

6-8
year olds

MIGRATION AND REFUGE

 **OXFAM** Intermón

RIGHTS WITHOUT BORDERS: **LINA'S DECISION**

 **kaleidoskópio**

ACTIVITIES
No. 2
June 2017





My Name is Lina

Hello! I'm Lina. I'm 7 years old and I live in a beautiful small town called Moleville. What I love best is playing with my friends Marco and Said. We usually go and play

ball in the forest located at the far end of the town, next to the wall. The other day Marco, Said and I went to play in the forest as usual, but Marco hit the ball so hard it bounced off the wall and landed on top of one of the highest trees nearby. Said and I climbed up the tree and when we reached the top, we looked towards the wall and we couldn't believe our eyes! Behind the wall there were houses, people walking up and down the streets and children playing... and as strange as it may seem, they were all blue-haired! It was unbelievable. There was something going on and I had to discover what it was.



Lina




Marco



Said



ACTIVITY

There are things about this story I simply can't make sense of. Can you help me discover them? 

1

Why do you think there is a wall surrounding Moleville?

2

What is a wall? What is it for?

3

Do you have walls surrounding your town or city? What are they for?

As happens in Turtleville and Moleville, there are many walls, barriers, borders and elements separating towns and people around the world. See if you can find photographs of some of them at home. If you want, ask your families to help you.

i

For further information on all the ACTIVITIES, see the Educational Guide.



Moleville and Turtleville



Let's continue with the story:

When we managed to get the ball down, we hurried back home and I went to see my grandfather. I wanted to know who the people living behind the wall, near the sea, were. This is what he told us:

"Once upon a time there were two neighboring towns that got along together, Moleville, our town, and the town located next to the sea, Turtleville. I was born in Turtleville and your grandmother in Moleville, and we both lived in our towns. Your grandmother loved the beach and I loved the forest, so we used to go walking in the forest or along the shore and we had plenty of friends and family living in both towns.

For years we lived happily and in peace as neighboring towns. We had many things in common, but we were also different - particularly with regards



Lina's grandfather

to the color of our hair: people from Turtleville were blue-haired while people from Moleville were black-haired, brown-haired, blonde... anything but blue. Some people thought this was due to our

closeness to the sea; others said it was because we ate fish and seafood. The truth is that nobody knew why - our hair was simply of a different color.

Everything was going well until one day there was a fight between two neighbors - one from Turtleville and the other from Moleville. Nobody remembers what the fighting was about, but the neighbors of both towns gradually started mistrusting one another. Some people from Moleville started saying that blue-haired people were bad and dangerous, there were fights and arguments and some people went so far as to suggest that building a wall separating both towns could be a good idea to help bring the fighting to an end. Many people thought this idea was absurd given that the towns had always lived together in peace and that a wall would be of no use - being different did not mean they could not stay united.

But the construction of the wall began. At first the wall was low and we could jump over it and go from one town to the other easily, but the mayor and some of the neighbors started to make it higher and higher, and the wall rose parallel to the increasing mistrust between towns. It was getting so high that we realized that a time would come when we would not be able to cross from one side to the other.

One day I left for Moleville to see your grandmother and some friends of ours with whom we played cards every now and then. I washed my face, combed my hair, got dressed and left home with a jacket in case it got cold after lunch. When I reached the wall I couldn't believe my eyes! The wall was twice as high and there was no way I could jump over it - I needed at least a ladder!"



ACTIVITY

I was deeply saddened by this story. How could something like this ever happen?

- ✓ What do you think about the story Lina's grandfather told us?
- ✓ Did you find anything surprising?
- ✓ Why do they say they are different? Is being different a problem? Why?
- ✓ There are also many things people have in common that we should value, can you think of any?



Let's make a mural about walls, borders and barriers that separate people around the world with the photographs you have brought from home. In the classroom, comment on what walls and barriers are and what they are for. ▲



The Story Can Change

I am sure that your reflections about walls and borders separating people are very interesting. I firmly believe that people can talk and sort out their problems and that we can accept our differences and make our two towns live happily and in peace. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could tear down the walls separating us, and our towns could live happily and in peace?

There is a lot of work to do. Do you want to know how the story continues? Read on....

"Grandpa, wasn't there anything you could do to prevent the construction of the wall?", I asked him.



ACTIVITY

I suggest you to start building a wall in your playground or anywhere in your school. We will call it the *Unfairness Wall* and will end up tearing it down.

We will build it with cartons or boxes - which will represent the bricks - and write on them thoughts and ideas we discover throughout these days about things we do not like and which separate us from others. I will give you more details further on, but I'm telling you now so you can start collecting cartons or boxes and ideas to tear down!

"You see, Lina, at first people were really angry at each other. They went so far as to hit each other and I didn't dare to do anything out of fear. But your grandma did. She spoke to the people of the town and tried to make them understand that building a wall would not solve anything. But it was useless. People became increasingly more suspicious of each other because of our differences. And Lina, there is nothing worse than to live with fear and distrust.

So I finally understood that if I wanted to live in peace and with your grandmother, I would have to leave Turtleville. One night I took a ladder and crossed the wall to Moleville. And I was not the only one who did this - many people crossed from one side to the other with their suitcases and bags. That was



the last time I crossed the wall. The next day the wall was so high that only the sun and the moon were able to come up over it, and suddenly I realized that I would probably never see my family in Turtleville again. Or my friends, my work, the sea. And this is actually what happened and

how it will probably be", my grandfather said sadly.

Wow! That's so unfair! Nobody has the right to keep us from being with our friends, our families, to work where we want and see the sea... Do you agree?



