In Our Global Village

Zagreb through the Eyes of 5th and 6th Grade

American International School of Zagreb
In Our Global Village
ZAGREB

Domų melyni
IN OUR GLOBAL VILLAGE
Zagreb through the eyes of 5th and 6th Grade

A project by American International School of Zagreb

American International School of Zagreb
Zagreb, Croatia
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What is Green?

Green is Maksimir Park,
With fields to run,
Trees to climb.
Green, are the picnic places
At Lake Jarun.
Green, are the cool, shady paths
In the Botanical Gardens.
Green is Mount Medvednica
Walks are fun and refreshing.

What is Blue?

Dinamo Zagreb’s strip is blue.
Blue is the Sava River
As it flows high or low.
Blue are the trams
That wind through the city
Like blue dragons spitting out,
Or swallowing up
People at each stop.
Kids scream and splash
In Jarun’s or Bundek’s blue water.
Marching girls make perfect lines of blue,
The city’s coat of arms is proud and blue.

What is Red?

Red is the color of umbrellas
At Dolac
Red was the blood that ran
On the Bloody Bridge,
When there was battle
Between Kaptol and Gradec.
Red are the roofs
In the Old Town.
On St Mark’s tiled roof,
Is the red of the Croatian emblem.
When you leave Zagreb,
Red is the licitar heart
You may buy
As a souvenir.

What is Gold?

Gold is the sunrise
Streaming through the city
Shining on Kožarić’s
Grounded sun.
Gold is the color of wedding rings
on so many hands.
Gold is the Golden Bull of 1242
Making Gradec a free city.
Gold are clocks watchmakers repair.
Gold is the frame of the Virgin Mary
People beseech at the Stone Gate.
Good ideas are infectious. Cathryn Berger Kaye’s service learning presentations sparked the idea for yet another edition of the *In Our Global Village* series. This time fifth and sixth grade students from the American International School of Zagreb (AISZ) pooled their efforts to add their “village” to this fantastic fund of information written by children.

There were many good reasons to embark on this project. Andrea Katić, the students’ Croatian culture teacher, and I recognized it as a great way for students to become more knowledgeable about the city where they live or will live for the next two, three or more years.

What a shame to live in a place and not explore what it has to offer in the way of history and culture! Through field trips, interviews, class work and research projects students gained information. In pairs, they commenced the demanding task of writing a page of the book you have in your hands. Some of their writings are selections of work resulting from Walden Experiences\(^1\) during field trips. At these times students found individual spaces in an area and sat for ten, fifteen minutes observing. They recorded their observations, thoughts and feelings. Later these observations were used to produce a piece of writing.

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\(^1\) Henry David Thoreau used this technique during his Walden Pond retreat in the 19th century.
The overall scheme of the book was to look at Zagreb through the colors - blue, red, green and yellow/gold; blue being the official city color, red representing traditions, green the nature and yellow or gold, a unique installation.

The selection of topics for the book was a collaborative decision. From an adult perspective I had hoped that students would note the “café society” atmosphere so prevalent in Croatia, but naturally children have other priorities. The café is a vital part of the culture. That is where friends meet. “Vidimo se na kavi.” (Let’s have coffee) is a common invitation. Even business is conducted in this informal relaxing ambience. On sunny days, particularly Saturday mornings, every café is packed. Lively conversations greet the passerby. Street events held in the many squares are colorful, energetic and frequent. Open air theater such as “C’est is the Best”, traditional crafts, foods, book fairs, puppet parades, celebrations of sport successes, protests… it all happens around you as you stroll by or enjoy your coffee.

In the spirit of service learning the book provides one more confirmation that the original book about Kimba ya Simba Through the Eyes of Its Youth had found sympathetic readers and made one more “friend”. Copies of the book in the school library will also serve as a good source of information for future students and families at AISZ. In this way fifth and sixth grade students of 2009/10 will have provided a service to anyone who reads their book.

Erika Šaravanja
Grade 5 teacher
Zagreb is the capital of Croatia. It is also a mass communication point. That means that people travel through by railroad or highway. It connects Western Europe and Eastern Europe.

Zagreb is an agreeable city which lies in between the Medvednica Mountain and the Sava River. People have been living in Croatia since prehistoric times, but Zagreb was built about a thousand years ago. Nowadays Zagreb is a city of approximately 800,000 people.

