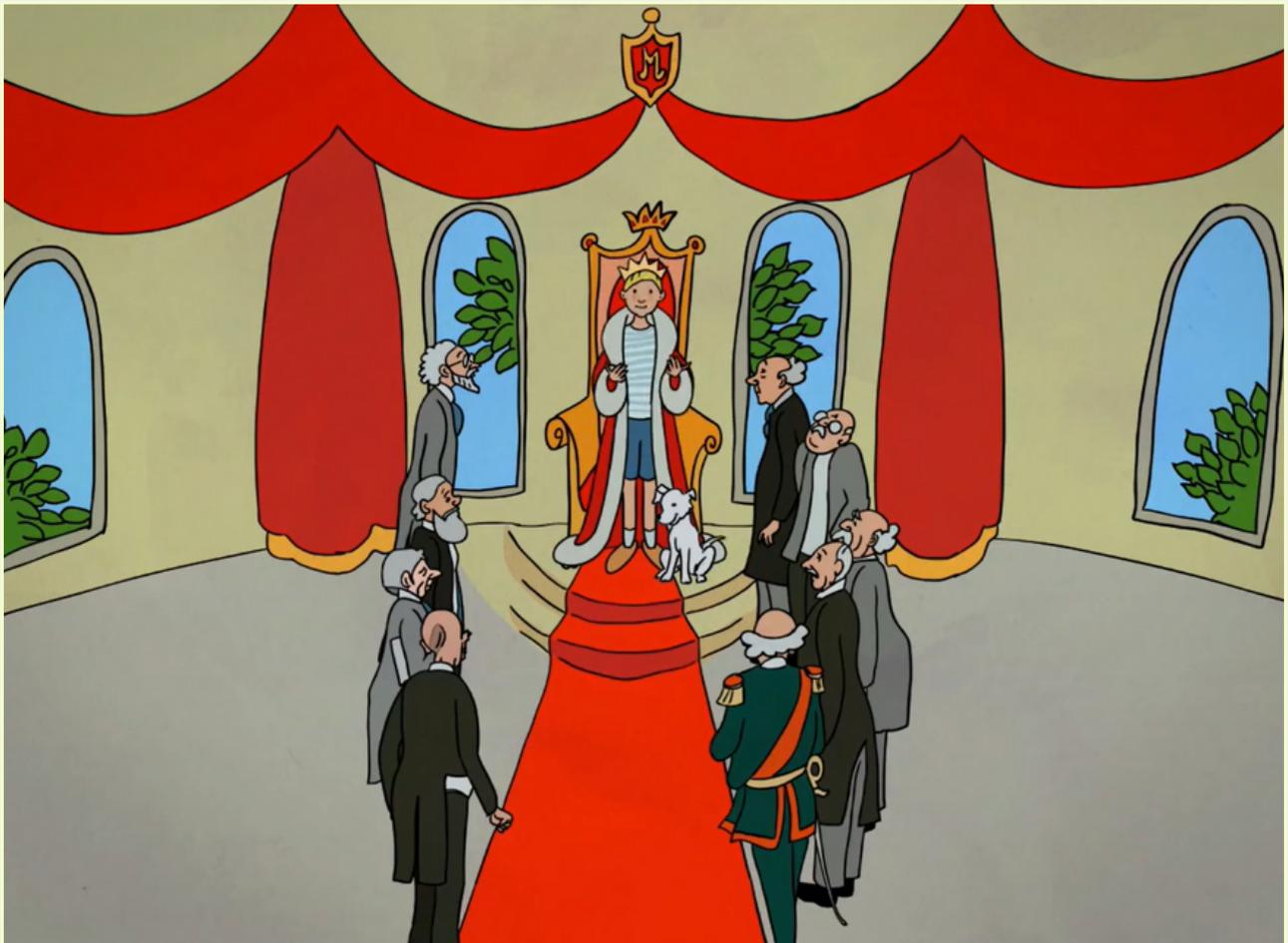


GUIDELINE FOR THE FACILITATOR

I AM "MATT". BASED ON THE NOVEL "KING MATT THE FIRST"



RATIONAL

This activity is centered around the book 'King Matt the First', written by the renowned Jewish-Polish author, physician, educator, and child pedagogue - Janusz Korczak.

The activity conveys a clear message that children have the power to make a positive difference in the world. Young participants will be invited to reflect on their role in society by examining select passages from the book. Our goal is to instill belief in their ability to influence, make their voice heard and respected, be involved and lead, just like Matt - the child king from the book. We hope to encourage participants to engage in a dialogue that explores the relevance of a book written a century ago to their lives today.

