

Approaches to using visuals in teaching and learning

Project Partners

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Fondazione Cresci@mo, Italy
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Preschool Misolandia, Poland
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CEIP Gloria Fuertes, Spain
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Joint staff trainings

- Text and Images (UK)
- Story telling techniques (PL)
- Use of comics and film making (ES)
- The world around us: sounds and colours outdoors (IT)

Project update

The VITAL project is a collaboration between 5 educational establishments from the UK, Italy, Spain and Poland. It aims to develop innovative ways to use visual literacy in teaching in early years and progressing through primary education.

Almost 12 months have passed since the partners met for the launch of the project in Alzira, Spain last September 2016. Since then, the project has



continued to thrive and work undertaken has already impacted on many pupils and staff across all 4 countries:

- 2 joint staff training events have taken place, the first in the UK in November 2016 followed by the second one in Poland May 2017.
- A good practice survey has been designed by the partners and subsequently delivered by both staff and pupils across the 4 countries. The data from the survey is currently being analysed with the aim to identify 5 good practice examples from each country. These will be included in a publication which will be made available to others to use freely in their schools and settings.
- The project training manual is currently being produced and to date partners have developed the first chapter which includes key principles of using visuals in teaching and learning as well as guidelines on using text and images.
- Partners are currently compiling pupils' work which will show the level of activities being undertaken and the impact that the project is having on both pupils and staff.
- A number of activities, to raise awareness of the project, have also taken place in different countries. These range from the sharing of information about the project at local level, with neighbouring schools and partners, through to national and European levels with some partners attending events and conferences.



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Joint Staff Training in Bydgoszcz, Poland

The second joint staff training event was held in May/June 2017 in Bydgoszcz, Poland. The theme of the event was Story Telling and was delivered by both Misiolandia in Poland and Bridgewater Primary school in the UK and supported and coordinated by LEAP.

The host partners were exceptionally welcoming and ensured all attendees felt at home. The overall experience was informative and culturally enriching.

The training took place over a period of five days and focused on developing literacy and language through the use of various story telling activities including using visual records to document the many events that took place throughout the week.

The training included the use of visual maps for story telling, using drama for story telling, the use of random images to generate stories, the use of photo sequencing, using ICT for recording and generating stories and many more techniques and practices.

The week also included:

a visit to the gingerbread museum where staff engaged in combining old stories with making gingerbread.

a visit to the Biskupin Archaeological Museum where partners worked together to devise stories using pictures from the village.

a school visit to Misiolandia school, Bydgoszcz which was of particular interest to the partners. They were able to observe class lessons showing storytelling methods as well as a variety of techniques using visual prompts. They also met the children, talked to staff and asked lots of questions!

The final day focused primarily on developing an action plan for cascading and implementing the skills, knowledge and learning experiences back into the project partner countries.

Upcoming events:

A packed autumn term will see a project meeting taking place in Poland in September 2017 where all partners will be working together to evaluate the activities carried out to date and to plan the next phase of the project.

In addition, the third joint staff training on The Use of Comics and Film Making will take place in Valencia, Spain in November 2017.

To find out more about the project and how you can benefit from our joint staff trainings and materials, visit: www.visualsinteachingandlearningproject.eu