Zagreb’s absolute location is 45° 10’N, 15° 30’E. It has an average summer temperature of 30° C (86° F) and an average winter temperature of 1° C (33.8° F). July is normally the hottest month and January is the coolest. In the summer, most people travel to the coast, but some people stay. They relax under a parasol and have a coffee or a nice cold drink. In the spring, everything blossoms and the temperature is just right for outdoor activities. In the winter, most people stay to ski on Sljeme or go to Austria. In autumn, people have a nature walk on Medvednica or have a stroll around the lakes in Jarun.
Overall, Zagreb is pleasant, but what I like the most is that it is so peaceful that no one bothers or disturbs you, and you can have a pleasing quiet rest. My favorite place to go is Medvednica Mountain because it is a silent forest, on mountainous land, with water trickling in streams.
Zagreb’s Landmarks
by James Lee, Lorenzo Pace and Marko Jukić

Being an old city, Zagreb has many historical landmarks. This city was first built on two hills. One was called Kaptol and the other Gradec. The two hills were established under the rule of King Ladislaus, the Croatian-Hungarian Emperor. Gradec was a town for merchants and craftsmen and it became a free royal city in 1242. During that time, it was decided to build a large stone wall around the city in order to protect it from the Tatar invasions. On the other hill was Kaptol which is older than Gradec. It was established by King Ladislaus as a bishop’s city in 1094. In 1851 the two hills were united by Ban Josip Jelačić. Some parts of the old city can still be seen today. One easy way to go to the old part of Zagreb is by riding the 66 meter funicular, which is the shortest funicular route in the world.

Between Kaptol and Gradec was a stream called Medveščak. The two communities mostly lived peacefully, but at times battles broke out for different reasons. One of the reasons was when Kaptol demanded that people of Gradec pay taxes. The battles were fought on a bridge over the stream. The bridge was called Kravvi most, Bloody Bridge, because of the blood that was spilled on it. Today there is no bridge; a street (Krvavi most) connects Radićeva and Tkalčićeva streets where the bridge once was. The stream still flows, but in a pipe under the street.

Another landmark on Gradec is Lotrščak Tower. From the tower every day right at 12:00 p.m. a cannon is fired to mark midday. The tower was built as a defense tower in the 13th century. The
people of *Gradec* also used it to warn the citizens from fire and flood.

The Stone Gate is another significant monument. In Croatian it is known as *Kamenita vrata*. It is famous for a painting of the Virgin Mary surviving a fire that destroyed many buildings in the old town in 1791. Miraculously the painting was not damaged and because of that people go there even today to pray to the Virgin Mary.

St. Mark’s Church is also a very important landmark. This church is very close to *Lotrščak Tower*. The church is in St. Mark’s Square. The building is famous because of its tiled roof and the two coats of arms featured on it. One of them represents Croatia and regions of Dalmatia and Slavonia. The other one represents the city of Zagreb.

There is also Zagreb Cathedral which is a noticeable landmark in the city of Zagreb. This cathedral has two towers, 108 meters high. They are the tallest in Zagreb and Croatia. The cathedral was built during the 11th century, in 1093. In 1880, a terrible earthquake hit Zagreb and this church was damaged partly because it was built with poor quality stone. After the earthquake the people of *Kaptol* decided to build it again with better quality stone.
There are so many landmarks you can see in Zagreb and they are all very interesting. Some of them are ancient, and others are more modern, but they all deserve to be visited. The landmark we like to visit most is the cathedral. We like it because it is grand, and it survived historical challenges.

Zagreb Cathedral

http://www.zagrebtravel.com/zagreb-attractions.php
http://www.europeupclose.com/exploring-zagreb-crotia%e2%80%99s-old-town/
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaptol,_Zagreb
http://img512.imageshack.us/img512/3672/katedrala1qi0.jpg
http://openphoto.net/gallery/image.html?image_id=22674
http://picasaweb.google.com/lh/photo/Qh-WZR3hIBEk5MBLUb7dUg
Katarinski trg
Natalia Ruhe

On this square you can sit for hours and hours
Just lying in the sun
With a nice view of the cathedral
You can lounge in peace and silence
Think your own thoughts and events
You could do your homework or something else
It’s just relaxing
Bond Cantrell

It’s very windy
The wind blows a scent of freshness
It’s a westerly.
I feel better than I have in days.
I’m leaning against a tree.
The rough bark is comforting against my back.
It’s kind of cold,
The plants beneath are springy –
No grass, just lichen.
Peaceful Old Town
Daniel de Koster

I’m next to Lotrščak Tower
Listening to a man playing music
I feel happy and dreamy
I think of happy childhood times
Below in the city
Vendors are calling to buyers
People are running to trams
I am safe up here
Enjoying the sunshine and fresh air
It is very quiet here. A gust of wind tousles your hair. The sun lights everything. It feels like the whole universe is lighted right now. You can hear the wind touching leaves. You relax. All the buildings around you are only roofs. It feels like summer around you, somewhere near you… The people on the next bench are hugging each other. They want to spend time here in a quiet place, where you can even fall asleep. You take the pictures – quiet, windy, sunny…

Photographs
http://www.destinacije.com/datum_nav.asp?lang=hr&pg=1&datum=21.05.2005.&cp=1&s=Next
http://lh3.ggpht.com/_XQKOPdr8CzU/SNNeUFiDIhI/AAAAAAABhAek/4o49PzFv-h8/dia_0070.jpg
Walking through Zagreb you will meet incredible people. Sometimes these people are from the past and statues at that. You will meet King Tomislav, viceroy Josip Jelačić, August Šenoa, Marija Jurić Zagorka and Antun Gustav Matoš.

