

For immediate release

The Koehler Group sets up vacation childcare program for the first time

- **Pilot project at Oberkirch and Kehl sites receives enthusiastic response**
- **20 children enjoy the fun every week**
- **Koehler provides childcare assistance, leaving only a small co-pay for parents**

Oberkirch, 09/28/2023 - This summer, the Koehler Group offered vacation childcare for its employees' children for the first time ever. This was preceded by a staff survey that revealed a significant unmet need for options that would make a good work-life balance possible during vacation. Based on this survey, the board of directors decided to run a pilot project at the Oberkirch and Kehl sites during the summer break in order to get insights and use them to chart a further course of action. In addition, Koehler's assistance for the two vacation childcare programs meant that parents only had a small co-pay left.

Children thrilled with fun vacation program

At the Oberkirch headquarters, Konzept-e came in and helped set up a two-week vacation workshop at the "casino" in Oberkirch. Every week, 20 children, ages 6 to 12, participated along with their siblings (4 years old and up) in activities with pedagogical specialists in charge. There was also a researcher meeting every day where the things the kids wanted to do were discussed so that they could be incorporated into the fun program of creative, active, and hands-on workshops. In addition, the vacation workshops were rounded out by field trips and tasty meals from the Koehler company cafeteria. Meanwhile, the Kehl site saw Koehler join the "Ferienprogramm Kehler Unternehmen, FKU" vacation program run by companies in Kehl. Whether creative arts and crafts or building projects, canoeing, or petting alpacas – all sorts of fun activities were offered. And as a weekly highlight, children at both sites got the chance to make paper with the apprentices at Koehler. Julia Müller, Director Decor Paper at Koehler Paper and project manager for the project, had the following to say as a recap: "We're extremely happy with how the vacation childcare program went, and it's great to see just how much positive feedback we're getting from both parents and kids." Katharina Kammerer, executive assistant to the board of directors and also part of project management for the project, added: "With this project, Koehler successfully made an important contribution to our employees' work-life balance, which is something that is becoming increasingly important."

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Figure: As part of the vacation childcare program, the children of Koehler employees got the chance to make paper together with the apprentices at Koehler at both sites as a weekly highlight. Source: Koehler Group

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About the Koehler Group

The Koehler Group was founded in 1807 and has been family-run from that moment to the present day. The group's core business activity lies in the development and production of high-quality specialty paper. This includes—among others—thermal paper, playing card board, drinks coasters, fine paper, carbonless paper, recycled paper, decor paper, wood pulp board, sublimation papers, and also innovative specialty papers for the packaging industry since 2019. In Germany, the Koehler Group employs around 2,500 people across five production sites, with three additional sites in the USA. The group operates internationally, with an export share of around 75% in 2022, and brings in an annual turnover of around 1.3 billion euros.

As an energy-intensive company, Koehler invests in renewable energy projects such as wind energy, hydropower, photovoltaics, and biomass with its Koehler Renewable Energy business unit. The Koehler Group has set a goal of producing more energy from renewable sources by 2030 than is required for its paper production operations.

With its Koehler Innovative Solutions division, Koehler is collaborating with start-ups to promote innovations in the core business segments “paper” and “renewable energy”.

Find more information at: <https://www.koehler.com>

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