## **CAS PROJECT**

# Raising awareness about ecology in younger generations

~ journal ~

10.3.2019. - 14.4.2019.

Dora Strmečki, 3n

## Sunday, 10.3.

We started planning our CAS project. I am doing it with Martina. Since both of us volunteer in elementary schools, her working with 1<sup>st</sup> graders and me with 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, so we wanted to make something educational for them. We were thinking about how the world water day is soon and the international Earth day is soon after and we wanted to make them more aware of the problems Earth is facing. Their generations will come after ours and they have to be aware of the problems so they can find a way to solve them. That is why we decided to make the program for them about ecology. This project will also help me improve my social skills and will help me develop better skills when dealing with or taking care of children.

#### Monday, 11.3.

Martina and I agreed that we should do some educational program for the children in the schools we volunteer in. We decided that we wanted to make the program revolve about the world water day and the international Earth day. We wanted to educate them about ecology and how they could protect water and the Earth, but we also wanted to teach them something about waters and Earth in general and something about world water day and the international Earth day as well. That is why we decided to make our CAS project now, in the time before world water day and the international Earth day (because during the international Earth day they do not have school).

# Tuesday, 12.3.

We agreed on how we want to conduct our projects. We will separate the project into a total of four different presentations/ workshops. They will be held once a week in the classes we volunteer in. First, we will each make a presentation on the world water day the first week. The second week we decided to make a workshop with the kids and divide them into groups to make posters about water, each group with a different topic. The third week we would make an educational presentation about Earth and the international Earth day. For the last, fourth week, we decided that we will each do something else. Martina will do posters with the kids again while I will assign them to decorate boxes for recycling of paper.

#### Wednesday, 13.3.

Both Martina and I decided that we should go ask for permission in the elementary schools we volunteer in. We went to pitch the ideas. When I was in the elementary school I volunteer in, which

is also my old elementary school, I went to ask the school's social pedagogue ('socijalna pedagoginja' from 'stručna služba' in the school). She was thrilled to hear my idea and was very encouraging. She said that she will ask the principle of the school and get back to me but that she thinks there won't be any problems with getting the approval from her to do the project.

## Friday, 15.3.

I am still waiting for the message from the school I volunteer in ("Osnovna škola Remete") that my project is approved and that I can conduct it there. In the meantime, Martina and I decided on the exact dates on which we want to conduct our projects. I will do the first presentation on Thursday on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March. This will be the presentation about water and the world water day. The second week will be Thursday on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March, and I will do the workshops with the kids where they will make posters about water. The third week I will make a presentation on Earth and the international Earth day. This will occur on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April. The fourth and final workshop will be on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April and this is when I will give kids to make recycling bins for paper.

#### Saturday, 16.3.

My project has finally been approved. After I have given the detailed description of what I will do with and teach the children, she had no problem getting approval from the principal. I have also sent them the dates on which the project will be conducted and the exact time interval foreach date. I will conduct each part of the project at the same time, on Thursdays, from 2:45 pm to 3:30 pm, after my classes are over.

## Sunday, 17.3.

I started working on my first presentation and I made a draft of what it should look like. I am working in Microsoft Power Point. I made the first slide with the title of the presentation:



As it can be seen, I used a blue background to correspond with the topic of water because water is usually visually connected with the colour blue. I have also made an initial layout of what I want to put into the presentation. I had to keep in mind that the children I will be presenting this presentation to are all younger than 10 years, so the content needs to be appropriate for that age. That is why I will include information I know we learned from 'priroda I društvo' when I was their age when I will talk about waters in general. I decided that I first wanted to talk about the world water day in general and what it means. Then, I wanted to talk about water in general, giving facts such as the percentage of water vs land and things about flowing and stationary waters and such. At the end

I wanted to make a part which will focus on raising awareness about water pollution and how to prevent it. I will also need to include lots of pictures to get more attention with the kids. I want to make the presentation interactive so that the kids talk as well and not only listen (or not) to me.