King Tomislav was the first king of Croatia. His statue faces the main railway station. It was made by Robert Frangeš Mihanović. The great king’s most prosperous period was in 928. He united Croatia which was a great country at that time.

While you are walking from McDonald’s to Ban Jelačić Square, you will see Viceroy Josip Jelačić’s statue made by Anton Dominik Fernkorn. Now we go back to history to find some things about Josip Jelačić’s life. He was born in 1801 and died in 1859. From 1849-1859 he was a general in the well–known Austrian army. Ban Josip Jelačić abolished serfdom and united Kaptol with Gradec into the city of Zagreb.

August Šenoa’s statue is on Old Vlaška Street. Well–known as the father of modern Croatian literature, he was born on 14th of November 1838. August Šenoa introduced creativity to literary writing and wrote to attract more readers. His writing from 1860 to 1881 had a great impact on people. Not only that he was one of the
best novel writers in Croatia, he was one of the first journalists in Croatia. He also studied law in Prague and lived in Vienna but returned to Zagreb in 1866. In 1868 he became town notary. Then he published his first novel **Goldsmith’s Gold (Zlatarovo zlato)**, the first Croatian historical novel, in 1871. The story is based on historical facts and it presents a gallery of characters like nobles, priests and citizens. The plot of the story is based on the conflict between nobles and citizens who ask for greater rights. With all his wonderful writings, August Šenoa became well-known in all of Croatia but his death had to end it all on 13th of December, 1881.

On Tkalčićeva street you will find Marija Jurić Zagorka’s statue. **Marija Jurić Zagorka** was also a well-known writer born on 1st of January 1873. Marija was the first female journalist in all of Croatia and one of the first in Europe. She went to school in Zagreb but stopped at age 15 because her family had problems. She married a Hungarian railway clerk. Both she and her husband moved to Hungary, but their marriage ended when Marija escaped from the house. She wrote 11 famous books of mostly historical fiction. On the list of Croatian famous writers she came in second place. She died on 30th of November, 1957.

And finally we will feature **Antun Gustav Matoš** on Gornji Grad, who was born on 13th of June 1873 in a region called Syrmia.
When he was two Antun moved to Zagreb where he started primary and secondary school. Later he tried military school. He joined the Austro-Hungarian Army, but deserted. He didn’t want to fight for a foreign army, and went into exile. He traveled to Belgrade, Vienna and Geneva, spending most of his time in Paris. When he was pardoned, he finally settled in Zagreb. He died on 17th of March, 1914 because of throat cancer. Two dozen boxes of poems, story articles, travelogues, and criticisms were found after he died.

These people’s talents changed Croatia in a good way. They made it have more life. They helped make Croatia happy. People decided to sculpt their statues in the memory of these great inhabitants of Zagreb.

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/04/August_%C5%A0enoa.jpg
http://www.bookrags.com/biography/august-senoa-dlb/
http://www.mgz.hr/en/display/senoa/
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Josip_Jela%C4%8Di%C4%87
http://s2.pticica.com/foto/0000547491_l_0_1hsxjd.jpg
http://www.labin.com/web/fotovijesti/neobavezno_2090_v.jpg
Blue is a distinctive color in Zagreb. Trams and buses are blue, the coat of arms is blue, waterways are considered blue, and the sporting teams wear blue.

The Zagreb coat of arms is really old. It consists of a three-towered castle with a star and a crescent moon overhead. Behind is a blue background, on a green hill - Gradec, three towers and open gold gates; to the right, a gold six-pointed star; to the left, a white crescent. The crescent moon and a star represent Slavic gods and goddesses. The blue background symbolizes Mary, Jesus’ mother, going to heaven.

In Zagreb a tram is one of the fastest and most convenient ways to travel. The first trams were used in 1891. They were horse drawn. Then the first electrical tram came out in 1910. Models of past trams can be seen in the Museum of Technology in Zagreb. The most modern tram, produced in Croatia, is the low-floor tram. More than 100 of these trams are in service to date. The first came out in 2005.
Three main waterways are important to the city. The Sava River flows through the middle of Zagreb. It is 945 kilometers long. It flows through almost all of continental Croatia. It starts in the Planica valley in Slovenia and empties into the Danube in Belgrade, Serbia. It is because of the Sava that Zagreb is where it is today.

