



Kids Globe



Kids Globe International Academy

Concept
Short version

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The name reflects the program

What are „kids“? Why „Kids Globe“?

„Kids“ are young people, ranging from small children to youths and to young adults who have almost reached their thirties.

We reach out to people between the ages of nought and twenty. This means almost three billion people worldwide.

Kids Globe, with its collaborative learning process, will contribute towards ensuring that the youngest generation is well prepared to take on, in the best sense of the word, responsibility for the globe.

The Kids Globe Concept

It is now sixteen years, in 2008, since the comprehensive two-part *Kids Globe Concept* was drafted by about thirty specialists from different fields.

Part 1: *Project Description*

Part 2: *Economic Concept*

The main focus of the Concept was and is education, because the education of young people provides a way of reaching all relevant goals.

This short version addresses the most important points outlined in the *Kids Globe Concept* and brings them up to date.

→ Part 1 and Part 2 of the *Kids Globe Concept*
(in German) can be ordered via:
grabowsee@kidsglobe.org

The core principle

The core principle of the Kids Globe Academy is to ask questions – relevant questions:

- What does learning ideally look like?
- How can we bring about participation among young people?
- How are decisions made?
- How can children and young people develop their potential?
- What is of concern to the young generation?
- How can we live healthy lives?
- How do we work together with older generations?
- What needs to be done to prevent us as humans from destroying our planet?
- How do we maintain variety in the animal and plant kingdoms?
- What does it mean to shoulder responsibility?
- How can mediocrity be overcome? What do we mean by a high level?
- How do we lead a fulfilling and meaningful life – in the face of adversities?
- How can we bring about worldwide cooperation?
- How can we foster the peaceable coexistence of cultures?
- What form should funding take?
- How do we want to handle money?
- What role does humor play? Or satire?
- and more besides

Answers to these questions will be found via dialogue, constant exchange, in symposia, in workshops.

Practice!

Learning in Grabowsee means learning by practice.

About 70 percent of Kids Globe Academy activities are based on practice.

This high proportion of practice is the key to successful learning.

And yet we by no means neglect theory: 70 percent practice means that we incorporate three hours of theory into every ten hours of learning. Three hours of theoretical thinking equips the human brain with sufficient thoughts to be able to – either simultaneously or subsequently – convert these into action.

Overcoming mediocrity!

We need to overcome mediocrity! This is imperative! Not a single cell of our bodies is mediocre, yet our thoughts can be – and all too often are – mediocre.

The mediocrity of our thoughts is the cause of just about all man-made crises. Animals and plants are not prone to mediocrity. This should give us food for thought.

Every person can (and should) achieve a high level, whereas the highest standard would be rather exclusive, one which may be reserved for exceptionally gifted people or geniuses.

Seven buildings blocks

The seven building blocks of the Kids Globe Academy are:

- education
- scholarship / science / research
- art / culture
- craftsmanship / technology
- economy / entrepreneurship
- agriculture / forestry
- environmental protection / nature preservation

The program of the academy

- Office for democracy
- Institute for climate protection
- Masons` guild / model building
- History workshop
- Center for entrepreneurship
- Fundraising office
- Olericulture / Herbs
- Ecology / sustainability
- Water research station
- Energy lab
- Partner projects worldwide
- International cuisine
- Beverage manufacture
- Artists` residence
- House of music
- Theater studio
- Media center
- Events office
- Carpenters` / cabinetmakers` workshop
- Metal work
- Pottery / brick yard
- Bicycle workshop
- Mechanics` workshop
- and others

Historical responsibility

Germany, in the twentieth century, experienced how ideology and contempt for fellow human beings lead to dictatorship and barbarity.

The former Sachsenhausen concentration camp is situated only four kilometres away from the Grabowsee estate as the crow flies.

Within the framework of our history workshop, Kids Globe will not only keep alive the memory of this part of German history, but also provide a cultural response to it.

We will bring this past into the present at Grabowsee. All of the cultural activities we carry out in the context of the Academy represent one kind of response to this humanitarian catastrophe.

Subsequent generations should also learn how to take on responsibility. Kids Globe will play an active role in implementing this. One such building block consists in interaction with countries and cultures affected by the Second World War; another is cooperation with the Sachsenhausen and Ravensbrück memorial centers.

Climate protection

For years, climate protection has stirred the minds of young people more than almost any other topic.

Protests staged internationally by students have led to a change in attitudes in both politics and society. Climate protection has been shifted far closer to the top of the list of priorities.

Protest could only be the first step. It is equally a question of finding practical solutions and concrete results. For us climate protection is not an ideology, but rather a necessity.

Kids Globe will set up an institute for climate protection for the young generation at Grabowsee and work jointly with them.

Needless to say, this endeavor will involve collaboration with existing organisations such as the *Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research*, alongside recognised scientists from this field.

