

Maison Familiale Rurale

A *Maison Familiale Rurale* (family and rural house) is an education center offering a curriculum based on real local needs. These houses are located in rural areas of France and provide education to learners typically aged between 14 and 18. The first such institution was established in 1937 and they have continued to form an important part of rural education opportunities.



Learners at a *Maison* spend one week out of every three boarding at the house, and the other two at home putting into practice in the family farms what they have learnt. With this method, in a three-year programme of study, typically only ten months are spent in residence, reducing costs to the *Maison* and the learner.

The goal of the centers now is to create a generation of *nouveaux agriculteurs* (new farmers) equipped to carry forward rural traditions but adapt to the possibilities and challenges of 21st century farming. In order to do this, alongside courses such as maths, agriculture, biology, accounting, ICT and horticulture, learners also consider ethics and local social issues.

Teaching and evaluation are shared between parents, the centre's facilitators and other community leaders involved. Evaluation is based on the real problems students have faced 'in the field' and how they are solved.

Butterflies Child Rights



Butterflies is a network of Child Rights Advocates and educators working with street children in India. Their team operates at 20 different ‘contact points’ and 3 night shelters across the city of Delhi. A contact point may be any specific public space, such as a bus station, railway station, or market area. Alongside providing health and social care, Butterflies runs an education program from its “mobile schools” – buses which shift from contact point to contact point throughout the day. At the buses, children can access taught lessons, educational resources, and laptops.

The Butterflies approach allows children to participate in the decision-making process about program offerings through *Bal Sabhas* (Children’s Council meetings). *Bal Sabhas* occur at two levels: small, local meetings that take place at contact points every fortnight; and larger, regional meetings attended by representatives from each local group every month. Through the monthly *Bal Sabha* meetings, the children share their concerns and find collective solutions, plan future activities, and feedback on the programs.

Butterflies are accredited by the National Institute of Open Schooling and follows the National curriculum, but they work to balance these national guidelines with other needs of the children. The children consider life skills education and sport and cultural activities as vital components of their development and learning, and these play a central part in the creative and informal teaching method at the mobile schools. The *Bal Sabha* system helps Butterflies remain responsive to new ideas: council discussions have led to co-operatives like the Children’s Development *Khazana*, a bank for children, managed by children, with a vision to empower young people working on the street.

YouMedia

YouMedia are spaces where children and young people can explore, create and express themselves with digital media. They are primarily based in libraries, and equipped with computers with a range of high end media creation software, as well as audio recording, video and photography equipment.



The first YouMedia was created in 2009 as a teen learning space in the Chicago Public Library system. It was intended to bring young adults, books, media and mentors together in one dynamic space. Careful thought was put into the design of the environment to inspire collaboration and creativity, and to target in particular Chicago's young African-American community.

At the spaces teen learn with mentors from a local social enterprise called Digital Youth Network about how to use a variety of technology and digital equipment, including still and video cameras, drawing tablets, and video and photo editing software. and a recording and sound-mixing studio. The librarians themselves are also key learning partners and guides, developing their own skills while bringing knowledge to the mix.

Since opening over 5,000 teens have taken advantage of the space and there are currently 30 YouMedia centres being established across the United States.

Massively@Jokaydia



Massively @ jokaydia is a 'Guild' of players of Minecract, the award-winning world-building game played by millions of players globally. This Guild is aimed at children aged four to 16 and is designed in a way that players develop digital media skills, creativity and online social skills.

Joykaydia was established in 2006 by gamer Jo Kay, who creates virtual worlds and games designed for learning, including in popular online worlds like Second Life and World of Warcraft, as well as Minecraft. The Massively guild is a social-enterprise, founded in mid 2011 as a Minecraft platform for children and parents. It currently has over 500 registered players from around the world.

The platform features a portal which provides children with a community space and an awards system. Through this system, players learn in a way inspired by project-based learning, working through large missions which they are encouraged to complete in creative ways. There are several 'maps' players can follow, allowing them to pursue a range of activities while choosing their own pathways and adventures. Players are free to explore, but are encouraged to follow the social charter that sets out the Guild's expectations on how to be a productive, positive player in the game.

Progression to higher levels in the Guild is achieved by undertaking the tasks in the Awards section of the site. By achieving the award, players are given increasing power and responsibility in the game to develop and build the game-world and to work as community mentors.