Lake Jarun was formed by the Sava River, and is located on the southern edge of Zagreb. The lake is the location of the Jarun sports and leisure center, where people can row, paddle, sail, wind surf, swim, jog, bike, roller skate, and skateboard. Around the lake are many nightclubs and cafés. There are many walking trails around the lake.

Bundek is another lake in Novi Zagreb. It is on the southern banks of the Sava. Bundek is not a natural lake. It was formed after building materials were excavated from the site when New Zagreb was being built. On sunny days everybody goes to Bundek to play and barbeque. People go to walk along the paths and through the gardens surrounding the lake. The Flora Art is held at Bundek Lake each year. This is a well known-gardening and plant exhibition.

Dinamo, the Zagreb soccer team wears blue jerseys. The hockey team Medveščak also wears
blue jerseys. *KK Cibona*, the Zagreb basketball team, wears blue as their home color. Even the award-winning marching girls *Mažoretkinje* wear blue uniforms.

All this and other things in Zagreb are blue. Blue, along with other colors makes up the blazing rainbow of what we call Zagreb. With blue represented in so many ways the people of Zagreb identify in a unique way with the color blue.
Green Places in Zagreb

Maria Chiara Feliciello and Lara Picena

Zagreb has many beautiful green places: Maksimir, the Botanical garden, Zrinjevac, and Medvednica. These places can be called the lungs of Zagreb because they give beauty to the city and places to relax.

Maksimir is a leafy oasis on the eastern side of the city. It is a 316 hectare park that opened in 1794 and was named after the bishop Maksimiljan Vrhovac. It was landscaped in the 19th century. Now it has been renovated and redesigned. The park contains five lakes, flowerbeds and shrubs. There you can walk, jog, run and bike. There is also a zoo which began with only 3 foxes and 3 owls, but now there are 275 animal species.

Zrinjevac is near Ban Josip Jelačić square, in the center. Zrinjevac is part of the Lenuzzi horseshoe, a park area in the center of the city spanning several blocks. In Zrinjevac there are rows of plane trees, benches, flowers, two fountains, known as Gemini, a music pavilion, and busts of famous figures grace the park. Those famous figures include: Julije Klović, Andrija Medulić, Fran Krsto Frankopan, Nikola Jurišić, Ivan Kukuljević Sakcinski and Ivan Mažuranić. At the north end there is a
meteorological column. Zrinjevac is a very pretty place. People can relax, walk, and listen to music.

The Botanical garden has pathways. It began in 1892. The first plant was planted then. The Botanical Garden is close to Trg Marka Marulića. Vladimir is one of the gardeners who has worked there for 15 years. He said that the most famous plants are: Kockavica, Velebitska Degenija and Perunika.

Croatia’s national flower is the iris (Perunika). His favorite plant is Proljetni Gorovijet. In the Botanical Garden there are: 14 green houses, 2 artificial ponds, 3 rock gardens and a lake with an ornamental bridge over it. There are over 10,000 plants from all over the world. Maria Chiara liked the lake and the bridge most. Lara liked the trees in bloom and the flowers most.

Medvednica (“Bear Mountain”) is a mountain on the northern boundary of Zagreb. The highest peak is Sljeme, which is 1033 meters tall. Most of Medvednica is a nature park, a protected area because of unique ecological characteristics of international significance. The whole park area is 228.26 square kilometers and 64% is covered with forest. There are three ways to reach the mountain: by car, on foot, or gondola lift. There are many types of forest vegetation: fir forest, hilly beech forest, beech fir forest, chestnut, oak and beech forest. On the southwestern edges, there is a medieval castle, Medvedgrad (“Bear
Croatian people have several legends that are set in Medvedgrad. The most popular one is the legend of a Black Queen. It is based on the character of Barbara Celjska, (c. 1390/1395 – 11 July 1451) the Holy Roman Empress and a queen of Hungary and Bohemia, who occasionally lived in Medvedgrad. The legend says that Barbara had to marry King Sigismund at a very young age. She didn’t want to do that, so she galloped into the woods of Medvednica. Some, even today, claim they see a beautiful queen wandering the woods and using her magical powers on hikers.

