

LEFKOSIA (NICOSIA) EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITY, CYPRUS

Comenius Regio Partnerships on “Empower Literacy In Primary Education”

The Lefkosia (Nicosia) Educational Authority is interested to participate in the “Comenius Regio Partnerships” Program which aims at promoting cooperation activities between local and regional authorities. The partnerships give to the educational authorities¹ of two different countries (“Partner Regions”), in cooperation with schools and other actors in education of their region, the opportunity to work together on one or more topics of mutual interest and develop and exchange good practices.

More information can be found in every EU country’s LLP organization website (local LLP manages the European Lifelong Learning Programme).

The Lefkosia (Nicosia) Educational Authority seeks for a partner on a drawing project on Empowering Literacy in Primary Education. Students who fall behind in reading do not often catch up with their more successful peers, show lower self-esteem, and display less motivation for participating in reading and subject matter instruction (Wood and Taylor, 2007). In addition, many struggling readers begin a pattern of academic failure that continues through secondary education. The project will aim to empower primary school students literacy, reading and writing.

The implementation of the plan will employ specific actions and initiatives that will support teachers, parents and pupils in implementing effective literacy activities in school. The project will adapt and apply activities like:

- Creating a classroom digital literate environment.
- Support and mobilise parents to organise small-group reading aloud sessions in primary schools at least once a week aiming to cultivate the joy of reading.
- School activities to promote children’s reading through book talk and other reading activities (in schools, libraries, bookshops).
- In cooperation with bookshops and parents union provide free books to pupils.
- Develop a website where teachers, pupils and parents can write and publish online poems, stories etc.
- Organise writing and reading competitions in school to promote children’s reading and writing.
- In service training for primary school teachers on teaching strategies focusing on effective reading and writing.
- In service training and support to primary school teachers in order to integrated computers into their pedagogy.
- Support parents to support and empower their children literacy.

¹ In the Program can participate local and regional school education authorities i.e. all District Offices of the Ministry of Education and all School Committees. Each partner region must involve the local or regional Educational Authority with a role in school education; at least one school and at least one other relevant local partner (e.g. youth centers, sport centers and associations, Parents’ Associations, museums, consulting services etc.). The duration of Regio Partnerships is two years.

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The outcomes of the study will contribute towards gaining insight into the processes of empowering literacy in primary schools.

The application deadline is on 21st of February 2013.

Reference

Wood, D. K. and Taylor, D. B. (2007). Rethinking Middle School Reading Instruction: A basic Literacy activity, *Reading Psychology*, 28:75–95

Contact person:

Christos Yiasemis, yiasemis.chr@cyearn.pi.ac.cy