

# Playing stories

Authors of the idea: Anna Nowacka, Centrum Doradztwa i Informacji dla Romów w Polsce (Counseling and Information Center for Roma in Poland)

## About the idea

Older people, especially those with reduced mobility and vision problems, lack creative entertainment. „Playing stories” is an idea to introduce seniors to the world of role-playing games with the help of young fans of this entertainment.

Role-playing games are based on an interesting story in which players create their own characters and have a direct impact on subsequent events and the storyline. They are accessible to people with various degrees of disability, they help in exercising memory and creativity, they relax and give space to making new friends.

The idea is to organize a series of meetings in which volunteers would conduct role-playing sessions for a small group of elderly people in a manner tailored to their needs.

## Benefits of the idea

Game sessions can be a great opportunity to socialize and meet new people: gaming naturally provides new topics to talk about and reasons to stay connected. Thanks to the game, older people gain contact with the younger generation and can find a common language with them.

Seniors have the opportunity to work on their memory: the game, spread over several meetings, supports short and long-term memory. In the case of games referring to the life history of the participants, the meeting may additionally have an element of reminiscence therapy.

*Working with the elderly, I have been looking for innovative entertainment for a long time, which will be able to diversify the leisure time of seniors,*

*open them to new experiences and allow them to use the huge amounts of imagination and sense of humor at their disposal. Role-playing games turned out to be the solution to my search. They combine unlimited creativity and freedom of modification for the needs of almost every group of recipients. For years, role-playing games have been extremely popular around the world, bringing together millions of fans: so why not give them a chance to prove themselves among the older persons?*

Anna Nowacka

Do you want to know more about this idea? Go to the website:  
[www.inicjatorpomocy.pl/en](http://www.inicjatorpomocy.pl/en)

### **„Inicjator PoMocy”**

The „Inicjator PoMocy” competition (eng. „emPOWERment Initiator”) is part of the „PoMoc. Together, we can do more” implemented by the Shipyard Foundation on behalf of the EVZ Foundation (Remembrance, Responsibility and Future). In the competition, we were looking for innovative ideas aimed at improving the quality of life of Nazi persecution survivors.

### **The competition is funded by the EVZ (Remembrance, Responsibility and Future) Foundation.**

In remembrance of the victims of National Socialist injustice, EVZ Foundation works to promote human rights and understanding between peoples. The Foundation is thus an expression of the continuing political and moral responsibility of the German state, the private sector and society as a whole for Nazi injustice and towards the victims.

More at [www.stiftung-evz.de](http://www.stiftung-evz.de).

### **The organizer of the „emPOWERment Initiator” competition is the Shipyard Foundation.**

For over 10 years, we have been creating and supporting effective solutions to social problems, involving citizens in deciding on public matters as well as helping other organizations and institutions to better plan and conduct their social activities.

More at [www.stocznia.org.pl](http://www.stocznia.org.pl).