

A VoiceS' spin off in an Italian public primary school

Rinnovata Pizzigoni primary school, Milan, Italy





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PROJECT AIMS:

Teachers' side and school innovations:

Spread the utility and richness of Voices' in attempt to modify teachers' misconceptions of European's projects and more in general to affect teacher's fears of changing and innovation.

Students 'side:

- Develop critical thinking
- Strengthen the awareness of their identity as single, as class, as Italian and European citizen
- Using a foreign language in real communicative contest

PUTTING THE PROJECT IN CONTEXT:



Free time is cool is an international project born at the end of the Braga's inservice course.

It is a blog were students from four European countries can meet each other and exchange information about their free time.

Learning together is an Italian and English project, in which Early Childhood students from Derby's university spend five weeks in Italian public schools as internship.





Rinnovata (Renewed) is a public school that implements the method developed by its founder, back in 1911, Giuseppina Pizzigoni.

STRATEGIES:

Bottom up process

Teachers side:

involve a number of key teachers as large and possible throught a mix of traditional Pizzigoni's activities developed with international partners and innovative technologies.

Students side:

be a facilitator teacher more than a directive one, leaving children the faculty to organize, make mistakes, and propose the direction of the tasks.

PARTICIPANTS:





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Free time is cool:

5 teachers from Braga's in-service course and their classes

Participants at the project's extension at Rinnovata primary school:

IV th grade B (guide class, 25 students 9-10 years old)

25 primary classes

10 primary teachers

3 English mother tongues, Early Childhood students from Learning together

2 parents (professional TV operators)

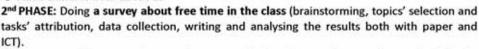
1 volunteer professional cameraman



PROJECT PHASES:

1st PHASE: Presentation of the students, of the city, of the school (brainstorming, topics' selection and tasks' attribution, personal research, linguistic discussions for effective communication with foreign students, video's making, other countries' videos vision)





3rdPHASE: Decision to realise another survey in the class to deepen the analysis "What kind of book do you like reading?" (same steps as the second phase)

4th PHASE: Decision to extend the surveys to the whole school to collect more «statistically relevant» data of free time habits in Milan. (data collection, writing and analysing the results both with paper and ICT)

5th PHASE: decision to make a documentary asking the help of professional film makers.

→ video number 2 Free time is cool





FUTURE DIRECTIONS:

- compare data with the other partners' results when the blog Free time is cool will be uploaded
- Share the videos in the school website to make the curiosity rise also in the other primary school which is in our Istituto Comprensivo
- Realise other trans curricular projects in English with this kind of approaches, methods and strategies in order to let students develop competences and build voluntary and controlled learning

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