

Short profile Christiane Daepf Ideenbüro

Christiane Daepf began her career as a teacher 38 years ago, and has taught different grades at various primary schools in the canton of Bern. Since 2005, she has also lectured at the Bern University of Teacher Education within the faculty of "General Didactics".

Christiane Daepf founded the "Ideenbüro" program in 2002 in response to difficulties at a school. She recognized that children are outstanding problem solvers. Particularly in areas that affect them personally, children can be extremely successful in the role of conflict managers. It was precisely this knowledge that Christiane Daepf focused on and developed further. Within the context of the "Ideenbüro" program, schoolchildren look for solutions to the day-to-day problems of fellow schoolchildren.

The "Ideenbüro" is the contact point in a school for problems of all kinds. Anyone feeling unhappy, excluded or misunderstood will find a sympathetic ear at the "Ideenbüro". The children in charge of the "Ideenbüro" listen to the concerns and work together with the child involved to find solutions. The range of problems includes everything from bullying and vandalism to the troubles that arise in pupil-teacher interaction.

Since then Christiane Daepf has implemented her concept of contact points for problems of all kinds in over 40 Swiss schools. In 2004, just two years after being started, the "Ideenbüro" project was presented with the Orange Award for Intercultural Dialogue (first prize) from UNICEF. Christiane Daepf was honoured as a "social entrepreneur" by Ashoka (everyone a changemaker - www.ashoka.org) in 2008.

Brief CV

Born:
01.05.1953 in Oppligen, BE, Switzerland

Professional activities:
Primary teacher for different grades
Lecturer at the Bern University of Teacher Education (continuing education)
Teacher of educational drama in various school classes