## **REPORT**

# TÄMÄ ON MINUN TAKAPIHANI - THIS MY BACKYARD



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#### **GRANT ETELÄ SAVON KULTTUURIRAHASTO**

TÄMÄ ON MINUN "TAKAPIHANI" - challenging art and poetry program for children and parents, to explore and express their nature and environment artistic work in the field of children's culture

AREFS develops innovative art programs to contribute to nature awareness and its meaning for children growing up in isolated rural regions. It will increase awareness of historical and cultural knowledge as well as the emergence of new traditions and contemporary cultural heritage and strengthen the cultural awareness of the youth in small rural societies.

start program: May 2013 end program: May 2014

The grant covers the costs for the material and equipments and the additional staff. On all publications AREFS has add the logo of Etelä-Savon Kulttuurirahasto.



The challenging art education project started in May 2013 with meetings at the schools to plan the schedule and groups.

At all three locations we initiate workshops to explore the scope of the content and groups concerning. In school year 2013-2014 all the classes in Hiirola and Rämälä and class 5 and 1 of Haukivuori have been part of the program.

We planned and executed 4 art sessions per series in each group in autumn, and in winter. In spring we planned and executed 3 sessions per series in each group.

Finally we organized a final workshop in Hiirola and Rämälä with all the classes together. Even the program has officially ended we are planning different community art activities in Hiirola.

The main idea of the art program is to intensify the artistic attitude of the children and to increase their involvement with the specific expression about their environment.

During the series children were painting, printing and drawing, they have been writing essays and poetry about their habitat.

The process of the art workshops has given interesting information about the way how children can visualize their relation with their environment. It is not the intention to develop false sentiments but just to make clear how a child reflects on the unique place it grows up.

Using different basic materials and collect information about their habitat it creates step by step a personal view. Even one year is too short the results can be used for new experiences and AREFS will try to continue with new program parts.





information during an introduction

'listening' to the painting during a museum visit

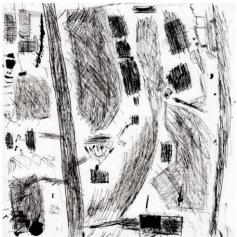
As part of the introduction it was useful to make connection with the way how landscape and society were developing and changing and how people interact with the environment.

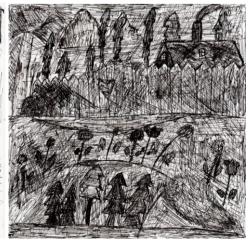
Children were writing about the history of the village and they made interviews with older people to get informed about the way of living in the past.

The results are remarkable and waiting for research and publication.

The whole process is published at the website of AREFS http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-index.html

In over 30 pages the process of all the workshops, museum visits and community activities are archived. AREFS is planning to research, document and publish the results and outcome of the project I the book **TÄMÄ ON MINUN "TAKAPIHANI" – THIS IS MY BACKYARD**. As soon as is a budget AREFS will start with collecting articles, editing the content, and translating the text into Finnish and English.





drawing with Indian ink 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class Hiirola way home- school Eero 4<sup>th</sup> class my h

my home Nuppu 3<sup>rd</sup> class

my home Max 3<sup>rd</sup> class





painting my home – Verla Haukivuori 1<sup>st</sup> class

the way from home to school Joona Haukivuori 1st class

### **PROJECT IN NUMBERS**

participating schools: Haukivuori class 4 - 2 workshops class 5 - 4 workshops - 7 workshops class 1 Hiirola class 0/1/2 - 9 workshops class 3/4 - 8 workshops class 5/6 - 4 workshops Rämälä class 0/1/2 - 6 workshops class 3/4 - 8 workshops class 5/6 - 4 workshops

workshops at schools52 workshopsworkshops parents and children5 workshopsvisit exhibition Mikkeli Art Museum- 3 visitsmeetings artists/performers- 4 meetingsmeetings teachers/coordinators schools- 9 meetings

participating children Haukivuori 75 children
Hiirola 42 children
Rämälä 56 children

participating adults 19 adults

involved teachers/assistants 17 teachers/assistants

involved artists/performer 4 artists

content workshops painting

printing drawing poetry publication

website AREFS

www.arefs.org

blogs school Hiirola

http://hiirolankoulu.blogspot.fi/

blog school Rämälä

http://ramalankoulunblogi.blogspot.fi/

Facebook page

THIS IS OUR NATURE

https://www.facebook.com/child.art.nature

AREFS-SAKSALA ARTRADIUS

https://www.facebook.com/artradius

Haukivuori Seutu

planned book TÄMÄ ON MINUN TAKAPIHANI

THIS IS MY BACKYARD

promotion

flyer postcards banners

interested international organizations

InSEA world congress - Melbourne - Australia Creatief Vermogen - Utrecht - the Netherlands Villa Arttu - Hyyvinkä - Finland

LOCATIONS

small villages Rämälä, Hiirola, Haukivuori

**PERFORMERS** 

4 visual artists Ilse van den Berk

Marjaana Valve Os Leppänen

Anna Toljamo Marja de Jong







mono printing my home 1<sup>st</sup> class Rämälä

way home –school Aino 1<sup>st</sup> class Hiirola

way home – school 5<sup>th</sup> class Haukivuori

#### web pages about the project at the website of AREFS

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-index.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-ramala.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-ramala-3-4.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-ramala-3-4-map-environment.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-ramala-class-5-6-map.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-hiirola.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-hiirola-0-1-2-savo-rail.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-hiirola-class-3-4.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-hiirola-class-3-4-school-yard.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-hiirola-class-3-4-footsteps-in-the-snow.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-hiirola-class-3-4-savo-rail-in-hiirola.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-hiirola-class-5-6-map-of-my-environment.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-haukivuori.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-haukivuori-1.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-haukivuori-1-yard-around-house.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-haukivuori-1-savo-rail.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-haukivuori-1-in-the-train.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-collaborative-workshops-children-parents-index.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-collaborative-workshops-children-parents-1.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-collaborative-workshops-children-parents-2.html

 $\underline{\text{http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-collaborative-workshops-children-parents-3.html}$ 

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-excursions.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-excursions-class-0-1-2-ramala-hiirola.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-excursions-class-3-4-ramala-hiirola.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-excursions-class-1-haukivuori.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-publication.html

http://www.arefs.org/projects/this-is-my-backyard-2013-2014-promotion.html

some pages are under construction and not published yet.





map of my environment 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class Hiirola painting