

e-Cultural Kaleidoscope

Project Kit description

Culture is a broad concept, and, in our project, we focus on three main themes: music, art and the cuisine of different countries. Europe has a wide and varied range of materials incorporated by tradition, but also enriched with elements "imported" from other continents. The objective of the "eCultural Kaleidoscope" project is to familiarise students with the richness of European cultures and to improve the mutual understanding between students from different ethnic background. In doing this, they improve their communication skills in foreign language and the use of ICT as a means of communication and expression. Collaboration and common cultural encounters will expand the horizons of students and the cross-curricular nature of the project will help develop basic skills.

Pedagogical Objectives

During this project we want our students to gain intercultural understanding which involves knowledge and awareness about other cultures, comparing and contrasting diverse ways of thought and expression such as folklore, art, cuisine, geography etc, and this way developing a deeper understanding. All the pedagogical objectives are related with the following key competences:

- Cultural awareness and expression: Participants of the projects will have a chance to get familiar with the diversity of many different cultures and develop positive values and attitudes, including the courage and commitment to live by universal values and to treat others with respect.
- Communication in foreign languages: Students will use English for communication and they will practice their linguistic skills.
- Digital competence: They will use many interesting ICT tools and this way they will develop ICT skills.
- Social and civic competences and Cultural awareness and expression: Students will learn by activities, events and festivals, which celebrate all aspects of individual cultures. These include music, dance, food, art, literature, poetry and the making of artefacts.

This project can be integrated into the school curriculum and it is designed as a cross-curricular topic.

Difficulty level

Intermediate

Key competencies

Civic, Cultural awareness and expression, Digital, Languages, Personal, social and learning

Subjects

Art, Cross Curricular, Foreign Languages, Music, Primary School Subjects

Level

9-12

Introduction

At the beginning of the project all participants introduce their schools, towns, countries. Students create "giant postcards" featuring the most important landmarks which are sent to partner schools.

Each school prepares a project corner in their class or school public areas, where all postcards, flags, photos, etc., are presented.

The contest for the best logo of the project is announced. The best designs are presented in the TwinSpace and one is chosen by pupil votes.

First steps

The first step of the project is introducing the idea of kaleidoscope as a symbol of richness and beauty of European countries. Students learn how a kaleidoscope works and to build their own optical device presenting the results to project partners.

The kaleidoscope of cultures is composed of such topics as: folklore, music, art, food, languages.

Suggested Activities

- Students explore the folklore of their countries and regions, local and national dances, songs and costumes, for example they describe and discuss national cuisine, exchange recipes, learn basic words in different languages concerning food and create dishes to taste. Students also speak about their favourite food.
- Students celebrate international dance day by creating a common video – they choose the song, dance to it, record short videos, and then the videos are joined together.
- Students list their favourite modern music which they create together with the ranking lists
- They create together a mural. Each team publishes pictures which enhance all elements of their culture, famous landmarks, etc., they would like to be included in the multicultural mural.
- Each team creates own mural or a big poster at school.

During their activities students use the Twin Space for communication, speaking about their interests, hobbies, favourite places, food, music, sport.

You can also organise some videoconferences with the quizzes and guessing games on the topic of culture.

Evaluation & Assessment

There are various ways in which this project may be evaluated.

Pupils can comment on each other's work and at the end of the project fill in a questionnaire about the activities they enjoyed the most, while working on the project.

Teachers can write their reflections on the project during the activities using the project journal.

Follow-up

Open up a blog so that parents, teachers and other pupils can have a look at the children's work.

Have a project activity at school where the pupils present the project to their families and other classes and teachers.



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