On the northern slopes of Sljeme the women’s FIS (Fédération International de Ski or International Ski Federation) World Cup slalom is hosted. It is an annual championship which began in January 2005. The trophy is known as the Snow Queen. It is named in honor of Janica Kostelić, Croatia’s most prolific gold medal winner. In February 2008, for the first time a men’s world cup slalom was hosted also.
If you come to Zagreb you will want to see these places, and many more. The Mayor of Zagreb, Milan Bandić, said that it is easy to keep these places so nice because nature does half the work. Also he wishes to see the day when squirrels will jump from tree to tree so they could go through the whole city from Medvednica to the Sava River and back. He would like to make traffic a smaller problem and try to expand pretty places like this.


http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medvednica
http://s2.pticica.com/foto/0000719038_1_0_97irp6.jpg
http://virtualnanastava.pbworks.com/f/1254754605/Zrinjevac.j1.jpg
http://lh5.ggpht.com/_mlCwSHnBv_Y/SR-haFa1s6I/AAAAAAAABh4/_cuqAM3hK2Y/DSC03162.JPG
http://www.index.hr/forum/default.aspx?q=t&idf=52&idt=93715&p=21
The gardener is like an artist
He creates beautiful flower beds
    He uses many colors
Like greens, yellows and reds.
    I am in a unique place
And I inhale the crisp air
    I breathe this intense perfume
This is something wonderful to share.
We came in the Botanical Garden and right away I spotted flowers blooming. I could hear the water dripping from a turtle’s head. The wind was rushing against the trees. The bamboo was dancing with the wind. Birds were singing to us in the tall trees. I could feel the heat of the sun burning against my head. I could feel the rocks pushing against my shoes. The bees were buzzing against my ears. Red, purple, yellow, and pink - all these colors in just a garden. Nature is wonderful for us to be in. We all need nature to make the world a happy, colorful, and relaxing place.
The Botanical Garden
Natalia Ruhe

Trams screeching,
Birds tweeting,
Plants growing everywhere,
Sweet aromas flowing in the area,
There are plants big and small,
Magnolias and daisies,
I just love them all,
It’s silent and it’s quiet,
It’s where I want to be,
I wish I could lie here,
So I could see the Botanical Garden.
... Tamara Ivchikova

I see the beautiful, already green leaves. I can feel the spring in the air. Birds are singing the nicest songs for me, for the nature. This place is very special. The nature is here... somewhere near. If you sit on the bench, where I am sitting now, you can hear this heavy, melancholy sound – the train passes. I can smell the flowers, trees and everything green in this small park. No, it’s not a dream... It’s true!!!
In a stream
Water is trickling
Rocks crunch when strolling
The flowers on the path
Have a lovely aroma
And I glimpse roots
Obtruding out of the grass
I observe a turtle doing acrobatics
It elevates its leg
Into the air
It persists like that
Not moving a hair
I see frogs squat in a lake
It almost resembles
They’re not even awake
I hear birds chirping
Within the trees
I scent the fragrance
Of cedar leaves
I hear and smell
I see so well
I feel everything
Because I’m in
The botanical garden

Philippe Ollivier
Sitting on a warm bench in a wonderland of plants. Trees, bushes, and flowers keeping me calm. The smell of cut grass, chirping of birds, all the amazing things nature contains. In the center of all of it is a pond. Turtles, fish, and frogs inhabit this water, keeping it fresh and beautiful. On this nice sunny day, everything seems as if it could stay still and peaceful forever.

Nathan Huntz
Traditions and the Color Red
Ghazaleh Abdollahzadeh and Paul Trevor Sandberg

Red is a color of happiness, celebration, giving and love. Folk costumes of the Zagreb region, Šestine, have red embroidery on white linen. A red umbrella with colored trim is part of the costume. The Šestine umbrella is seen at Zagreb’s most famous food market, Dolac. Licitar hearts are red, even the Croatian flag and coat of arms have the color red.

Šestinske nošnje is the Croatian name for folk costumes from the Zagreb region. The costumes are made from a handwoven fabric. The fabric is woven from flax. The male costume has a shirt and loose trousers. Men wear a leather belt over the shirt. On their head they wear a black hat with a red, or red, white and blue band around it. Over the shirt they wear an embroidered, red vest and a felt embroidered coat. On their feet they wear leather boots. The female costume has an embroidered blouse, calf length dress and apron. The border of the apron is embroidered, too. On the head of women is a red floral scarf and another scarf is tucked into the apron. Women wear ankle high leather moccasins or boots over knee-high white socks with red ribbons tied just below
the knee. Leather and fur embroidered waistcoats called *lajbeks* are worn in cooler months. The *Šestinski kišobran* or umbrella is used as protection from weather and as an accessory during festivities. The umbrella is red with lined trim. The line designs can be white, green, yellow and blue with red in between.

*Dolac* is an open air market. It is located close to *Kaptol*. At this market you can buy many kinds of meat, dairy products, seafood, fruits or vegetables, and even souvenirs.

*Mr. Bandić*, the mayor of the city, says people in Zagreb consider the *Dolac* market to be “the stomach of Zagreb”. The market has two levels, the lower part is covered and the upper part is open. The open section has wooden stalls that are shaded by large, traditional, *Šestine* umbrellas; the umbrellas are a *Dolac* trademark.