# Monday, 18.3.

Today I made the presentation. I followed the plan of structuring I have previously created to help guide me through the process of making the presentation. I am very satisfied with how the presentation turned out, but I still want to make some changes to make sure that it is good enough to show to the children.

These are the sources I used for the information I put on the presentation:

- https://pp-biokovo.hr/hr/599/22-ozujka-2019-svjetski-dan-voda-voda-za-sve#ad-image-0
- http://croatia.hr/sites/default/files/styles/image\_full\_width/public/migrate/krka\_01\_np\_19 00x950\_ivo-biocina.jpg?itok=7gPNVwW1
- https://hr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Svjetski dan voda
- https://www.voda.hr/hr/novosti/svjetski-dan-voda-22-ozujka-2018
- https://water.usgs.gov/edu/graphics/serbian/earthwheredistribution.gif
- https://prezi.com/um a2w92fs2m/razlika-izmeu-kopnenih-i-morskih-voda/

these are the sources I used for the photos and pictures I put into the presentation:

- <a href="https://images.pexels.com/photos/40784/drops-of-water-water-nature-liquid-40784.jpg@?cs=srgb&dl=clean-drop-of-water-liquid-40784.jpg&fm=jpg">https://images.pexels.com/photos/40784/drops-of-water-water-nature-liquid-40784.jpg&fm=jpg</a>
- <a href="https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/32/Nacionalni\_park\_Krka-Skradinski\_buk.jpg">https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/32/Nacionalni\_park\_Krka-Skradinski\_buk.jpg</a>
- http://www.razredna-nastava.net/stranica.php?id=517
- http://www.razredna-nastava.net/stranica.php?id=518
- https://image3.slideserve.com/6917845/koji-su-dijelovi-rijeke-n.jpg
- https://farm1.staticflickr.com/481/19542866512 59de735249 b.jpg
- <a href="https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/db/Living%2C meandering river const">https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/db/Living%2C meandering river const</a> ructed %2814932315518%29.jpg
- https://media.defense.gov/2016/Oct/04/2001643915/-1/-1/0/161004-F-XX000-011.JPG

I used different kinds of sources for the information I put into the presentation such as pictures, graphs and articles. I also used sources from different sites including some English/American and some Croatian sites, and even a Serbian for the sources of information.

#### Tuesday, 19.3.

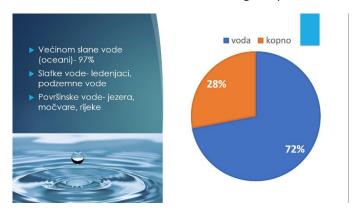
Today I went to finish up my presentation since I have to present it the day after tomorrow. Since I am being a sort of a role model for the children as their very temporary 'teacher' for the duration of the presentation I had to make sure that there are no spelling or grammar mistakes but also that the information I am giving to them is correct. That is why I doublechecked everything I did for the presentation and I also checked the words themselves for mistakes. After I was sure that the information is good and well written I transferred the presentation onto my trusty USB drive and also e-mailed it to myself for good measure to be sure I have it for when it will be needed. Tomorrow I

will go show the presentation to the CAS coordinator to make sure that it is appropriate and good to show the children on Thursday. I also have some pictures of the prestation:

This slide shows this year's topic for the world water day



This slide shows some of the facts I will tell the children during the presentation:



These are some questions I asked the children to make them more aware of the ecological problems Earth is facing



#### Wednesday, 20.3.

Since I was completely finished with my presentation for the project I will be conducting on Thursday (tomorrow) yesterday, it was time for me to show it to someone. I needed to show the presentation to someone who could validate if the presentation is appropriate to show to kids, I relevant data was on it and if it is overall good for the purpose it was made for. That is why I went to show it to our school's CAS coordinator today. When she approved it, I knew it was good. Now that I have approval the presentation is finally complete in its entirety.

