

**WelComm: Communication Skills for Integration of Migrants  
Erasmus+ Programme 2014**

**TEMPLATE FOR SELECTION OF GOOD PRACTICES  
“A.P.P.L.E. - Autonomous Package Preschool Language Education”**

<b>Selection criteria:</b>	<p>The proposed example should correspond to <u>ALL</u> listed criteria:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Effective and successful:</b> A “good practice” has proven its strategic relevance as the most effective way in achieving a specific objective; it has been successfully adopted and has had a positive impact on individuals and/or communities.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Replicable and adaptable:</b> A “good practice” should have the potential for replication and should therefore be adaptable to similar objectives in varying situations.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Information availability:</b> There is enough information provided for the good practice (approach, methodology, materials etc.) so that it is possible to replicate it in a new situation; the provided web-links are working and the contact information is up-to-date</p>
<b>Category:</b>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Practices for social integration of migrants through cultural and language skills</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practices for language education of young children</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Practices for language education of migrants</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practices for intergenerational learning (children and parents)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p>

<b>PROMOTER OF THE INITIATIVE:</b>	
<b>Name of organization / individual</b>	<p><b>Meandros Ltd., Greece</b> (Project promoter); <b>DIA-SPORT Association</b> (Bulgarian partner)</p>
<b>Country</b>	Implemented in Bulgaria, Greece, Estonia, Poland, Romania and Turkey
<b>Website</b>	<p><b>Meandros:</b> <a href="http://www.meandrosLtd.bravehost.com">www.meandrosLtd.bravehost.com</a> <b>DIA-SPORT:</b> <a href="http://www.dia-sport.org">www.dia-sport.org</a></p>
<b>Contacts</b>	<a href="mailto:diasport@bol.bg">diasport@bol.bg</a> , <a href="mailto:diasport@mail.bg">diasport@mail.bg</a>

**DETAILS OF THE INITIATIVE:**

<b>Title</b>	<b>A.P.P.L.E. - Autonomous Package Preschool Language Education</b>
<b>Year(s)</b>	2005-2007
<b>Target language(s)</b>	English, French
<b>Target group(s)</b>	<p>Preschool children of 3-4 years old;</p> <p>Kindergarten children of 5-6 years old;</p> <p>Young children's parents;</p> <p>Teachers from the following countries PL, EE, RO, BG, TR and GR;</p> <p>Children from the above mentioned target groups and countries of origin, who live abroad because their parents work in other European Countries</p>
<b>Website of the initiative</b>	<p>In English:  <a href="http://appleproject.eu/web/content.asp?lng=en&amp;parent=Project&amp;section=Introduction">http://appleproject.eu/web/content.asp?lng=en&amp;parent=Project&amp;section=Introduction</a></p> <p>In Bulgarian:  <a href="http://www.appleproject.eu/web/content.asp?lng=bg&amp;parent=Project&amp;section=Introduction">http://www.appleproject.eu/web/content.asp?lng=bg&amp;parent=Project&amp;section=Introduction</a></p>
<b>Description (max 200 words)</b>	<p>The A.P.P.L.E. project aims to promote early foreign language learning to preschool (3-4 years old) and kindergarten (5-6 years old) children from six European countries (BG, EE, GR, PL, RO, TR) and to inform parents about the benefits of early foreign language learning.</p> <p>The project has developed a new language tool which introduces the English and French languages to children through an innovative approach by using Multimedia, Cartoon, 3D and Video animation technologies. A.P.P.L.E. has developed six DVD ROM versions specifically designed for the project target groups to be used at home or at kindergartens.</p> <p>The project goal is to help children acquire listening, comprehension and speaking skills in two foreign languages by using a traditional learning method through crafts, funny games and songs but in a completely innovative way due to ICT technology.</p> <p>The specific project objectives include, among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to encourage and motivate preschool children to get involved in language learning</li> <li>- to develop a new, innovative language tool which will introduce EN and FR to children through Multimedia technology (3D and Video animation)</li> <li>- to familiarize preschool children with ICT and multimedia technology</li> <li>- to enable preschool children understand and communicate simply in two new languages in daily situations and contexts which are typical for their age</li> <li>- to encourage parents and teachers to work together with children</li> <li>- to promote the necessity for early foreign language learning to parents/ teachers</li> <li>- to develop a useful language tool to be used both at home with the assistance of parents and at kindergartens with the assistance of teachers</li> <li>- to avoid stereotypes and subjects that could be related to xenophobia, racism etc. and</li> </ul>

