

CONFLICT TEXTILES



Arpillera Voices for #Children's Rights: Creative project with Balnamore Primary School on Children's Rights

The exhibition [Arpillera Voices for #Children's Rights](#) in [Roe Valley Arts and Cultural Centre](#), commenced in mid - March coinciding with the Spring Equinox on 20th March, which heralds the beginning of Spring; a time for children to play outdoors.

Through a partnership with [Balnamore Primary School](#) and teacher Catherine Martin, a creative project on Children's Human Rights, particularly the right to play, took place in April/May.



Box of materials provided to the class, with an example of a doll made in a different project. (Photo: Roberta Bacic)

Using cardboard doll silhouettes, the children made use of the available materials to dress and personalise their dolls.



They introduced them to their surroundings.



They brought them outside.



They played with them in the outdoor area.



Together they made music.



Their imagination knew no bounds.



As their teacher Catherine Martin observed: "They considered where they [the dolls] would live..."



...what games they would play and who would be in their family.



...Each child made their own house area for their doll and enjoyed engaging with others in unstructured play, showing great imagination and enjoyment”.

Her final comment sums up the success and enjoyment of this initiative: “This was a super opportunity for children to develop communication and social skills”.

Photos by Catherine Martin
Report compiled by Breege Doherty
7th May 2021