GOALS

- Familiarize oneself with the works of educator and writer Dr. Janusz Korczak, along with the artistic creations of Holocaust survivor Yacov Guterman.
- Engage in a deeper exploration of the novel 'King Matt the First', emphasizing on content that inspires and encourages leadership, self-reflection, and active participation.
- Promote group discussions using various methods such as creative thinking, articulating perspectives, and collaborative processing.

GUIDELINES

OPENING

During this activity, we will focus on two related works: the novel 'King Matt the First', written by the renowned Jewish educator and author, Dr. Janusz Korczak [1], and a painting by the Holocaust survivor artist, Yacov Guterman [2], inspired by it.. Korczak's book focuses on a boy who became the king of an imaginary kingdom, and how he sought to influence the world in order to make the children's voices heard.



FACILITATOR

PART ONE

**To start, please answer the survey question found on slide number 3:
"Do you think children can really make a difference?"**

After responding, engage in a brief discussion with the participants regarding their positions on the matter.

We will now watch a video that features the story of Yacov Guterman, an artist and Holocaust survivor (slide 4). Following the video, please share one thing that caught your attention, moved you, or sparked your interest.

On the next slide, you'll see a painting by Yacov Guterman, inspired by the novel 'King Matt the First'. What have you heard about him?

Take a moment to observe the painting. What do you see, and how is the story reflected in Guterman's artwork? Does the painting surprise you? If so, why?

Korczak envisioned a world where children could lead and act as kings. Yacov Guterman imagined King Matt seated on the throne, surrounded by his elderly ministers. **Why is it challenging to accept the possibility of such a story and painting existing in reality?**



GUIDELINES

1. Dr. Janusz Korczak: Born in 1878 to a Jewish family. In his adulthood he became a pediatrician, an educator and a writer. Lived in the city of Warsaw in Poland. Together with his close partner, Stefania Wilczyńska, he ran two orphanages - for Jewish and Christian children. As an educator he believed that children should be respected and treated as independent human beings with equal rights. He published articles and books on children's education, such as "The Child's Right to Dignity". In addition, in the orphanages the children participated in the management of the home and in determining the rules of the place. Korczak, along with the educational staff and the children of the Jewish orphanage, perished in the Treblinka extermination camp in 1942. Today, his educational legacy is alive and thriving and many schools throughout the world have adopted his groundbreaking pedagogy.

2. Yakov Guterman: Born in 1935 in Plutsk, Poland. His childhood was disrupted by the outbreak of World War II when he was four years old, and his family was forced to flee from their city. They were subsequently imprisoned for two years in the ghetto. In 1941, the family fled the ghetto, hidden by Poles and moving through several hiding places. During this time, his father joined the Polish underground, ultimately was killed during the Warsaw Uprising. Yacov and his family lived in hiding in a village until the end of the war, and eventually survived. After the war, he reunited with his mother, and in 1950, at the age of 15, they immigrated to Israel. Guterman spent the rest of his life in Kibbutz Hogan, pursuing his passion for drawing and painting. He illustrated around 170 books both in Israel and abroad, including children's and youth literature.

PART TWO

On the next slide (6) there are several passages taken from the book 'King Matt the First'. Divide the participants into six groups, as the number of the sections from the book (clicking on the magnifying glass icon will enlarge the text).

A. **First task** - read the different sections (then the facilitator will choose one section for the group to focus on).

B. **Second task** - click on the arrow button next to the selected section. From there you will be taken to a screen with a specific task related to your segment (slides 7-12). After you have finished the task, click on the Send button.

Third task - from here you will be redirected to the Padlet site, where you will be asked to upload a post that summarizes the various things you wrote in the previous task (upload the post below the relevant quote).

Afterward respond to the posts uploaded by the other groups (it's important to guide the participants to respond in a serious and respectful manner).

Return to the plenary, facing the screen where the posts are projected. Take a look at the various posts for a few moments.

(**To the facilitator:** while the participants are looking at the board, do the same to locate posts that you would like to spark a discussion around later on).

Who would like to address the posts? which one caught your attention, and why?

SUMMARY

At the beginning of the activity, we held a brief discussion about the quote:

Following a painting, about a boy, who became a king and believed that children can...

What thoughts or beliefs can be taken from this workshop, regarding children's ability to do, to change, to lead?

Throughout the activity, we wanted to emphasize that children within them the powers to bring about positive changes in the world, influence, be heard, be involved and lead, just like the character of the king-child Matt.



GUIDELINES



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