

Kid's Kaleidoscope

Country of the Month

Croatia

Eurasia



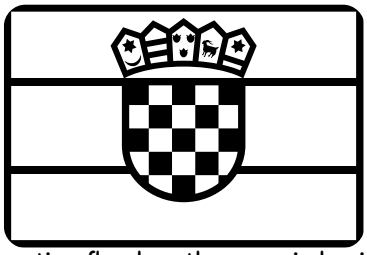
CONVERSATION CENTRAL

Zagreb is the Capital of Croatia. What were they able to purchase in the city because of many people's prayers and Alabaster's help?

What is Alabaster? Why is it important? Who can participate in Alabaster offerings?

People are coming together at the local church in Zagreb from many different places around the world. Some are there because of war, persecution, or searching for a better life. How do you see God showing up in Croatia through this story? Where have you seen God at work where you live?

COLOR THE FLAG



The Croatian flag has three main horizontal stripes of red, white, and blue. In the middle is the Croatian coat of arms. This is a very special symbol with one main shield made up of a red and white checkerboard pattern or šahovnica (shah-hov-neet-sah) which means chessboard. There is a crown above it with five smaller shields, each showing symbols from a different historical region of Croatia.

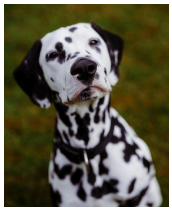
DID YOU KNOW?

When missionaries are led by God to serve in a new place, there is much to learn. Can you think of some things that would be important to learn if you were going to live in Croatia? Some things you can learn in a classroom, by reading a book, or even searching online, like the language. But there are other things that are best learned through experiencing them. Below are some interesting facts about Croatia. But there are also some videos, so you can see and experience other parts of Croatian culture. On the last page of the Kaleidoscope are games you can play, but to play them, you will first need to learn how to say some words in Croatian. So, are you ready to prepare as a missionary does before going to a new place? First, we should pray and ask God to help us learn and remember important things that will help us connect with the people we might meet in or from Croatia. Who knows? Maybe you have a neighbor or classmate from this country. What an amazing opportunity to connect with new friends.

Video: A Day in the life of the Height family.
(Be sure to choose your language for subtitles)

Video: Traditional Croatian Music and Dancing

Video: Height Family update



Dalmation
The National Dog of Croatia, comes from the Dalmatia Coast



Burek a flaky pastry or pie with different types of fillings



Tamburica
The National String Instrument of Croatia



European Pine Marten
The Croatian National Animal



Croatia has over 1000 islands, and people only live on about 48 of them.

KALEIDOSCOPE PAGE

Croatia is still considered a pioneer work in the Church of the Nazarene. What does Pioneer mean?
A pioneer is someone, or a group of people, who are the first to explore, settle, or develop something.
That means the Church of the Nazarene in Croatia is still pretty young, or new. The pastors, missionaries, and local leaders are still exploring and developing ways to connect and share the love of Jesus in this country. One very important thing for pioneers in our church is their connection with and trust in God to guide them. So, below in our coffee cup Kaleidoscope, you will see a Bible to remind us that Croatia is a pioneer work and that God is doing great things there through His people.

Do you know how to say Croatia in Croatian? It's Hrvatska (hruh-VAHT-skuh). You can see that at the bottom of our coffee cup.

Can you also see the bricks on the coffee cup? What do you think those represent from our story? Alabaster! The Church in Croatia was able to purchase and renovate property thanks to Nazarenes around the world who have participated in Alabaster.

So, why is our Kaleidoscope a coffee cup? Well, coffee is a very important part of Croatian culture. It is not just a drink. Most kids don't like it, but it is an important way for people to connect. Pastor Jeremy mentioned in the story that it was while sharing coffee with their neighbors that they had one of their most impactful experiences in Croatia. So, sharing coffee in Croatia, or maybe a meal in other places, is a way that God helps people to connect. Our coffee cup represents opportunities for connecting with others, and the people you can see are those with whom we hope to connect. We all have people around us who need Jesus. Let's pray that God will provide opportunities to connect with them and to share the love of Jesus with them.



Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

Psalm 96:3 NIV

KIDS KALEIDOSCOPE GAMES

No matter where you go in the world, kids love to play. The Height family shared that some of their favorite things about living in Croatia are getting to walk everywhere and the playgrounds. Some popular kids' pastimes in Croatia are: roller blading, biking, table tennis, handball, and soccer/football. How many of you like to do some of those things?

How many of you like to play games? As we have traveled around the world with Kids Kaleidoscope, we have learned many things about other countries that are similar or different from our own. Games can be like that; they are played in similar ways, but they sound different because you might use a different language to play them. Below are three games. You will most likely recognize them, but the fun part is trying to play them in Croatian.



Guess the Duck - Patka, pogodi (PAHT-kah, poh-GOH-dee)



This is the Croatian version of Duck, Duck, Goose.

- Children sit in a circle for this traditional game.
- One child walks around the perimeter of the circle, tapping others on the head and shouting "Patka" which means duck until they choose to say "pogodi," which means guess.
- If you are chosen to guess or "pogodi," you must then leap up and chase the first child around the circle.
- If the first child or "patka" makes it around the circle and sits in the spot of the second child "pogodi", they are safe.
- The "pogodi" then becomes the "patka" moving around the circle as the game continues.
- If the "pagodi" child tags the "patka" child, the "Patka" child is out, and sits off to the side. The game continues until there is only one winner.



Rock, Scissors, Paper - Kamen, škare, papir (KAH-men, SHKAH-reh, PAH-peer)



- Children choose a partner and face each other. Tap fist to palm while saying Kah-men, Shkah-reh, Pah-peer, POOT-sah-tee (rock, scissors, paper, shoot)
- When POOT-sah-tee is said, each player shows their symbol.
  - Rock: A closed, clenched fist.
  - Paper: A flat, open hand with the palm facing down.
  - Scissors: A fist with the index and middle fingers extended into a "V" shape.
- Then the pair must figure out who wins the round.
  - Rock beats scissors because rock crushes scissors.
  - Scissors beats paper because scissors cut paper.
  - Paper beats rock because paper covers rock.
  - Ties: If both players make the same shape, the round is a tie and you play again.
  - The loser sits out, and the winner chooses a new partner. The game continues until there is one winner.
- Game variation – divide group into two teams, set up colored disks or paper plates to create a path from one team to the other. This can be as long or short as you want. First person on each team hops down the path to where they meet, then play a game of rock, scissors, paper. Winner continues down the path toward the other team. The losing team sends the next person in line to meet the winner and play rock, scissors, paper. Gameplay continues until one team gets its player completely to the other side.





Frozen Grandma - Ledena Baba (LEH-deh-nah, BAH-bah)





- The Goal: One designated player is "Baba" which means Grandma and tries to tag the other running participants.
- Being "Frozen": When a player is tagged by "Baba", they must instantly freeze and remain completely motionless.
- Unfreezing: Frozen players can be rescued and "unfrozen" if a free player manages to tag them, or high-five them.
- End of the Round: The round ends when "Baba" successfully freezes everyone, or a time limit is reached. A new player then takes a turn being "Baba".