



**"Working
with the
community
for the
community."**

<http://elixirmime.com/>

AUGUST 2013

**9-day Summer English/ Mime/ Storytelling Camp for
teenagers from foster homes and low-income families
in Dniprozherzhynsk , Ukraine .**

Photo to right

**Learning
about acting
out a story by
using a poem
as inspiration:
Be Grateful by
Edgar Guest**



On performance day—acting out the parable of the Unjust Judge and the Persistent Widow. Luke 18



Warm up exercises using dance steps to loosen up.

Working together with the Dnipropetrovsk Regional NGO “Simya”, we were able to give 12 underprivileged teens a unique opportunity to **learn English and gain basic acting skills** in a friendly environment. It taught them to work together, to be creative and to express **themselves through storytelling**. They gained self-confidence and communication skills. They learnt positive values through first studying and then acting out in mime the parables taught by Jesus.

We look forward to developing more projects with Simya in the near future.

There was a marked improvement at the end of the camp when each team performed their story.

Here are some **comments** from the participants.

This was the first time we did anything like this so it was a unique experience. ”

“The assignments incorporated all the theories we learned. I liked the performances and acting out the poems or stories. I have to act in school plays and this workshop will give me confidence to play roles better.”

“I learned not to be afraid of the audience and not to be afraid to do crazy things.”

“I learned to open up, be flexible, and to get out of my routine to see how other’s think and feel.”

“In playing a character, I learned that the small details are important. For others to believe my acting, I have to believe it myself and take what I am doing seriously and not ruin it by laughing nervously.”

“I liked acting out the poems, showing emotions, and the tennis ball game. It was all great fun!”



Left: One of the teams studying and scripting their story performance. Each team was given a checklist to follow to develop the theme and block the action.

Please let us know if you would like to help in any way with our community projects.
Thank you very much! Please contact us at e-mail: new2mailbox@yahoo.com