The fruit and vegetables come from many different parts of Croatia. Some food is imported from countries like Spain, Macedonia, Greece, and Austria. *Dragica* has been selling vegetables at *Dolac* for forty years. Every week she commutes from a region close to *Split* on the Adriatic coast to sell her produce in Zagreb. She’s at *Dolac* every Thursday, Friday and...
Saturday. She says, “This is my job. It is super. I have raised a family of five children with the help of my earnings.”

*Licitar* hearts have become popular souvenirs for visitors to Zagreb. They are decorative, heart shaped cookies that were once given by young men to their sweethearts as a memento of their love or admiration. The original *licitar* hearts had personal messages written in icing. Nowadays, *licitar* products come in many shapes and colors. The traditional color is red with white icing. Their ingredients are simple; honey, flour, eggs, water, and natural colors like red and white.

![Šestinska nošnja](http://www.inyourpocket.com)

![Šestinska nošnja](http://goeasteurope.about.com)

![Šestinska nošnja](http://www.easypedia.gr/el/images/shared/archive/3/3d/20060109131647!Croatia_flag_large.png)

![Šestinska nošnja](http://www.lado.hr/hr/naslovna.asp?o=nosnje_g#)

Jelka Radauš Ribarić, *Croatian National Costumes*, Ethnographic Museum Zagreb, Spektar, Zagreb, 1975
Zagreb’s Solar System

Jakub Vinklarek, Ethan Fairchild, Bond Cantrell and Sky Torzewski

Nine Views is a model of the solar system in Zagreb. The inspiration for the model was a sculpture by Ivan Kožarić called *Prizemljeno Sunce* or Grounded Sun.

Mr. Kožarić is a well known Croatian sculptor. He is also the author of the statue of Antun Gustav Matoš in the old town. Mr. Kožarić is 97 years old and lives in Zagreb. His studio and many of his works are part of a permanent display in the newly opened Museum of Contemporary Art in Zagreb.

His sculpture of the Grounded Sun was first placed on a walkway in front of the Croatian National Theater. The location was selected because it was a very public place, and Mr. Kožarić wanted to bring the Sun down for all to see. But it caused such interest and reaction from motorists that city councillors considered it a distraction and decided to move it to a quieter location. In 1994 the sculpture was moved to Bogovićeva Street, a pedestrian street where many cafés are located. The sculpture is simply a bronze sphere about two meters in diameter. When asked how he felt about the graffiti on his sculpture, Mr. Kožarić replied, “Nowadays, nothing is sacred to people.”

In 2004, Davor Preis added nine models of the planets of the solar system around Zagreb to complete a model of the entire solar system. Sizes of the models as well their distances from the Grounded Sun are all in the same scale as the Grounded Sun itself. Mr. Preis said the model was an art project. It turned out to be a game between the artist and citizens of Zagreb, because Mr. Preis didn’t tell anyone where the planets were. It is said that if you find all the planets, you become a true local of Zagreb.
Actual locations of the planets are:

- Mercury: 3 Margaretska
- Venus: 3 Trg bana Josipa Jelačića
- Earth: 9 Varšavska
- Mars: 21 Tkalčićeva
- Jupiter: 71 Voćarska
- Saturn: 1 Račićeva
- Uranus: 9 Siget
- Neptune: Kozari put
- Pluto: Avenija Bologna (underpass). At that time Pluto was still considered a planet.

In our opinion Nine Views is one of three unique features to discover in Zagreb. The other two are the city trams and Dolac market. We consider ourselves partly locals because we found the Sun, Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Jupiter, which is close to our school.

e-mail contact with Mr. Preis
Telephone interview with Mr. Kožarić
Croatian Language
Tamara Ivchikova and Daniel De Koster

Croatian is the official language of Croatia. Many other languages are spoken in Croatia, including English, Italian, and German. The Croatian language is a south Slavic language and there are three Croatian dialects: Štokavian, Čakavian, Kajkavian. Croatian uses the Latinic script, but has distinctive letters to represent specific sounds. The first Croatian literature was written in glagoljica. The most famous monument of this script is the Baška tablet (Bašćanska Ploča) of 1100. This monument is a record of King Zvonimir’s donation of a site to the Benedictine convent on the island of Krk. The Glagolitic alphabet, also known as glagoljica is the oldest known Slavic alphabet. The name glagoljica developed in Croatia around the 14th century and was derived from the word glagoliti, which means to speak. Croatian has 30 letters in its alphabet.

