

Clubs, Camps and Trips

Nuoret Kotkat has clubs usually once a week, at a place near the children. The camps for children offer an excellent opportunity to take a break, get out into the nature and learn new things with others. Children get to make new friends, meet old ones and get new experiences on outdoor and culture events, trips and many other activities.

Training for All

All our young members (aged 13 to 17) have the chance to participate in long-term peer instructor training and through that get into instructor positions on clubs, camps and other events.

Adult Instructors

Working with children is the best hobby you can have. Parents and all other adults are welcomed to join us. Instructors are given regular training, work counseling and rewards.

Morning and Afternoon Activities for School Children

Nuoret Kotkat has expanded the options provided to children and families by organizing morning and afternoon clubs for small school children and day camp and playground activities for children not yet in school.

GET INVOLVED!



To receive more information on Nuoret Kotkat or to find a local chapter near you, contact the Nuoret Kotkat Central Association:

Sturenkatu 27 B, FI-00510 Helsinki, Finland
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www.nuoretkotkat.fi



Our Work as a Children's Interest Group

In addition to being a children's activity organization and a promoter of children's rights we also function as a special interest group for children in political discussion. We perform this by

- making initiatives to the party convention, the party management and the parliament and minister group of the Finnish Social Democrats Party and other concerned quarters
- organizing and developing morning and afternoon activities for school children and day camp and playground activities for children not yet in school.
- giving out the Children's Act of the Year Award
- organizing seminars on political issues concerning children
- cooperating with other organizations.

Nuoret Kotkat Internationally

Through our umbrella organization IFM-SEI (International Falcon Movement – Socialist Educational International) we have links to over 50 sister organizations around the world, in Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America. In addition to IFM-SEI, we are part of the Labour Movement Childrens' Organizations in the Nordics, ABN (Arbetarrörelsens Barnorganisationer i Norden). Nuoret Kotkat also participates in cooperation projects with children's organizations in the Baltics and Russia.

Children, youth and adults who are involved in our activities have the possibility to go on international camps and other events abroad. Our goal of internationality is further helped by the increasing multiculturalism in Finland.

Through our global umbrella organization and our Nordic cooperation organization we have the possibilities for international projects that help defend children's rights worldwide. Our theme is the globalization of children's rights around the world.



NUORET KOTKAT
Activity for Children and Youth

Nuoret Kotkat Now

Nuoret Kotkat is a children's and youth organization aimed at providing both activities for children as well as representing them in political discussion as a special interest group. Our activities are based on social democratic values such as equality, democracy, internationality, fairness, solidarity and working together.

Learning by Doing Together

Our goal is to teach children and youth to take others into consideration. Nuoret Kotkat offers children the opportunity to work and play with other children under the guidance of safe adults. Clubs, camps, trips and other events offer interesting activities and growing experiences, not to mention the friendships that are created there. All activity is decided by the adults and children together.

Local Chapters

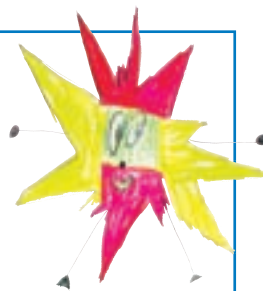
You can join Nuoret Kotkat through your own local chapter. Local chapters have club activities, trips, camps and other activities that you can participate and help in.

District Organizations

District organizations and in major cities local organizations arrange camps during school holidays, training for young peer instructors and other activities.

Central Association

The central association organizes nation-wide training courses for youth instructors, national events together with the district organizations, is responsible for international projects, camps and seminars, publishes materials (e.g. the members' magazine Kotkaviesti) and acts as a special interest group for children on a national and international level.



OUR VALUES

Provide Safe Recreational Activities for Children

Nuoret Kotkat offers a safe and drug-free environment for the children's free time. The instructors are mainly youth and adult volunteers. That is why the activities are mainly during the evenings, weekends and school holidays. The instructors have a genuine interest and often a long-time experience in working with children. Constant training further increases their skills and know-how.

Children are Listened to

Children need to experience possibilities for influence throughout their childhood. One of the basic ideals of our future society has to be the involvement of children. The most important places to carry out this are a child's home, their day-care, school and their hobby. The crucial factor is how parents, teachers, authorities and politicians see children and their opinions. Children need to experience that they are being heard and that their opinion matters. That is why the instructors plan and carry out our activities together with the children.

Stronger Childhood

Childhood in Finland has become five years shorter in the last 50 years. The modern parenting methods favor independence from the parents as early as possible. Especially the girls are under pressure on how they look, dress and act far too early. Nuoret Kotkat wants to defend a child's right to childhood and youth. Things that belong to adulthood – like the right to vote in municipal elections – must not be moved to a younger age. This links back to listening to the children: letting children participate also strengthens the appreciation of children and childhood.

Active Citizens

Children participating in our activities learn the skills active citizens, such as interaction, critical thought, empathy and influencing. These make children more likely to become active in the society.

Friendship over Borders

By taking part in our work, children, youth and adults learn to meet new cultures and people both at home and abroad. Camps and other events around the world help make friends over border lines and give practice to language and international skills. Nuoret Kotkat is working to help immigrants integrate into Finnish society. All activities, trainings and communications aim to promote tolerance of different people.

Helping a Friend

Solidarity doesn't always need to be international: all volunteer work, helping those who are weaker or less fortunate, is solidarity. We must be prepared to give up some things so that Finland and the world could change for the better. The themes of UN's Millennium Declaration, especially those related to children, are implemented into Nuoret Kotkat activities.

