

Activity 2.3: Assessment report Itinerary exhibition

The objective of the Itinerary Exhibition is to share all the materials, ideas, work, project activities, results and material produced throughout the project in different institutions and increase the visibility and consolidate the impact at local, regional and cross-border regions.

The exhibition was developed with the trainers of the online education in Activity 1.2: Manuel Baglieri and Beatrice vitale, printed by 100x100 Stampa. The exhibition contained the most relevant deliverables produced by the participants. It is composed by activities that the educators made with the children in various fields, play, discoveries, events and are connected to various stages of child development.

One of the aspects of the exhibition is that it's easily mounted/dismounted, made with recyclable materials (apart from projectors that will last longer and will be reused in the partnering institutions), easy to print and with the schematics in digital forms, can be re- printed if necessary. This makes this exhibition available to whoever wants to expose it in their institution. Another aspect is that it can be played, touched and experience it, some parts are made like a book, following a story, other are some rotating cubes that has to be matched with the cards of memory game, others are games with light and shadows. It was presented after the conference:” The importance of investing in early and preschool education” in the Italian Community of Buje where it lasted for 10 days in which other children, activists, and overall the population of Buje was able to visit. After that the Exhibition started its journey in the Italian kindergarten Fregola where it staid for another 10 days. All other children and parents were able to experience it, play with it and really understand the work that has been done during the project. The next stop was in CMIK (Cinema of the city of Novigrad) exposed in the week before Christmas, in a period full of events with a continuous flux of people. It was officially presented during the yearly display/show of all the kindergartens, elementary schools in the territory of Novigrad – Cittanova. Lastly the exhibition was mounted in the University of Pula requested by the Decanate of the university to be shown to its students. The exhibition will continue its journey in the next months in Italy and in other institutions that will request it.

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The idea behind the exhibition was to serve as an example of good practice and a dissemination tool. Therefore, at the conclusion of the project, each partner will have the opportunity to share and present



this exhibition within their community and region, spreading information and emphasizing the importance of investing in early childhood and preschool education.

The concept of a traveling exhibition was born from the desire to narrate and share the journey of the COPE project, focusing on children as its final and central beneficiaries in education. Indeed, the driving force behind the collaboration among various services in different countries, involving multiple professionals, was the centrality of children in the educational pathways of the project participants and the aspiration to improve the quality of services for young children.

The deeper purpose of the exhibition, therefore, is to explore the world of childhood, documenting what takes place in the educational environment and returning to families and the educational community an image of an active child, central to their own growth process. It is a way to step into the daily lives of children, filled with play, discoveries, and participation.

The exhibition aims to be itinerant to promote a culture of childhood, showcasing children's potential through the content, ideas, and values of the education provided by the services involved in the COPE project. In addition to being displayed in the various institutions that contributed to its creation, it can also be hosted by other services sharing the same goal, thereby expanding its audience and the number of visitors.

Inspired by children, an interactive and playful approach was chosen to entertain and engage children, families, and interested adults while also raising awareness among visitors about the importance of investing in childhood and the future of society.

Visitors to the exhibition can immerse themselves in the world of childhood: discovering, observing, and playing with blocks, giant books and leporellos, projections, and everyday and natural materials that stimulate curiosity and imagination.

Additionally, by scanning the QR codes on the panels, visitors will access specific materials regarding planning and observation, language development, and other aspects that contribute to ensuring quality services and enhancing the professionalism of those working in the field, making the exhibition go viral as well.

Beyond the three partner institutions, three additional nurseries participated in the exhibition's creation, showcasing different aspects of educational work and facets of children's learning. Topics



ranged from activities aimed at fostering children's autonomy to socialization, language development, research, and expressiveness.

A series of meetings were held among trainers and directors/coordinators to design the exhibition, defining its central theme (the importance of investing in the early years of life and the centrality of the child in acquiring holistic knowledge) and the various areas to be addressed through projects carried out by the different institutions. The meetings also covered the presentation methods for the physical exhibition, materials for the digital exhibition, and play materials complementing the exhibition's documentation.

Thanks to the shared documentation from colleagues in other institutions, we could delve into new ways of working and present our efforts to others.

In the exhibition, each participating institution brought examples of good practices, allowing us to broaden our horizons regarding children's potential and how we interact with them, as well as discovering new ways to offer stimuli that enhance their learning.

Thanks to the skills acquired during training sessions, we believe it is possible to create documentation that can be presented to the community in the form of an exhibition, despite requiring financial resources for printing and time for its design.

For us, representatives of preschool institutions, it is our duty to give voice to childhood. The positive reactions confirmed that an exhibition documenting projects effectively represents our world: children interacted with the materials and engaged with the proposals; adults appreciated a different kind of exhibition, not featuring children's work but rather photos documenting their learning experiences; and colleagues understood the intention to highlight the importance of the child in their own learning process and the educator's role in following children's interests and providing materials and spaces to inspire curiosity and promote learning.

