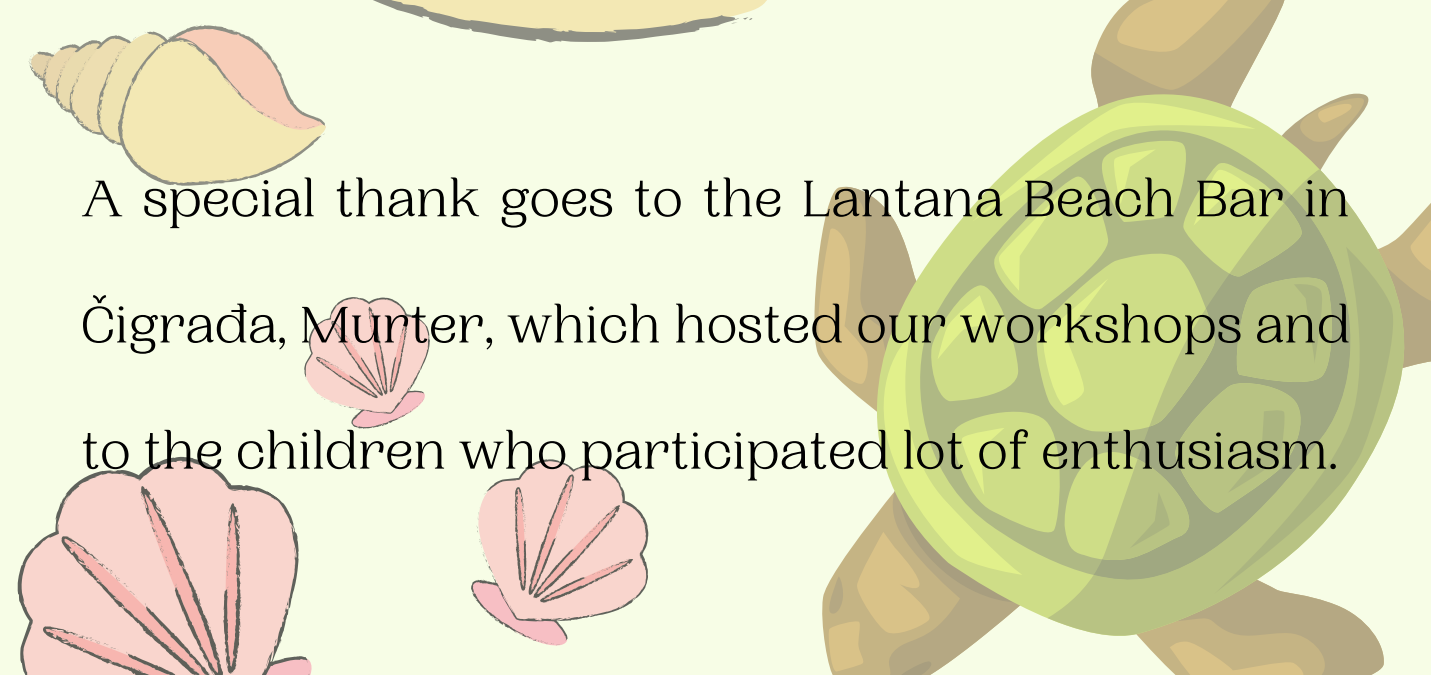




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