



Erasmus+

ONCE UPON A TIME...THE SEA

PROJECT FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION UNDER THE ERASMUS + PROGRAM
 SCIENTIFIC EDUCATION FIELD, INTERMEDIATE EXCHANGE PROJECTS
 REFERENCE NUMBER: 2018-1-RO01-KA229-049131-1

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Approved by headmistress,
 Simona Dănilă

**Report of learning / teaching / training activities
 held between March 5-8, 2019 in Igualada, Spain**

The ERASMUS + Project "Once upon a Time ... the Sea" takes place between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2020 as a strategic partnership between schools in Romania - the coordinating country and the partner countries: Italy, Portugal and Spain. The main objective of the project is to involve students in activities that contribute to the formation of skills to protect the marine environment that lead to the formation of responsible ecological, social and civic behaviour.

Learning / teaching / training activities were organized by ESCOLA GABRIEL CASTELLÀ I RAICH in Igualada, Spain. Representatives of partner schools, 6 teachers and 6 pupils, participated in different activities according to the proposals in the application form.

Our institution was represented by 8 students, two attendants and 4 teachers. The activities included in the program were carried out under the generic "SEA TRAVELLERS".

C1 – STUDENTS

- **Monday, March 4** - on arrival, the students were welcomed and accommodated in the families where they stayed for the duration of the LTT.
- **Tuesday, March 5** - the guests were welcomed by the project team members of the host school. After visiting the classrooms, pupils were invited to the library where a seminar took place, where each delegation presented materials on ports and tourist destinations representative for each partner country.

The objective was to provide information on port activities, both from commercial and tourist's perspective.

Preliminary preparation of the activity involved collecting, selecting information on tourism in the coastal areas of the project countries. All students were praised for the presentation (ppt., videos and leaflets) so that the participants had difficulty in choosing a single holiday destination. All the students have visibly improved their language skills and overcome the emotion that the situation imposed, showing security and language properties.

In the afternoon, the 20 students were organized in mixed teams alongside the 17 of the host school, with the aim of conducting a street interview in English to collect information about Igualada.



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This practical activity aimed at observing the city's social, economic and tourist life, engaging students in a real competition to prove their communication and teamwork skills.

- The program on **Wednesday, March 6** - began with an official visit to the town hall of Igualada, where in a friendly atmosphere, each delegation appointed a student who presented in a few words different impressions of the city and the host school, also referring and comparing to their own cultures. Students attending the meeting can learn how local authorities are involved in supporting school activities. Also in this situation the students showed linguistic skills and ability to interact with adults and authorities. Students and teachers have been given small gifts offered by local institutions, signs of friendship and collaboration between diverse but often similar cultures.
- Agenda of the day included a boat trip through the port of Barcelona, accompanied by a guide. It was a good opportunity to learn about its complex activity, both in the commercial and tourist areas. The port is considered to be one of the largest ports in Europe and the Mediterranean. The historical structural and social evolution of the port has been clearly described by pointing out positive and negative elements. Inherent in the project activities, it was clearly visible how human intervention has changed the port and its importance within the city and the nation. The visit to the city was an invitation for students to turn into a story all the observations regarding the local specificities and the main aspects of the port activity.-

Back to Igualada, the Spanish students presented their guests different customs and aspects of their people's culture. In order to learn about the Catalan traditions, a very attractive moment, namely a training for the realization of a human tower, was witnessed. Students have understood that all people involved, including many children, must show strength, balance, courage and concentration. This tradition, dating back to the 18th century, was declared by UNESCO in 2010 as a good of non-material world heritage.

- **Thursday, 7 March** - was a school day when all children were integrated into mixed teams, actively participating in courses, situation that gave them a good opportunity to learn new content in the context of the Spanish education system. The program also included a trip to the Montserrat Monastery, where the explanations of competent guides helped the participants to enrich the historical and cultural horizons in an exceptional natural setting. In the afternoon the students attended some classes in the classes and attended the dinner organized by the school with the collaboration of the families. All the families that hosted them were present. Socialization, collaboration and the desire to share were present in the dishes of the cultural and local tradition that were presented with care and attention.



