

European Geoparks Week 2008
Report

Name of Geopark: **Papuk Geopark**

Dates of geoparks week: **26 May – 7 June**

Contact person: **Goran Radonic, Goran Pavic**

Special motto of geoparks week: **"Learn about geology and get to know Planet Earth"**

1. Please give the following information:

- number of activities/events held in geoparks week	11
- number of press releases announcing geoparks week events	5
- number of printed copies for program flyer/brochure/posters	1000
- total number of visitors/participants	1500

2. Describe the Geoparks Week 2008:

The European Geoparks Week 2008 which took place from May 26th to June 7th was very successful and fruitful for Papuk Geopark. As Papuk Geopark became the member of EGN last year this was the very first time to organized such big event.

For the first time we put emphasize on local schools and school children. During the celebration of Geoparks Week presentations and workshops were held in local schools. Children could meet the geological heritage of their area, and the way the Geopark takes care of protecting geologically important areas. A special word was given on "the International Year of Planet Earth".

After the presentation different workshops were held, such as: "How are fossils made?", "Make your own volcano" or "How to make a good photograph in nature". Also, there have also been artistic works by children made on the "Planet Earth" theme.

In the end, all schools received a thank offering for participating in "the Geopark Week", and were given a gift - books called "Earth" for their libraries.

Some secondary schools have been involved in programme representing their works which they have done as part of a project "Meet your Geopark". Presentation took place in two cities nearby Papuk Geopark – Pozega and Orahovica. In Pozega City Theatre all those interested could see the movie "Secrets of Papuk", which was thought of and made by the Pozega Gymnasium, and the winning project of the Technical High School that made a new website for the Papuk Geopark.

In the Slatina City Library students of the High school in Slatina presented the work they made for the „Meet Your Geopark“ project. Their work overviewed the subject of redecoration of the disused quarry into an educational ground, which created a big interest, especially among their colleagues.

One of the significant events was the visit Mrs. Vlasta Krklec who is Chief Curator of the Hušnjakovo Museum of Evolution. On the Hušnjakovo hill the Krapina early man, scientifically known as *Homo sapiens neanderthalensis*, was found back in 1899. This year, the Krapina early man finding site celebrates its 60th anniversary of the protection status as the first paleontological monument of nature in Croatia. Two-hour presentation was held at the City theatre in Pozega, over 200 elementary school children came and found out about the life of the Neanderthals.

A central celebration of "the Geopark Week" was held in Voćin, near the geological monument of nature - the Rupnica. One of the reasons for this is that this year - it's 60 years since Rupnica was granted a protected status as the first geological monument of nature in Croatia.

During the anniversary, the Papuk Geopark printed a poster "60 years of Rupnica" which was in this way presented to the wider public. In the Voćin public council, an exhibit was held on the Papuk Geopark, and the visitors could see a short review of works made by children, made on the behalf of this year's "Geopark Week".

For those who were ready to meet Geopark in active way there were organized hiking and biking tours. Participants could see for many unexplored part of the park for the first time.

Considering media Geopark Week was featured in an exceptionally positive manner in many local and national newspaper and magazines.

3. Photos:

