

Istanbul Poetry Project by Nicola Caroli, Babette Ponndorf and the students of 6c of the Erika-Mann-Grundschule.

The Istanbul Poetry Project is a workshop with class 6c, an integration class at the Erika-Mann-Grundschule in Wedding. The children are introduced to two poems by German poets with Turkish backgrounds ("Ich" ["I"] by Hasan Özdemir and "Ich Nicht" ["Not Me"] by Zehra Çirak). Using the poems as examples, they learn how to approach poetry, for instance by investigating the words or acting out the connections between them. The students wrote a poem on the theme "I/not me" and painted pictures to accompany the poems with their teacher Babette Ponndorf.

What did you learn about poetry?

That you shouldn't just read a poem, you can also get to know a poem in a very different way and understand what it's about. (Duygu)

That there are lots of different poems I didn't even know. I liked the poem "Ich" because it came from way down inside and you can understand what he means. (Ismet)

That we learned how you can write poems, that poems don't always have to rhyme, that poems can also have completely different meanings. (Duaa)

That you can express feelings with poetry. (Patricia)

That you can interpret the content however you like. Everything is right. What I like about poems is that they can be funny, interesting, sometimes even a bit crazy. (Malik)

That you can act out poems. (Vanessa)

That it's not so simple to simply write a poem.
(Nil-Orkide)



