On Wednesday 24 April, 2013 BASR’s team organized pedagogical and recreational activities at the Frères School in Bethlehem. The activity targeted children with disabilities from BASR’s pediatric rehabilitation department and preschool children from the Frères school in Bethlehem. The six children from BASR were accompanied by their nurses, the drama trainer, one of the kids’ mothers as well as BASR’s partners from “ABCD” in the UK.

BASR’s children were warmly welcomed by the children and teachers of the pre-school, who sang welcoming songs for them and played with them with the swings in the yard.

Afterwards, all children were engaged together in painting, drawing and creating shapes with play dough, followed by drawing on the children’s faces by BASR team and the school teachers. The children later went to the classroom where the preschool children along with their teachers performed a play about modesty and invited children with disabilities to dance with the characters of the play: the lion, the sheep and the worm. Both children with and without
disabilities including wheelchair users enjoyed dancing together. They also played competition games then had lunch together.

After a day filled with animated activities, children with and without disabilities had a lot of fun and enjoyed a unique enriching experience spending the whole day together. BASR children received some gifts from the frère school principal and they in turn distributed some sweets to the frère preschool children.

The activity was a great success, filled with positive interaction among the children. It also represented a positive learning experience for the participating adults who learned from children that inclusion of people with disabilities is possible if they are open enough to accept it, as they have the right to fully participate in society on equal footing with others; that people with disabilities, though different in certain aspects, are human beings with potential and can have their own contributions in many aspects of life. Such activities teach both children and adults to respect those who are different as part of human diversity which is a source of enrichment rather than hindrance.
Towards Inclusive Education: Pedagogical / Recreational Activities for Children with and without Disability Organized by BASR Team at the Frères School in Bethlehem