Africa

Working on a worldwide scale naturally means being present in all continents. Since Africa is widely underappreciated, we aim to make a special effort to cater for the needs of our southern neighbor.

Africa is rich! Rich in culture, rich in tradition, rich in potential. This huge potential provides the bedrock of development, including economic development. For even economic prosperity is increasing rapidly in Africa.

Africa does not need help, it needs cooperation – on equal terms. Arrogance towards Africa remains rife. This high-handed attitude distorts our vision of a common and constructive way ahead.

Kids Globe is setting up partner projects in African countries. *Kids Globe Gambia* is ready to take up its work. Affiliations with partners in Nigeria and other countries have also been initiated.

Young people from African countries can come to Grabowsee within the scope of partner projects, just as our youth can gain valuable experience by visiting the southern continent.

The Grabowsee estate

Thirteen years ago, in 2011, Kids Globe took over the lease of the former tuberculosis sanatorium at Grabowsee near Berlin.

We immediately set about repairing and protecting the estate and the listed buildings. Following the looting and vandalism that had taken place in previous years, large portions of the roofs had been exposed and left at the mercy of weather conditions. We therefore replaced several kilometers of roof battens and fitted over 40,000 tiles on the roofs. If we had not done this work a number of roofs or sections of roofs would have collapsed, including that of the director’s villa.

After carrying out considerable repairs Kids Globe intends to purchase the estate in the near future. The present owner, a businessman from Berlin, is selling the site, which encompasses 34 hectares and about 30 buildings, for 20 million euros.

In 2011 the selling price was 10 million euros. The favorable development of the property market in and around Berlin means that the price has doubled since then.

The owner has repeatedly received offers of 20 million euros from property developers. The estate has huge potential, which is why the price is justified. And Grabowsee is the ideal place in which to build a worldwide academy for the young generation. Everything we aim to achieve is possible here. In the coming weeks and months we shall be making every effort to raise the sum necessary to purchase the estate.

During our thirteen-year lease of the estate, we funded the reparation and protection of the listed buildings with the help of several thousands of visitors and photographers as well as film and video productions every year.

The response of people who visited the estate was in almost all cases positive, and often even exuberant. This makes us certain that we will not only be able to raise the sum required to purchase the estate, but also assure the long-term funding of the Academy.

**The Grabowsee estate in short:**

- 34 hectares
- 30 buildings with about 25,000 m² useable space
- A standalone location
- Proximity to the capital city of Berlin
- A lakeside plot with its own 1 km long shore
- Situated in pretty wild mixed woodlands

A comprehensive illustrated description of the Grabowsee estate can be consulted in the Kids Globe Concept, Part 1, pages 25 – 52 (in German).

Masons` guild

Hundreds of years ago, cathedrals and minsters made use of masons` guilds in order to ensure the preservation and constant upkeep of sacred buildings. They continue to do this to this day. We want to carry on this tradition at Grabowsee.

The buildings of the former tuberculosis sanatorium have stood empty since the departure of the Red Army in 1991 and are in need of elaborate and thorough restoration and modernisation.

The entire building process is an essential component of the learning program at the Academy. We want to involve young people in this process as far as it is possible. Building brings together a plethora of theoretical and practical learning opportunities.

This is why we are setting up our own wood and metal workshops. Windows and doors will be created, true to the original, in our own workshops.

The masons` guild will plan, control and coordinate everything related to building and renovating at Grabowsee.

The youth masons` guilds of the *German Foundation for Monument Protection* will provide a natural cooperation partner in this respect.

Experts

Experts are, to our mind, all people who can do something exceptionally well. We deliberately define this concept very broadly in order to incorporate a lot of people, especially parents or senior citizens.

Seniors in particular can be very attractive for us: who knows or can do more than those people who have been learning for decades? This is often no longer a matter of money or time, but rather of social relations. Elderly people frequently encounter loneliness, so it makes sense to keep them and young people connected.

Our backbone is naturally formed by experts in the classical sense, scholars, scientists, engineers, architects but also by craftspeople, artists and not least entrepreneurs.

The goal of Kids Globe is to encourage and help each and every child to become an expert.

Children and teenagers who have already mastered some skills can enable other young people early on in life to acquire skills for themselves.

Time is tight!

As human kind we are in the process of wrecking the earth. The threats are palpable. The entire system risks collapsing altogether. You do not have to be Cassandra to observe this.

To name just a few examples:
desertification, the loss of soil fertility, the destruction of habitats, a sharp decline in the number and members of species, climate change, the destruction of woodlands, the threat to freshwater reserves, the endangering of the oceans, overpopulation and much else.

Times of crisis are times of change. It is essential that we conceive of this world crisis as an opportunity.

Kids Globe aims to prepare young people throughout the world to face changing and also challenging times ahead, and to assume responsibility for the world.