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- **Friday, March 8** - the students were trained in a practical knowledge of Sitges, on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, which consisted of initiating dialogues with both locals and tourists. It has come to the conclusion that this town can be a holiday destination for those interested in discovering the beauty of the sea and the surroundings and in the same time enjoying the benefits the sea has to offer. The diversity of the activities that the students participated in contributed to the formation of an appropriate social, civic and ecological awareness. They have become aware that language learning offers many opportunities to study or work in another country or simply for the pleasure of discovering new horizons. Also, children have improved their ICT skills, oral communication and writing in English, in new contexts, by promoting tourist regions, developing their entrepreneurial spirit. A very good collaboration between students was remarked, students who come from countries that have different cultures, but they succeeded in communication effectively in English and solving common tasks that have promoted human values such as tolerance, mutual respect, confidence on others and friendship.

C2 - TEACHERS

- **Tuesday, March 5**- the teachers, welcomed by the management of the host institution and the members of the project team, were invited to visit the school. Detailed explanations have been received about the way the educational process is organized in each school space, detail which has contributed to the formation of a clear picture of the courses involving children aged 3 to 14 years.

- Teachers from partner schools took part in a SEA TRAVELLERS debate, focusing on the important role of the sea in the development of each country. The materials presented have been posted on the project website, being a source of information for all those interested.

In the afternoon, a tour of Igualada was organized, which allowed the participants to observe of the city's social, economic and tourist life.

- The program on **Wednesday, March 6** - started with an official visit to the City of Igualada, where in a friendly atmosphere, a teacher appointed by each delegation presented shortly the country, the village and the school of origin. All those present could learn education can be supported by local authorities. The teachers were able to learn about and appreciate the social policies that the city of Igualada proposes, share common problems and discuss possible improvements. Students and teachers have been honoured with small gifts offered by local institutions, signs of friendship and collaboration of diverse but often similar cultures.

- Agenda of the day included a boat ride through the port of Barcelona. The presence of a well-documented guide enabled a permanent dialogue, which was doubled by capturing images with your cam recorder or camera, it was an



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occasion to learn about the complex activity touristic and commercial side that takes place on a daily basis.

- Discovering Barcelona, one of Europe's most popular tourist destinations, has been an opportunity for all participants to admire a medieval and modern city at the same time. It was also a chance to know the specificity of a town in the coastal area, some elements of culture and traditions.

- **Thursday, March 7** - was a day of school, when all teachers attended classes with the opportunity to learn different teaching methods, such as integrated design and evaluation of effective use of IT tools and platform educational lessons..

- The program of the day included a trip to Montserrat Monastery, where the explanations of competent guides helped to enrich the historical and cultural horizons of all participants, in an exceptional natural setting. The origin of the mountain explained very clearly highlighted the geological and geographic aspects, the presence of elements that date back to the PANGEA and PANTALASSA have meant that the visit was inherent in the activities of the project.

- In the afternoon a workshop was organized with the participation of a psychologist, member of the "Escola Nova XXI". It was a good opportunity to learn about ways to improve the process of learning, about the approach of students' special needs in schools in Catalonia. The new trends in the education system in the partner countries have been the subject of a debate that has particularly emphasized the creation of an inclusive environment in schools. The comparison between school education systems with particular reference to problematic pupils was important to learn about the strategies and interventions that every nation - government adopts.

Participation in the dinner coordinated by the Catalan school with the presence of parents and school staff strengthened the capacity for comparison and collaboration for a deeper knowledge of traditions and culture. Families that hosted pupils showed sensitivity and affection.

- **Friday, March 8** - outdoor activities were organized in Sitges, a chance to know local specifics, cultural elements and tourism development in this area.

Participants were able to make a real exchange of information in a non-formal context and compare the observed issues with in their regions. The program of the day ended with the granting of certificates of participation in a festive scenery and impression sharing, which were also recorded in questionnaires prepared by the host school.

All actions organized over the course of the 4 days contributed to the improvement of communicative skills in English, but especially to the establishment of collaboration and friendship relationships between the participants. Also, by sharing ideas and best practices, there were found effective ways to create an inclusive school environment and in the same time



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attractive to motivate and stimulate students in learning, which will improve their school results. Valuing all of the experience and knowledge gained by participating in these activities will help improve teaching strategies and enhance the prestige of each school in the community to which it belongs to.

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