The letters of the Croatian alphabet are:

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HELLO!  Bok!
BYE!     Zbogom!
THANK YOU!    Hvala!
WELCOME!   Dobrodošli!
I DON’T UNDERSTAND YOU.  Ja vas ne razumijem.
HELP!     Upomoć!
WHERE ARE YOU FROM?  Odakle ste?
WHAT IS YOUR NAME?   Kako se zovete?
I DO NOT SPEAK CROATIAN.  Ja ne govorim hrvatski.
HOW ARE YOU?    Kako ste?
HELLO, MY NAME IS …  Bok, zovem se…
WHAT DAY IS IT?    Koji je ovo dan?

When you are in Croatia and you speak English and need some help, find a younger person; but if you speak German, seek out an older person, because Croatia was a part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

If you want to learn more Croatian go to http://www.pimsleurapproach.com/learn-croatian.asp and a thing will pop out and then sign in and learn Croatian in 10 days, but if this website does not work try http://theseus.posterous.com/learn-a-language-todayyou-can.

http://www.translation-guide.com/free_online_translators.php?from=Croatian&to=English
http://media-cdn.tripadvisor.com/media/photo-s/01/14/0c/8c/split-harbor.jpg
http://search.yahoo.com/search?ei=UTF-8&fr=b1ie7&fr2=sp-qrw-corr-top
http://theseus.posterous.com/learn-a-language-todayyou-can
http://www.volgawriter.com/VW%20Cyrillic.htm
http://www.alphabetglobal.com/roman-alphabet.php
Professor Balthazar

Nathan Huntz and Matthew Leake

Professor Balthazar is a cartoon series for children about an old inventor. It was created for television by the Croatian animator, Zlatko Grgić, at the Zagreb Film studio, Croatia. Fifty-nine episodes of the cartoon were made between 1967 and 1974. They are so popular that they are showing on TV even today. The series has been shown in subsequent years in several countries besides Croatia, including Denmark, Finland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Spain, Iran and Zimbabwe. It was also shown in the United States in the 1980s on Pinwheels. The series was also on the ABC in Australia.

Back in 1967, Zlatko Grgić made the first episode of the cartoon Balthazar called “The Shoemaker”. Children like Balthazar because he has many storylines and plots that they enjoy. One of the main messages is that there is always a way to solve problems in a non-violent way. The fifty-nine episodes were made by a team of twenty people including Zlatko Grgić, Boris Kolar, Ante Zaninović, Tomica Simović and Zlatko Bourek.

Professor Balthazar is short, has a beard, wears glasses and speaks gibberish. He has a big nose, white hair, a green buttoned black suit with green boots and a black hat with a green bow. Balthazar has a big machine that produces a
potion that can help anyone’s problem. When thinking, he paces back and forth. All people in town go to him when they have a problem, therefore he is popular, but sometimes Balthazar has his own problems. For example, once when Balthazar went to the Alps to meet his friend he yodeled and snow fell on him, and when he got back, he had a terrible cold. Another example is when Balthazar had trouble fixing his clock. His friend fixed the clock, and the problem was that a mouse was sleeping in the clock thinking it was Big Ben.

Here is an example of one of the episodes where Professor Balthazar helps somebody: In Balthazar city lived a great musical virtuoso, Maestro Koko. His best friend was Philip. Koko was Philip’s elephant. They were connected by their love for music and ice cream. One day, Koko played so beautifully that Philip made him more and more ice cream, and Koko enjoyed it more than ever! But he caught a cold! He was sick one, two, three days and, on the fourteenth day he was healthy! Koko was heartbroken since his trumpet was squashed. He wrote a good-bye note and vanished. Philip couldn’t find him anywhere so he went to Professor Balthazar for help. Professor Balthazar invented a grand search for Koko. They didn’t find him in the heart of the jungle. They didn’t find him in the depths of the Pacific either, and he wasn’t between clouds. The one place that was not searched was the North Pole, so they went on a long, cold trip to the North Pole. Professor Balthazar and Philip found Koko there, and Koko was spraying penguins with water from his trumpet. Koko was happy since he found a new way to make his friends joyful.
Professor Balthazar usually comes upon someone who has a problem and so he rushes to his machine, producing a potion which shall solve the problem. Why do we like him? We like professor Balthazar because he is smart, solves problems in a good way, and talks funny.
In our school community, there are 210 students representing 37 nationalities. There are 40 female and 18 male staff members. Our school community grows every year because we get new students from all around the world. Some of the subjects taught at our school are English, Math, Art, Social Studies, Drama, Foreign Language, Croatian, Gym, Science, and Music.

A typical school day starts at 8:00 am and ends at 3:00 p.m., but on special occasions school ends at 12:00 p.m. The kids and teachers get to school by taxi, car, tram, bus, school bus, and on foot. We have an organization for parents and teachers called the PTA (Parent Teacher Association) where parents of children in the school organize picnics and parties.