The recent pandemic has shown how adaptable we can be as a world community. This makes us confident that we will be able to cope with the phenomenal challenges facing us in the coming years and decades.

Funding

Funding is, for us, not an external process. It is an essential component of the Academy’s learning program. Young people should learn at an early age what it means to earn money. It is not enough to have ideas, for we should also consider ways in which to fund them. Sufficient funding facilitates and stimulates the entire process and enhances members’ dynamism, effectiveness and leads to results.

The priority

As a matter of principle we give top priority to the content of the *Kids Globe Concept*, its program. Likewise by principle, financial matters are given second (but not third) priority.

Revenue

The revenue of Kids Globe at Grabowsee arises from:

- Contributions by supporting members
- Loans
- Donations
- Expenses from not-for-profit shares
- Endowments
- Material donations
- Public funds
- Surplusses of the Center for Entrepreneurship

Supporting members

Young people are encouraged to set up their own supporting member system (under the guidance of experts). Supporting members in particular can help us to achieve a lot, because even small sums can add up when many of them are donated.

A sample calculation makes this clear: if a supporting member donates 5 euros per month or 60 euros per year, this adds up to 6 million euros in one year if there are 100,000 supporting members. This alone would have a huge impact on our work at Grabowsee.

The aim is to set high and ambitious objectives together with young people. The goal of recruiting 100,000 supporting members is not subject to a specific time frame, such that no undue pressures will arise.

The Kids Globe Foundation

The Kids Globe Foundation will be set up in order to provide a central pillar of the funding on a worldwide scale. Children grow up in a foundation: in families. Childhood is founded by parents. The Grabowsee estate will, as soon as it has been purchased, be transferred by the Kids Globe Association to the Foundation.

The Kids Globe Foundation will be expanded into a large international foundation with the involvement of the young generation. The long-term objective is to raise a capital endowment of 1 billion euros.

The Center for Entrepreneurship

In the Center for Entrepreneurship we intend to learn how to engage in and carry out economic activity. Young people who have got as little as twenty euros in their pockets should, at an early stage, learn how to put them to meaningful use. This is clearly even more important when it comes to larger sums of money.

By working with our Center, young people can set up smaller or larger enterprises which embark upon social as well as economic activities – enterprises which rise to new standards and are more in tune with the times we live in. 10 percent of proceeds from these enterprises could be allocated to Kids Globe.

The team

Since Kids Globe's lease of the Grabowsee estate began, hundreds of volunteers have provided support, most prominently by helping to repair and restore the listed buildings.

The reparations would not have been possible without the commitment of construction specialists, engineers, craftspeople, students, and a few interns.

Every year since 2013 the *Globe Gallery* has taken place at Grabowsee, in which between thirty and one hundred artists work for a week in preparation for their exhibition, which is opened during the course of the final weekend. In return for participating, between sixty and two hundred hands are available to support Kids Globe each day by carrying thousands of roofing tiles and tons of sand and grit, and also by clearing large quantities of rubble and rubbish.

Several volunteers could draw on their professional experience and have made significant contributions. Once the Grabowsee estate has been acquired we will put together a highly qualified team of similar caliber.

In a modern team the number of men and women should be roughly the same. Our goal is to ensure that no less than 40 percent of one gender is represented in our team.

Summary

Kids Globe has the unique opportunity to put into practice a project for the young generation at Grabowsee, the only one of its kind in the world.

After over ten years under lease, the 34 hectare estate of the former sanatorium at Grabowsee should be bought for 20 million euros. We require every conceivable form of support during this endeavour.

The international academy at Grabowsee will be highly relevant for society. It emerged out of society and should be developed further in tandem with society.

We reach out to every child and young person worldwide. No one is excluded. Different talents mutually enrich one another. The basic principle at all times is respect.

The young generation has now taken to the streets because it is no longer certain whether it has a future. This should be a clarion call for the world community. Kids Globe sees itself as a lobby for young people, one which enables them to turn protest into solutions.

A further fundamental principle is optimism. Successful work with young people relies on an atmosphere sustained by optimism and confidence. Nothing is more important than a congenial atmosphere.

This is why we will not forget to celebrate. Serenity and humour help us to overcome many an obstacle.

