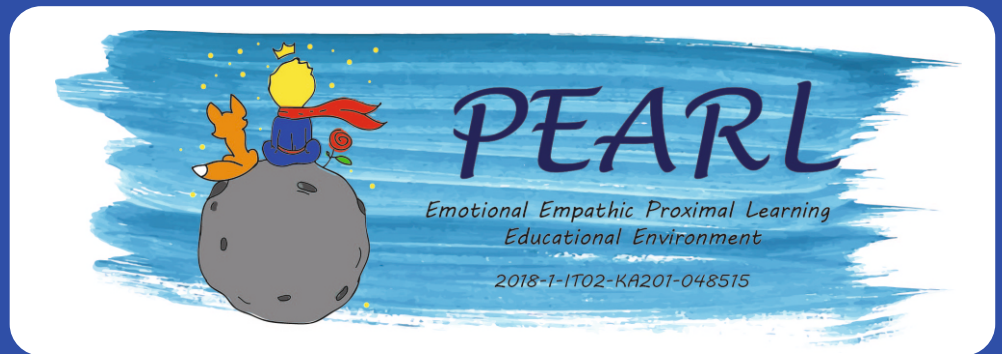




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"PEARL" at a Glance

The Basic "Erasmus+" KA2 Project "PEARL" Goal

PEARL "Emotional Empathic Proximal Learning Educational Environment" is a project co-funded by the Erasmus+ programme that aims to develop, test and validate an innovative and high quality educational model for the development of a proximal emotional and empathic learning environment in the age group 0-6 years that can be replicated at European level. The model to be developed will have a solid theoretical and scientific basis in child neurodevelopment and pedagogy through educational strategies for the development of pro-social skills with the use of robotics. Project answers to the European priority of supporting efforts to increase access to affordable and high quality early childhood education and care.

Project partners

Different educational institutions: national network of schools Polo Europeo della Conoscenza (Italy)– coordinator of the project, Gazi University of Ankara (Turkey), Department of Education of the Autonomous Government of Castilla y León (Spain), Panevezys Regional Education Centre (Lithuania), Clementoni S.p.A. (Italy).

Project duration

The duration of this project is 36 months (September 1, 2018- August 31, 2021).

Intellectual Outputs

PEARL pedagogical approach model
Training modules
Online Platform
Evaluation and assessment tools
Toolkit of educational activities

WHITE BOOK ON THE NEW EDUCATIONAL APPROACHES AND MODELS ON EARLY EDUCATION 0-6

OBJECTIVES

- Innovation and integration of new pedagogical methods in pre-schools and kindergartens
- Creation of an international network of educational institutions able to collaborate in the promotion, experimentation, development and multiplication of new models of teaching for early childhood;
- Creation of innovative educational activities and practices available to teachers as an open educational resource;
- Raising awareness of public institutions at European level on the importance of providing high-level education in the age group from 0 to 6 years;
- Improvement of the dialogue between companies and educational institutions.

“PEARL” Concepts, Ideas and Innovations

The inclusive educational model for early childhood education that will be experimented and scientifically validated by the Emotional Empathic Proximal Learning Educational Environment PEARL project is based on concrete and solid neuro-psycho-pedagogical theoretical foundations, integrating academic research (Vygotsky's, Piaget's, Montessori's, Bandura's theories, metacognitive pedagogy, proximal learning, structural, environmental and relational co-constructivism) with modern educational strategies including: peer education, cooperative learning, constructive learning and the use of educational robotics (especially for the 3-6 age group).

The PEARL model focuses on the group, peer relationships and the development of empathic emotions for the creation of a proximal learning space. The main focus of the educational model will be on the positive emotional impact on learning and educational processes, through the use of nature-related elements and educational robotics for pro-social values (cooperation, empathy, mutual aid, etc.).

PEARL will be the international meeting point of neuro-psycho-pedagogical research and educational institutions, to build a network involving academia, teacher training organisations, educational organisations and schools for the promotion of educational models that promote pro-social skills and empathic and emotional proximal learning. The project aims to have a strong impact on education systems at European level with the final publication of a white paper on the new approaches and models that will be tested and validated.

During the validation process the group educational activities will be structured in 3 different levels of difficulty according to the age of the children:

1-2 years

Prosocial and empathic learning through activities related to nature and respect for the environment as a development of internalisation of eco-systemic belonging to nature;

3-4 years

Prosociality and emotions through the first principles of educational robotics;

5-6 years

Prosociality and emotions through coding and educational robotics.

For children aged 3-6 years, educational robotics is used as a tool for learning the first rudiments of coding and programming, and especially for developing relational and emotional skills through its use in small group activities.

All the Events

Transnational Project Meetings

From the 9th to the 12th of January 2019 the first transnational project meeting of the project took place in Padua (Italy) hosted by Polo Europeo della Conoscenza. Partners from Lithuania, Italy, Spain and Turkey participated in it. During this meeting the coordinator presented the project and its aim and structure, each institution presented their own goals and activities.

Second international meeting in Department of Education of the Autonomous Government of Castilla y León (Spain) November, 2019.

Third international meeting in Ankara Gazi University (Turkey) April, 2020.

Fourth international meeting in Polo Europeo della Conoscenza (Italy) May, 2021.

Training Course

First training in SPAIN.

The 20 participants in the first course will be educators, managers, school staff, pedagogues working in nursery schools and kindergartens.

Duration 5 days.

Participants: 6 per partner (2 for Clementoni).

Final training in ITALY.

During the final training the number of participants will increase to 60, involving educators, managers, school staff, pedagogues, the final version of the “PEARL” method will be presented

Duration 5 days.

Participants: 13 per partner (1 for Clementoni).

Multiplier Events

October 2020 Ankara (Turkey). The aim of this multiplier event will be to present the educational model to widen the potential audience of schools involved in the experimentation and multiply the strategies of the project in them.

May 2021 Verona (Italy). The event will present the results of the validation of the “PEARL” educational model at the end of almost two years of experimentation and the intellectual output produced. An important space will also be dedicated to the presentation of the white paper on innovative educational approaches.