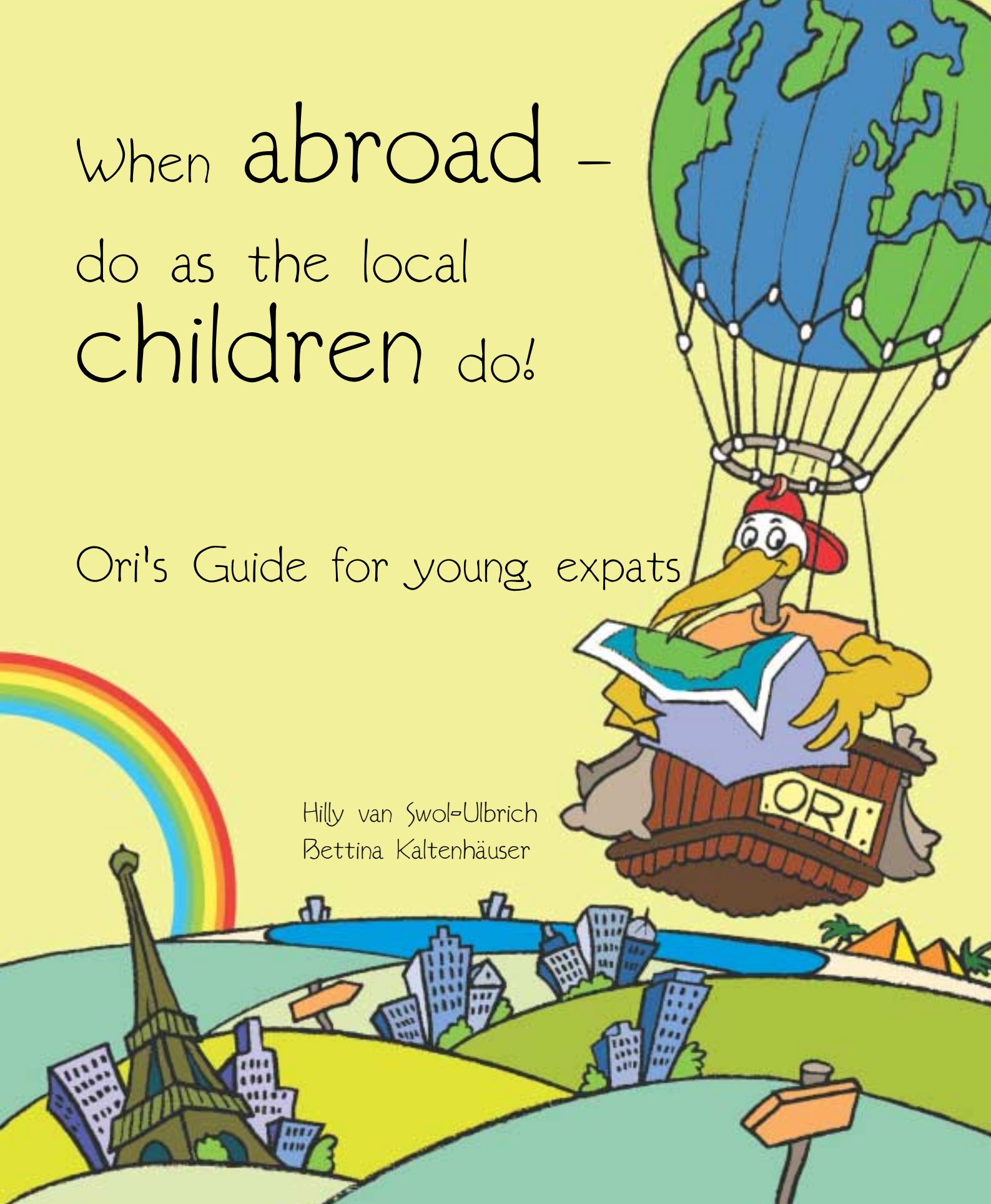


When abroad –
do as the local
children do!

Ori's Guide for young expats

Hilly van Swol-Ulbrich
Bettina Kaltenhäuser



Imprint

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We dedicate this book
to all migrating birds,
large and small.





Hilly van Swol-Ulbrich

has an English mother, a Dutch father and a German husband. Before she moved to Germany, she lived in the Netherlands and in the United Kingdom. After a dozen moves, she founded a relocation agency in the Netherlands in 1987. Five years later she established Consultus Expatriate Briefings & Intercultural Seminars, a training company in Hofheim, Germany. As a specialist for customised intercultural trainings, Hilly has gathered more than 10 years of experience. The international move impacts children in its own distinct way. The concerns of the mini expats and the wish of the parents to make their children benefit from the international and multicultural environment have been the stimulus to publish this book. The ever growing flock of migrating birds has been a constant source of inspiration. Have a good flight!