Former Tuberculosis Sanatorium Grabowsee

Kids Globe International Academy

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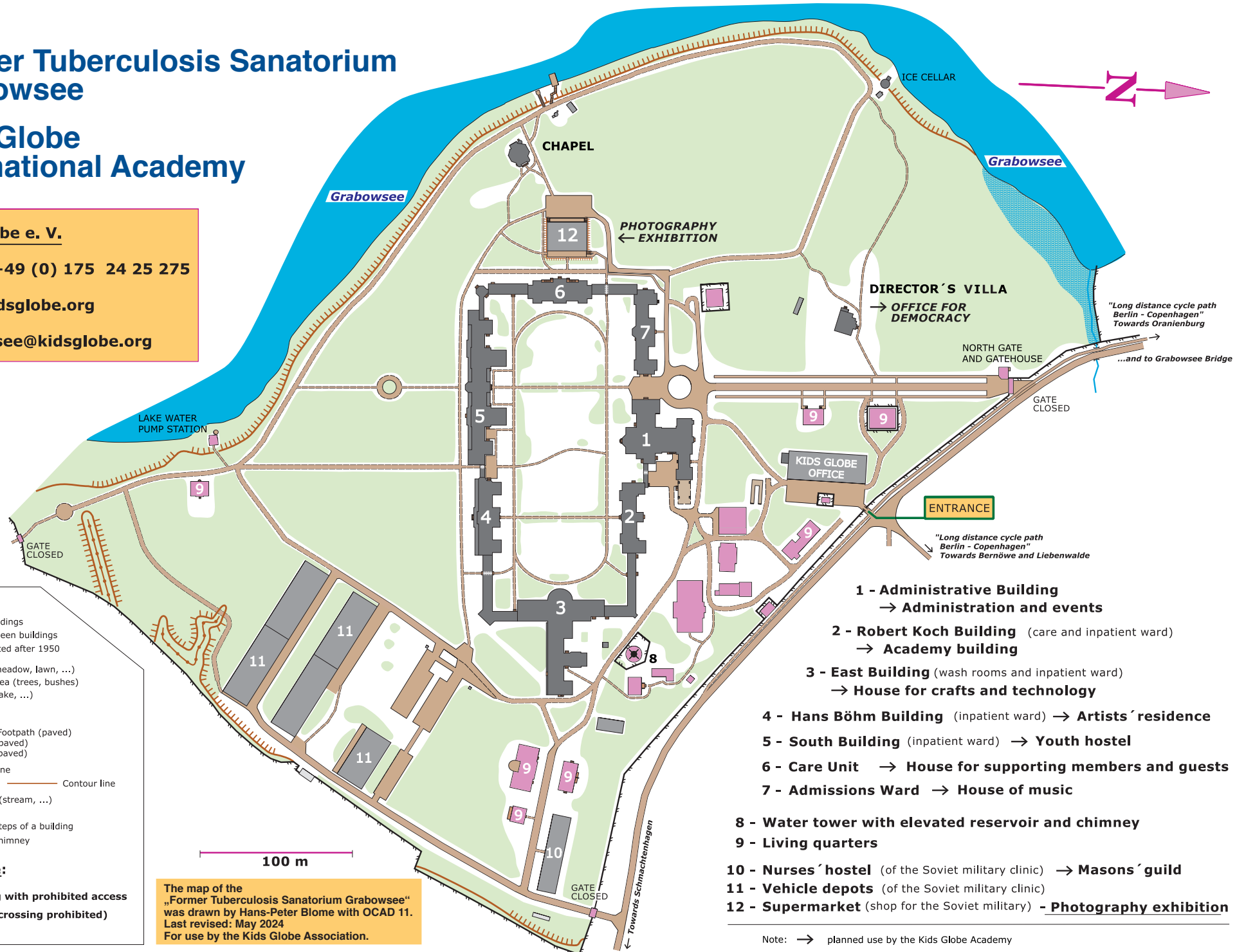
KEY:

- Historical buildings
- Passage between buildings
- Building erected after 1950
- Open area (meadow, lawn, ...)
- Vegetation area (trees, bushes)
- Water area (lake, ...)
- Street
- Cycle path / Footpath (paved)
- Roadway (unpaved)
- Footpath (unpaved)
- Slope, incline
- Mound
- Contour line
- Watercourse (stream, ...)
- Marshland
- Stairway or steps of a building
- High tower, chimney

Please note:

- Building with prohibited access
- Fence (crossing prohibited)

The map of the
„Former Tuberculosis Sanatorium Grabowsee“
was drawn by Hans-Peter Blome with OCAD 11.
Last revised: May 2024
For use by the Kids Globe Association.



- 1 - Administrative Building**
→ Administration and events
- 2 - Robert Koch Building** (care and inpatient ward)
→ Academy building
- 3 - East Building** (wash rooms and inpatient ward)
→ House for crafts and technology
- 4 - Hans Böhm Building** (inpatient ward) → Artists' residence
- 5 - South Building** (inpatient ward) → Youth hostel
- 6 - Care Unit** → House for supporting members and guests
- 7 - Admissions Ward** → House of music
- 8 - Water tower with elevated reservoir and chimney**
- 9 - Living quarters**
- 10 - Nurses' hostel** (of the Soviet military clinic) → Masons' guild
- 11 - Vehicle depots** (of the Soviet military clinic)
- 12 - Supermarket** (shop for the Soviet military) - **Photography exhibition**

Note: → planned use by the Kids Globe Academy