

Treefrog Toys Final Report

The Tree Frog Toys Project was a group effort to create toys for children who do not receive adequate sensory stimulation. Multiple studies show that children who are sensory deprived before age two have a harder time with social interactions and struggle cognitively when they enter school. Furthermore, children within our own school who have special needs could use the toys to self soothe as we got the patterns from autism websites. (UNSDGs 3 and 4) Our frogs are made out of recycled fabric donations and plastic from bake sales (used as stuffing and supplied by our fellow GSL team: Waste Warriors). We wanted to make sure every child in the Open Arms orphanage had a unique toy of their own while educating our own school about waste management and providing valuable sewing skills that can be used in the future. (UNSDG 12). We were therefore delighted when our project appeared in the journal for The American Chamber of Commerce (Seoul) and “The Banner” as a sustainable product with minimal financial output as everything was created from waste.



Despite school closure, roughly 50 toys were produced for children in the orphanage with 11 leftovers to give to our Learning Support Department and 5 prototypes for our neighboring school. We cut each frog by hand and made them each totally unique. Each of our frogs sports a unique name tag carrying a message for each child that is in Korean as the orphanage volunteers mentioned that no child had their own toy and this is crucial for building their identity. This became obvious when we prototyped our designs with year two (who showed us their own sensory toys). Service is compulsory for MYP so, in the sixth-grade design class from our neighboring school, our frogs were featured as the main objective of their sewing unit, where kids would learn design skills as well as



the environmental benefits of reusing some of the 500,000 tonnes of fabric waste that is generated yearly. They have since purchased brand new machines for our group to use as needed and we provided frog