#### Thursday, 21.3.

Today was the presentation day. Firstly, when I came to the elementary school, I went to the 'stručna služba' to show them the presentation I made. They liked it very much. Then they helped me, and the teacher set up the projector in the classroom because in that classroom specifically it doesn't hang from the ceiling but rather it is put away in a cabinet and needs to be set up when someone need to use it. once we set it up, everything went according to plan. The children responded really well to the presentation and answered all of the questions I asked them. It is also very important that the presentation was today because tomorrow is the world water day as it is every year, on 22<sup>nd</sup> of March. The problem is that my schedule does not let me make the presentation for tomorrow, so I had to choose the next best thing- today. After the presentation was over, I gave the kids some examples of drawings for inspiration and gave them papers to draw things such as life in waters, how to protect waters and what they use water for. They made very nice drawings. Unfortunately, I do not have the photos from the presentation because the person who took them still didn't send them to me. I can just hope that they will send them to me soon.

#### Friday, 22.3.

#### HAPPY WORLD WATER DAY!!

Today I took some time to reflect on the events that happened yesterday. I think that everything went very well, and I can just hope that the rest of the presentations go as well too. The experience I have collected yesterday has already taught me so much and I just know that the other presentations and workshops will help me for the future and teach me much as well. The kids also learned something new and revised their previous knowledge with which I am very satisfied too. Tomorrow, I will start to plan and prepare for the workshop I have had in mind for next week.

# Saturday, 23.3.

I started planning out the posters the kids will make this Thursday today. I made a list of things I will have to get and bring to them. I need: 4 poster papers, some glue, scissors, and some photos and pictures for them to glue onto the posters. I have also arranged with their teacher that they will bring their own photos and supplies too but I still need to bring some for those who forget to bring it. I have some glue and scissors at home, and I can print out the pictures on our printer as well. Now all I need are some poster papers which I will get on Monday on my way home from school.

#### Monday, 25.3.

When I was going home from school today, I sopped at a local paper store and bought some poster papers. They did not have much to choose from, so I picked two white and one earthy, dark brown paper. Since they were too big, I knew three would be enough. After I came home from school, I had lunch and then got back to work. I took the papers and measured each one and made a dotted line along the middle. Then I cut them straight and carefully down the middle. I also had to make sure that there are not any pieces of paper sticking out from the places where I cut to ensure that children do not get any paper cuts while making posters.

## Tuesday, 26.3.

Today I found some pictures for the kids to put onto the posters. I have planned for them to make four posters in different groups with each group having a different topic for the poster. Yesterday, I bought three big poster papers and cut them into six smaller ones to have two spare ones just in case. The topics I have planned for the posters are the following:

- Stationary waters ('vode stajačice')
- Flowing waters ('vode tekućice')
- What do we use water for? ('Za što koristimo vodu?')
- How to protect waters of the world? ('kako zaštititi svjetske vode?')

Each of the groups will get one or two pictures from me and the rest they will have to provide themselves.

# Wednesday, 27.3.

Tomorrow is the workshops I have been planning for the kids in my elementary school. I looked at the pictures I found yesterday once more today and added some pictures to those groups who had only one and now I am going to print them out. These are the pictures I found for different topics:

# Stationary waters ('vode stajačice')



## Sources:

- o <a href="https://images.pexels.com/photos/533923/pexels-photo-533923.jpeg?cs=srgb&dl=beach-foam-iphone-wallpaper-533923.jpg&fm=jpg">https://images.pexels.com/photos/533923/pexels-photo-533923.jpeg?cs=srgb&dl=beach-foam-iphone-wallpaper-533923.jpg&fm=jpg</a>
- o <a href="https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2014/05/18/19/19/swamp-347382\_960\_720.jpg">https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2014/05/18/19/19/swamp-347382\_960\_720.jpg</a>

## Flowing waters ('vode tekućice')



#### Sources:

- https://encryptedtbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTLHvxnQLqkjGRmTMxyTPf60vfNE2Fpex\_bmF5qiAws aMKxJ2OG7w
- https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/32/Nacionalni\_park\_Krka-Skradinski\_buk.jpg

What do is water used for? ('Čemu služi voda?')