The American School of Zagreb (ASZ) began in 1966 with 13 students and 3 staff members. The school was built to serve the needs of the American community. The location of the school moved again and again. As more international students attended, it
Europe; he also wanted to work with Dr. Heslip and Dr. Haddon who worked in the same school with him in Argentina. Before coming to Croatia he lived for eight years in Katmandu, Nepal and then ten years in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He likes this school because of the size, the students, and the teachers. He teaches grades six to ten. He teaches math because he thinks it is important and it is used everyday. He likes math. His most memorable experiences in Zagreb were when he saw Bob Dylan at Šalata and when he saw women having a race in high heels at the Dolac market.

Mr. Lewis came to AISZ because he wanted to work in Eastern Europe, and it was not as expensive as Western Europe; he also wanted to work with Dr. Heslip and Dr. Haddon who worked in the same school with him in Argentina. Before coming to Croatia he lived for eight years in Katmandu, Nepal and then ten years in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He likes this school because of the size, the students, and the teachers. He teaches grades six to ten. He teaches math because he thinks it is important and it is used everyday. He likes math. His most memorable experiences in Zagreb were when he saw Bob Dylan at Šalata and when he saw women having a race in high heels at the Dolac market.

Dr. Thomas has been teaching at AISZ for three years. She came here to teach English and psychology to high school students. She enjoys teaching because she likes communicating with students and likes to understand their behavior. Her most memorable experience in Zagreb is enjoying lunches at Mrs. Kolbah’s house (French I.B. teacher) on Saturdays. Once when Dr. Thomas decided she wanted to own a dog, Mrs. Kolbah immediately bought a newspaper and studied the
“dogs for sale” section. They began calling around. When the two of them found the perfect dog, they drove to the place mentioned in the ad and bought a dog. Dr. Thomas still has her dog, Pooja, and she loves him very much.

Fran Grubeša came to AISZ because his mom wanted him to go to a better school, and she wanted him to improve his English. He has now been here for six years. He enjoys being in school. He likes AISZ because he likes the teachers and hanging out with friends. His most memorable experience of Zagreb is when one of Zagreb’s shopping malls, Kaptol Centar, was being built. He grew up and lives in that area. He enjoys going to the center because it is modern, and there are many things to buy. There is a modern cinema complex too, where he likes to watch movies with friends.

Eleonora Pace is a fourth grade student. She has been at the school for five years. She came from Italy. Her favorite special is music, because there she gets to play instruments. She likes being around and chatting with friends when she is allowed. She likes her class and the things they do and learn. Her most memorable experience of Zagreb is when one time she went to Avenue Mall with three of her friends, Omer, Valerie and Noam. The four of them bought a lot of stuff. That is something she enjoyed because she was with her friends.

To us, our school is big, but to other people it is small. AISZ is a fun place to learn and have fun. I (Natalia) am moving, and I will miss all the friends I have made and all the teachers I have had. I feel sad because I always had a lot of fun, and I will miss this school.
Acknowledgments

This book is part of In Our Global Village (IOGV), a global service learning program, initiated in response to In Our Village, *Kambi ya Simba through the Eyes of Its Youth*, a book written by students of Awet Secondary School in Kambi ya Simba, Tanzania. IOGV was founded as a partnership between Cathryn Berger Kaye, CBK Associates, and Barbara Cervone, What Kids Can Do. IOGV invites students around the world to write a book about their “village,” their community in whatever form that is—and contribute both tangible books to be shared near and far, along with a virtual copy that could be viewed on the program website.

For more information and to join In Our Global Village, please visit www.inourvillage.org. Click on the See In Our Global Village Project box. There you will also find copies of student-authored IOGV books.

We also invite you to learn more about each partner:
CBK Associates, www.abcdbooks.org
What Kids Can Do and Next Generation Press,
www.whatkidscando.org and www.nextgenerationpress.org

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Katherine Crnički, Emily Stousland and Judy Thomas
# About Us

**Text**

Ghazaleh Abdollahzadeh, Bond Cantrell, Indrashish Chattopadhyay, Petra Crnički, Daniel de Koster, Anita Goga, Ethan Fairchild, Maria Chiara Feliciello, Nathan Huntz, Tamara Ivchikova, Marko Jukić, Matthew Leake, James Han Ju Lee, Philippe Ollivier, Lorenzo Pace, Mona Panadić, Lara Picena, Jaroslav Prochazka, Natalia Ruhe, Paul Trevor Sandberg, Sky Torzewski, Jakub Vinklarek

**Drawings**

Leanna Cisneros, Anita Goga, Daria Jashechkina, Omer Landau, Andrew Leake, Matthew Leake, Lukas Pedersen, Emily Szabo, Sky Torzewski, Alessandra Zannier

“What is...” poems by Grade 5, 2010/11