

Physics for Refugee Children in Germany

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Physics for Refugee Children: Local Schools and University Teacher Preparation Programs Collaborate on STEM Education Outreach in Cologne, Germany

As part of *German Welcome Culture* efforts supporting international refugees in Cologne, the *German Physical Society* works with the *University of Cologne Institute for Physics Pedagogy* to sponsor physics for refugee children at both the *Köln Stadt Gymnasium at Thusneldastraße* (a Cologne Jr-Sr High School) and the *Red Cross Boltenssternstraße Refugee Transitional Housing Center*. The university and gymnasium supply a wide range of volunteer instructional personnel and assistants who conduct weekly physics classes at both sites. The *Physics for Refugees* curriculum is attractive, materials-based, hands-on, phenomenological and nonmathematical, with all supplies provided. These include both specifically-designed activities for refugee children to Germany, and activities adapted from efforts for homeless street children in Medellin and Copacabana, Columbia. Activities are intended to engage students who have interrupted formal education, to drive student language development and cooperative skills, and to help children transition to more standard school instruction. This session will report and discuss Fall/Spring 2018 Cologne activities, including lessons learned for those wishing to work with similar children here in Buffalo.

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Session 3, Richardson Room