## Sources:

- o <a href="https://images.pexels.com/photos/545013/pexels-photo-545013.jpeg?cs=srgb&dl=cleaning-hands-handwashing-545013.jpg&fm=jpg">https://images.pexels.com/photos/545013/pexels-photo-545013.jpeg?cs=srgb&dl=cleaning-hands-handwashing-545013.jpg&fm=jpg</a>
- o <a href="https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2015/10/12/17/17/tiger-984726">https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2015/10/12/17/17/tiger-984726</a> 960 720.jpg

How to protect waters of the world? ('kako zaštititi svjetske vode?')



# Sources:

- o <a href="https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2016/02/06/18/06/scenery-1183363\_960\_720.jpg">https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2016/02/06/18/06/scenery-1183363\_960\_720.jpg</a>
- o <a href="https://images.pexels.com/photos/40784/drops-of-water-water-nature-liquid-40784.jpgg?cs=srgb&dl=clean-drop-of-water-liquid-40784.jpg&fm=jpg">https://images.pexels.com/photos/40784/drops-of-water-water-nature-liquid-40784.jpg&fm=jpg</a>

# Thursday, 28.3.

Today was the workshop I planned for the kids. It all went very well. The kids were very exited to make posters. They made two brown and two white posters. This is how the process looked like for some of the posters:



I took some pictures of kids making the posters and I am inserting some of them in. I asked the schools staff if I can put in some photos of the children in my journal to which they agreed saying that the parents of the kids signed the form but is till blurred their faces out for good measure. These two pictures show how two of the total four posters were made.

This is where the teacher and I hung the posters after they were done:



The posters were placed right next to the door, two on each side. These are the finished posters:



Overall the workshop went really well, and all of the students were engaged in the activity.

## Friday, 29.3.

I immediately started working on my presentation for the international Earth day when I came home from school today and had lunch. I planned out the presentation in the similar matter I planned out the presentation for the world water day. It was easier to plan this presentation because now I have more experience and am already familiar with what it should look like and which information it should contain. I am again using Microsoft Power Point to make this presentation. I made the first slide with the title of the presentation:



I wanted to make the presentation similar to the first one both information wise and considering its looks and format. That is why I used the same background, but in different colour. The colour scheme of the background is this time green to represent the nature and the environment which is the topic of the presentation. I have also put in the date of the international Earth day which is unfortunately during the spring break which is why I will be doing this presentation and the workshop a little bit earlier.

## Saturday, 30.3.

Today I made a more detailed outline for the presentation. I did not get as much time to work on the presentation today because two of my friends celebrated their birthday today. I decided that I again wanted to do a presentation appropriate for the age of the students I will be presenting to. Following the layout of my previous presentation, I am first going to talk about the international Earth day in general and what it means. Then I will talk about Earth in general, giving facts such as how the Earth is built and where it is located, the classification of dry land on Earth (continents), what are climate and atmosphere and some facts about the flora and fauna. At the end I wanted to make a segment talking about the ecological aspects mostly focusing on climate change and what the possible outcomes can be because of it.

#### Sunday, 31.3.

Today I found some information I wanted to put on my presentation. I also made a draft of what the text on my presentation should be. These are the sources I am going to use to make my presentation and for what segments of the presentation they will be used:

- https://hr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zemlja planet Earth
- <a href="https://youtu.be/3rHXrA80NH4">https://youtu.be/3rHXrA80NH4</a> history of planet Earth
- <a href="https://phys.org/news/2014-12-earth.html">https://phys.org/news/2014-12-earth.html</a> The becoming of Earth
- <a href="https://www.livescience.com/29054-earth-core-hotter.html">https://www.livescience.com/29054-earth-core-hotter.html</a> Earth's layers
- <a href="https://hr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zemljina\_jezgra">https://hr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zemljina\_jezgra</a> Earth's layers
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mantle (geology) Earth's layers
- <a href="https://hr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zemljina">https://hr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zemljina</a> atmosfera#Podjela atmosfere prema temperaturi atmosphere
- <a href="https://www.ekologija.com.hr/oneciscenje-zraka/">https://www.ekologija.com.hr/oneciscenje-zraka/</a> atmosphere

I used different types of sources for this presentation as well including things such as articles and different sites.

#### Monday, 1.4.

I did a lot today.

APRIL FOOLS! I didn't.

I just put the information into the presentation and started searching for photos I could put into the presentation.

#### Tuesday, 2.4.

Today I made the presentation. I followed the plan of structuring I have previously created to help guide me through the process of making the presentation. I am very satisfied with how the presentation turned out, but I still want to make some changes to make sure that it is good enough to show to the children. I found the rest of the pictures and photos for the presentation and inserted them. These are the sources for the pictures:

- <a href="https://images.pexels.com/photos/2422/sky-earth-galaxy-universe.jpg?cs=srgb&dl=astronomy-discovery-earth-2422.jpg&fm=jpg">https://images.pexels.com/photos/2422/sky-earth-galaxy-universe.jpg?cs=srgb&dl=astronomy-discovery-earth-2422.jpg&fm=jpg</a>
- https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a9/Planets2013.jpg
  https://farm5.staticflickr.com/4697/39010889865\_e4e7ba64fe\_b.jpg
- https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/images/spitzer/pia08040-browse.jpg
- https://elsalvadorgram.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/1-moon.jpg
- https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/dd/Earth layers model.png
- <a href="http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/images/earth/climate/20160310/air-pollution-smoke-rising-from-plant-tower.jpg">http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/images/earth/climate/20160310/air-pollution-smoke-rising-from-plant-tower.jpg</a>
- <a href="https://images.pexels.com/photos/428625/balloon-hot-air-balloon-ride-mission-lighthouse-428625.jpeg?cs=srgb&dl=balloon-beach-clouds-428625.jpg&fm=jpg">https://images.pexels.com/photos/428625/balloon-hot-air-balloon-ride-mission-lighthouse-428625.jpg&fm=jpg</a>

- http://media.defense.gov/2017/Feb/07/2001695702/680/385/0/160826-Z-GJ639-003.JPG
- https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/e/e0/Seven continents Australia not Oceania.
  png
- https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/95/Continents.svg/1280px-Continents.svg.png
- <a href="https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7c/Meadow\_and\_woods.jpg">https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7c/Meadow\_and\_woods.jpg</a>
  <a href="https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2016/03/21/10/44/desert-1270345">https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2016/03/21/10/44/desert-1270345</a>
  <a href="https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/p
- https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2016/11/28/18/37/the-1865639\_960\_720.jpg
- https://images.pexels.com/photos/869258/pexels-photo-869258.jpeg?cs=srgb&dl=adventure-alpine-climb-869258.jpg&fm=jpg
- https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/58/Desert Fox Pups interaction.jpg
- <a href="https://images.pexels.com/photos/72505/pexels-photo-72505.jpeg?cs=srgb&dl=amazon-jungle-monkeys-72505.jpg&fm=jpg">https://images.pexels.com/photos/72505/pexels-photo-72505.jpeg?cs=srgb&dl=amazon-jungle-monkeys-72505.jpg&fm=jpg</a>
- https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2018/12/30/23/46/ibex-3904226 960 720.jpg
- https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2015/03/13/20/22/horses-672214 960 720.jpg
- https://farm7.staticflickr.com/6035/6364758657 14efcdb856 b.jpg

I have also labelled what each photo was on the presentation's last slide.

# Wednesday, 3.4.

I finalized the presentation completely today. I double checked everything to make sure it is correct and have made some tweaks and changes here and there to improve some slides. I also revised the information on the presentation because I will have t present it tomorrow. To finish everything off, I found some examples of drawings for the kids to get inspired with because after I am done presenting, I will give them time to draw. I will show some of the slides from the presentation below.

To make the presentation more engaging than the previous one, I added some questions in between the slides as a foreshadowing of what I will talk about to help them start the topic and to see what they already know about it. One of those slides looks like this:



These some of the informative slides I will show the kids:



These are some of the slides about ecology:



I have used even more colourful pictures in this presentation than in the previous one.