ACTIVITY

And now that you know my grandfather's story, discuss the following:

- ✓ Why do you think he is sad?
- ✓ Why did he decide to leave his village?
- ✓ How would you feel if you were forced to leave your home to live in peace?
- ✓ Why does Lina say that it is unfair?

To reflect further on this story I suggest we play a game which you probably already know- the **chain game. We need plenty of space because you are going to have to run, so I suggest you go to the playground.**



Instructions for playing the chain game

To begin the game, 3 or 4 of you must stand in the middle of the playground, forming a chain, holding hands. Let's imagine that this is the wall separating Turtleville and Moleville.

The rest of you are the people from both towns and must run around with the objective of crossing the wall without being caught by the friends forming the chain/ wall.

Turtleville



Moleville



Bear in mind that:

Only players at the end of the chain can tag the rest.

If a player manages to cross through the middle of two people s/he is safe from being tagged and reaches the other side.

If anyone forming the chain lets go, they lose and cannot tag the rest.

If the chain tags a player, s/he becomes part of the chain – i.e., the wall – which will grow longer and longer.



Let's take a rest and discuss the things we felt while playing the game.

- ✓ What feelings did you experience (e.g. fear, anger, happiness, anxiety, calmness, etc.)?
- ✓ When did you feel this? At the beginning of the game? When you managed to get through to the other side? When you were tagged?
- ✓ Which feelings do you think Lina's grandfather experienced when he could not cross the wall? ⚠



Rights without Borders

My grandfather's story left me very concerned. I know people sometimes get angry with each other or fight because they want different things. But it is really sad to be forced to leave home to live in peace and to live surrounded by walls without being able to cross them.


I strongly believe that the fact of being different should not be a problem. All of us have things which make us different and unique, and also common things or similarities. And this means that we can share and learn from one another, don't you think so? Couldn't it be that more than often we pay too much attention to our differences and too little to what we have in common? What do you think?



ACTIVITY

I suggest we play a game to discuss this. It is sometimes known as the **World in Colors game. First, your teacher will place a sticker on your forehead. You cannot remove it.**

Then, without talking, divide into groups in the way you think is best. Remember no talking allowed.

Go ahead! 



The fighting, fear and mistrust have prevented my grandfather from seeing his village and neighbors again. How absurd, don't you think? I think it would be wonderful

- ✓ Did you like the game? Why?
- ✓ How did you divide into groups? Was it easy?
- ✓ Is there anyone who was not in a group? Why?
- ✓ How did you feel? Why? What did it feel like to be different?
- ✓ What was your attitude towards the group of those who were different?
- ✓ Could you have divided yourselves in a different way? What other things do we have in common?

if we could find a way to tear down forever the wall separating us and coexist together, both towns, happy and in peace. Will you help me?



ACTIVITY

How could we tear down the wall forever? Why don't you try finding a solution which can make the people from Moleville and Turtleville live again together in peace?

Think thoroughly about what should be done to achieve this. Discuss and make drawings explaining how they reached an agreement to tear down the wall. You can later choose one ending together. Your final drawing will be the fifth cartoon.





Once you have torn down the wall: what do you think the neighbors of the two towns did when they met after so many years?

✓ What do you think surprised them most when they saw each other? Do you think they had problems about their differences again? And if they did, how do you think they solved them? But then, maybe they had no problem at all and on the contrary, they found their differences funny and interesting. Discuss it in the classroom and make a drawing about how you imagine the meeting of the people from both towns.

After, you can all invent one ending together. This drawing will make up the final cartoon. In this way you will help it become a beautiful story.

I am sure that you came up with some awesome endings for this story! The two towns eventually understood that the wall had to be torn down and that we needed to discuss and value our differences in a respectful way.

Life is so wonderful now that there is peace and we can play and move freely between Turtleville and Moleville! We have new friends, I met the members of my family who lived in Moleville and we are all very very happy!





Tear down the walls!

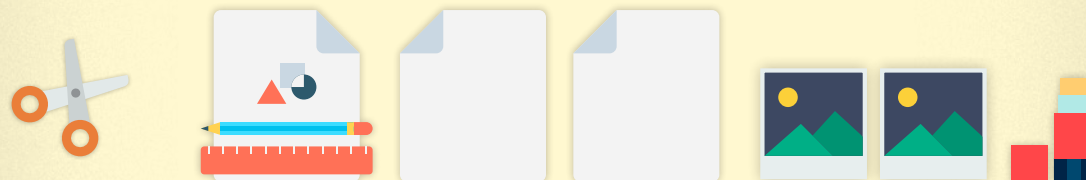
So we finally tore down the wall between Moleville and Turtleville! However, we have discovered there are many walls around the world and many ideas separating people. This is why I suggest you put together all the things you have learned during these weeks and build a wall with it, the *Unfairness Wall*, which we will also tear down forever.



#DerechosEnMovimiento



To build the wall we will use the cartons you have collected these weeks. Each carton will represent a brick. Cut three pieces of white paper the size of one of the carton's sides and think of three things or ideas which separate or divide some people from others. You can write them down, draw them or find photographs about them. We will later stick them onto the three pieces of paper.



Ask other class-groups to help you with bricks or with more pictures, sentences or photographs of things that separate and divide. Why don't you hold an exhibition at your school with all the cartoons and the endings you made up? You can invite your families, neighbors, town hall, etc. so they can get to know the story and participate in tearing down the wall.



In order not to forget what we have learned throughout these days, why don't you complete the following sentences together? You can later hang them up in your classroom so that you can see them every day.

Farewell!



- > The girls and boys from the class-group
have discovered that
- > The girls and boys from the class-group
like
- > The girls and boys from the class-group
want











