

CLASS WEEKENDS

Age group	Primary School, Grades 4 – 9		
Competency features	Proactive approach and creativity 	Ability to shape ideas into plans and bring them to fruition 	Ability to accept risk 
Aim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ to take up responsibility for a decision finding the best solution ▪ to learn how to assess oneself 		
Timing	setting the task, ca 10 – 15 minutes; to be attended to continuously throughout the school year		
Location	outside school, in free time		
Resources & materials	large wall calendar, possibly maps, felt-tip pens, highlighters, writing utensils		
Description			
<p>1) It is good to set this exercise at the beginning of school year; it may be used even with freshmen, at a time when they still do not know one another well, so they can get better acquainted and reach togetherness faster.</p> <p>Teacher presents: <i>“School has only started, and there is nearly a whole year in front of you! Each of you has some skills, practises something, plays music, competes in sports or other fields, is a club member, goes places, attends theatre, concerts or cinema. So for this whole year, I would like you to have not only an interesting programme of activities but also let all the others know about it. We are also going to get to know each other better that way. In your calendar, please jot down whatever you are doing outside the everyday chores. It could be sports events, chess tournaments, visiting your grandma in the country, cycling from A to B over the weekend, etc. Just make sure you have the necessary details right.”</i></p> <p>2) In collaboration with students, teacher sets the rules for recording events, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • date, time, place • things to bring along, costs • arrivals and departures, means of transport • who is the organizer (proponent; telephone) <p>Monthly, the teacher meets with his charges to decide where they will go to.</p>			
Risks and recommendations	It is prerequisite to consult with parents whether they will		

	<p>release their children for the weekends. Timely planning and double-checking.</p> <p>Risk management (number of tickets; overbooked coach; bad weather, etc.)</p>
Feedback	<p><u>Questions for discussion:</u></p> <p>Who has the most ideas? What have you learnt about your schoolmates? Who does what? Who will report about the outing in the class chronicle? Photographer? Film-maker? Who will prepare a presentation for the wallboard and/or web pages? Should we invite someone else?</p>
Application in classes	<p>This is an exercise of general nature, not linked with any specific subject. The goal is to create a closely-knit team, which makes it suitable for class teacher lessons or civic education; tangentially, it could be made use of in geography.</p>
Notes	