## Thursday, 4.4.

After school, I went up to the elementary school and first showed the presentation to the 'stručna služba' and they thought it the presentation is really nice. Last time, it was too bright outside, so we had to turn the projector towards the closer wall, so the image projected was very small. It was somewhat cloudy today so we could turn the projector toward the further wall on which the canvas for screening was also hung. The presentation went really well, and the children responded quite well to the interactive questions. I also have some pictures from the presentation:



For those who don't know, I'm the girl in the red circle wearing a black hoodie. This is the projection of the presentation:



These are pictures of how the kids were drawing after the presentation:



Friday, 5.4.

I wanted to do a workshop making boxes for recycling paper with the students. I was informed that they already have containers for that but that they were missing containers for plastic caps from water bottles the school is collecting. We agreed that we would make boxes for that instead. Since the school participates in the 'EKO škola' project, I was also asked to join the cause with my project. I was honoured to say yes. I am glad that my effort is recognised but what I am extremely happy about is the fact that my project can make any difference, even if it is just a little one. That is enough for me.

## Monday, 8.4.

I contacted the teacher from the elementary school to kindly ask of her to tell her students to bring art supplies for Thursday because of the art project related to the workshop I have planned for them on that day. They will need glue, scissors, coloured paper, markers, pencils, pens, crayons, and any other art supply they think they will need. It can even be an unconventional art supply such as some strings and ribbons, or even glitter, as long as it is in the form of those glue glittery things because I don't want them to make a mess with pure glitter. We do not want another glitter fiasco at our hands, believe me. The last time they played with glitter, it ended up everywhere, on their faces, in their hair, on the floor and even on me.

# Tuesday, 9.4.

The teacher informed me that she told the students what they should bring for Thursday and also what they should not bring. The teacher and I also agreed that they should not be allowed to use water activated paints such as water colours and acrylic paint because they do not have any source of water in the classroom, so it always ends up being a mess which spreads over the entire hallway in the school. I will provide them with five boxes which they will then decorate the day after tomorrow. I just have to acquire five cardboard boxes now.

## Wednesday, 10.4.

I was thinking for a while where I could find the boxes I will need for tomorrow. I knew that I don't want to buy them because they cost money, they are already decorated and most importantly, it would not be very ecological of me. I also thought about going to a recycling yard to get some. Then my dad came to me with a solution to all my worries like he was sent from the heavens by whichever god Him/Herself. He proposed that I just take one of those Konzum boxes from our basement. I didn't even know we had any. But oh, we do:



So, I took five of these and placed them in our hallway for tomorrow.

#### Thursday, 11.4.

Today I did the workshop with the kids. The teacher and I divided the students in the groups. They were very excited to start with the project. When I needed to bring the boxes to school, I did not know how I would carry them into the tram and onto the bus nor how could I manage them during the school day when I have classes. I knew my cousin was coming for lunch today, so I asked her to bring them to me on the bus on my way to my elementary school. I am so grateful she helped me. If it weren't for her, I would be stuck with a stack of cardboard to carry with me all day. The kids were very creative and had different approaches to decorating the boxes. Since they weren't able to finish everything today, the teacher and I agreed that they should finish it tomorrow. Unfortunately, I will not be able to be there when they finish them due to my class schedule. Here is a picture of the process of making the boxes:



#### Saturday, 13.4.

The last workshop we did was on Thursday. I have taken some time to think about everything we did to be able to reflect on the past four weeks. I am extremely grateful for this opportunity because I have learned so much from doing this project. Researching for the presentations I was making, I even learned some new things myself about ecology and about the danger our planet is facing. People should be more aware of the problems especially younger generations because that is their future because of our predecessors whether they want it or not. Even if Martina and I influenced a small part of our community I am still satisfied that we made an impact. I hope that what Martina and I tried to teach the students in the schools we are volunteering in sticks with them, that they remember it and that they try to make a difference. I have also picked up some new tips and tricks for making presentations and also for presenting because this is the first time, I have had such a young audience. It is important to remember who your target audience is when presenting and to take up an attitude appropriate for the occasion.