eCLIL4You: a European Comenius Project to Promote Language Learning through Web 2.0 Tools from Pre-school to Lower Secondary Education

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Abstract

A group of 11 European schools have joined together in a Comenius project with the aim to create learning environments able to develop the lifelong learning key competences addressed by the Council of Europe. Active and cooperative learning, constructivism, authenticity, sheltered instruction, learner autonomy, ICT and media education are a frame of reference for the development of CLIL learning materials aimed to discover local and European environments through English and national languages. The partnership has designed discovery activities and implemented effective teaching and learning strategies able to facilitate the learning of both content and language with learners of different ages and in different European school contexts. The quality of the learning process, the active inclusion of all the learners, the use of ICT to promote learner autonomy and cooperation with the partner schools have played a central role in all the actions of the project. ICT tasks have been designed to get the students think creatively, create materials cooperatively with the European partners through web 2.0 tools and the European platform "eTwinning". The outcomes of the first year activities have showed an increased motivation in language learning; the implementation of creativity, cooperation and learner autonomy through the use of web 2.0 tools and social networking as learning tools; a risen awareness of the value of the diversity of European environments; the need to collect the teaching and learning CLIL materials suitable and graduated for learners of different ages in a final e-book. In addition, the use of the European eTwinning platform and web 2.0 tools has become an important part of the language and plurilingual methodology in our Institute to such an extent that other two European eTwinning projects have been developed this year, one related to Multilingual songs with 4 European schools and one to "A rainbow of feelings" with five countries. Examples of how ICT has supported the language and content learning process, especially through the use of web 2.0 (calameo, picture trail, photo peach, Google forms and drive, glogsters, videogames, chat, skype, animal cartoon…), will be provided in the oral presentation, with samples taken from the different active projects in our Institute.

If the proposal is accepted, it will be mentioned in the final dissemination plan of the Comenius project (the materials are visible at these links – e: http://new-twinspace.etwinning.net/web/p82958 / http://new-twinspace.etwinning.net/web/p88723 / http://new-twinspace.etwinning.net/web/p82022)