Bettina Kaltenhäuser M.A.

studies of publishing and psychology, which enabled her to get to know the faculties of universities in Italy, Switzerland, the USA and Germany.

In all these countries she encountered differences that went beyond just typical foods i.e.: pasta, cheese raclette, hamburgers and sauerkraut.

Upon her return to Germany she has incorporated these intercultural experiences into her private and professional life.

Bettina prepared herself mentally for the unexpected each time she went abroad; it is this important trait and characteristic she wants to communicate to the children.

Feel encouraged to bite of your own personal piece of the adventure abroad.

Bonne Appetit!







Your “Navigator” for using this book:

1	Your life until now	10
2	Your preparations for the move	18
3	Old and new friends	30
4	Your new country	46
5	Which are the changes?	60
6	... I just feel like leaving	72
7	Looking back ...	82
8	Time flies	86
9	Information for your parents	92

Dear Parents,

page 92 and onwards provides

- * information regarding the concept of this book
- * concrete advice on how to ease the move and the transition period abroad relating to the chapters 1-8
- * recommendations in a Ten-Point Action Plan
- * list of further resources





Hello and welcome to your book



Old home



new Home

You are entering an interesting and exciting time, you will get a second home abroad! In this book you will find many ideas on how to make this move abroad a rewarding experience and an unforgettable adventure.

How can we possibly know this? Ori, the migrating bird, is our international moving specialist. He gathered his ideas and stories in this workbook filled with assignments. Regardless of when you use this book – before the move, on the road, or in the new home abroad – you will find lots of opportunities to enjoy yourself whilst you try out the many tips and activities!

Ori would like to get to know you on the next pages. When you have found Ori's address, drop him a line...

Let him know what you think of his ideas, share your ideas or simply tell him how you are!

Enjoy!





“Pleased to meet you”



1. Your life

until now ...

was just normal. Maybe you have not given it a lot of thought, right? Everyday things are taken for granted, but you will leave your everyday life behind you. So let's get started with something simple and yet very important: you, your family and your friends.

Remember now there is Ori, the rather inquisitive migrating bird, who is really eager to learn about **you**.



“Hi, it’s me, Ori!”



Did you know that we migrating birds move twice a year? When it starts to get cold here, we fly to warmer climates – when it is warm enough again, we return. You will agree that I am an expert on moving!

I still remember the funny feeling when my parents told me the first time that we would go away. At first I was really sad, but soon after the move, I made new friends and was my old happy self again. Also, I knew that one day I would get to be with my old friends again!

On the next pages I will share my personal adventures with you. But first let's get to know **you!**”

This is about me!

My picture

My name

My address

My age

I am moving to

My special interests are



The Why's, What's and How's

Target readers: This book directs itself at families with children ages 8-12 who are moving abroad.

Aims and objectives: This book channels the creativity of the children and supports a playful yet concrete preparation for the changes connected with living abroad. This book invites children not only to question situations and identities, but also to reflect upon how the child is affected by being uprooted. It encourages initiative in exploring the opportunities as well as the challenges of the new environment. The interactive format presents many activities which identify things that the child can control and passes on a sense of mastery that is beneficial during the more challenging phases of an international mobile childhood.

A generic approach: An expatriate assignment – regardless which destination - affects both children and adults. This book therefore concentrates on the process rather than on a specific country. The focus is on a conscious preparation and a generic cultural awareness and sensitivity.

Country specific information: The website www.Ori-and-Ricki.net offers a selection of links for both adults and children. Country specific information is presented in the form of links; this is supplemented by a country specific bibliography of recommended books. These resources allow the readers to build a basic understanding of the cultural challenges connected to their foreign destination.

The emotional side of the move:

The aspirations and concerns of children differ from the parents. Reading and working through the book together will let the parents gain direct access to the feelings of the children. Knowing their needs, support can be offered to develop and or implement coping skills during the transition phases. The migrating bird Ori leads the child through this book and is an identification figure throughout the process. Ori conveys the sense of active involvement. Ori can be reached by email ori@ori-and-ricki.net for feedback, but also for questions.

Structure and use:

The organisation of this book is structured upon the distinct phases to be experienced when moving abroad. (Hormuth 1988: 2-3):

1. Realisation of the present, life at home (Chapter 1)
2. The preparation phase before the move (Chapter 2-3)
3. The critical phase after the move (Chapter 4-7)
4. Moving on – repatriation (Chapter 8)

This book carries recommendations and suggestions for the different phases. We encourage the involvement of parents, relatives, guardians, teachers and intercultural trainers in order to gain the utmost from this tool and to ensure that it's contents are used at the different phases of the transition. Also, the authors aspire to contribute a positive spirit of anticipation for the whole family. Let us have the benefit of your opinion,

we look forward to your feedback!