	<p>actively develop positive attitudes toward the others and their cultures</p> <p>- to promote equality of genders and integration of minority groups</p>
<p><b>Methodology</b> (max 150 words)</p>	<p>The main idea of the project's software is to introduce two foreign languages (EN and FR) by using a classic to kindergartens pedagogical method of learning which is "crafts and play materials" but in a completely innovative way.</p> <p>A 3D human cartoon, the "Apple", is the children's guide to foreign language learning through craft activities that help them develop at the same time cognitive, social and motor skills and learn the target foreign languages in a natural way.</p> <p>The 3D cartoon uses the children's mother tongue (using Audio technique) in order to explain the craft to be made and at the same time the cartoon introduces children to EN or FR vocabulary and basic sentences and phrases.</p>
<p><b>Products / Outcomes</b> (add rows if necessary)</p>	<p><b>Type of product:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paper-based material</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Online resource</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Video clips / Films</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course / Training</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mobile application</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ul> <p><b>Brief description of the product / outcome / method:</b></p> <p><b>1. Multimedia learning product</b> – The A.P.P.L.E. project has developed six different versions of the same DVD ROM introducing EN and FR to preschool kids from PL, EE, RO, BG, TR and GR. Each DVD ROM is using the same content as far as foreign language material is concerned and the technical part (3D graphics, video animation, music, sounds etc.), but presented in a different language environment as far as the mother tongue is concerned. The user of each version of the DVD ROM has the option to change language and linguistic material (EN or FR) just by pressing the relevant button.</p> <p>The language courses are divided into two levels, the first for preschool children (3-4 years old) and the second for kindergarten children (5-6 years old) and include in total 80 different lessons.</p> <p>Each lesson contains the following steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) (Tech. char.: Audio &amp; Animation): The Cartoon presents the subject of the craft to be made using the child's mother tongue,</li> <li>b) (Tech. char.: 3D Multimedia technology): The materials to be used for creating the craft are presented using 3D Multimedia technology,</li> <li>c) (Tech. char.: Video animation): All steps for creating a craft (3D) according to the section's subject are presented through video animation,</li> <li>d) (Tech. char.: Audio): The Cartoon introduces children to the related to the subject vocabulary (EN and FR) using native speakers' pronunciation &amp; writing symbols (only for adult use),</li> </ul>

	<p>e) (Tech. char.: Audio): Related music songs and sounds are heard for making children repeat the new languages in a motivating way,</p> <p>f) (Tech. char.: Audio): The Cartoon explains children how to play funny games related to the subject motivating them to respond and repeat in a variety of ways: by physical gestures, by repeating things loudly, quietly, slowly, quickly, etc.</p> <p><b>2. Printed materials</b> – two books in 6 language versions (PL, EE, RO, BG, TR and GR), one version for each DVD ROM version:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The first book is addressed to both teachers and parents and includes all instructions for developing the crafts.</li> <li>- The second book is also addressed to parents and teachers and includes information concerning the benefits from early foreign language learning, studies and researches which suggest the parents’ cooperation and assistance of children in language learning from a very early age, the language vocabulary (EN &amp; FR) included in the DVD ROM as well as notes on EN and FR grammar and methodology.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Impact on target groups / Transferability potential</b></p>	<p>Preschool children can benefit from the project as they can make an early start in foreign language learning by using modern technology in a natural and amusing way. They can acquire listening, comprehension and speaking skills in two foreign languages (EN and FR), and at the same time, become familiar with ICT technology, develop cognitive, social and motor skills.</p> <p>The children’s parents, on the other hand, can get informed about the benefits of early foreign language learning, while their teachers can obtain a useful multimedia tool for introducing EN and FR to children.</p>