THE CLIL4STEAM PROJECT: FULL STEAM AHEAD TOWARDS LEARNING SCIENCE AND LANGUAGES

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Abstract

The article is based on the CLIL4STEAM project (Erasmus+ Programme - 2019-1-PL01- KA201-065027), which is being implemented by EuroEd Foundation Iasi, Romania and other oganisations, institutions and high schools from Italy, Ireland, Lithuania and Poland, which is the project's coodinator. The ideas of the project stem from the importance of science and language learning in education nowadays. The project stimulates the creation of a community of practice where teachers and educators work together to promote scientific and language knowledge and competences in school education through Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL). The CLIL method has proved to be an effective strategy for motivating students to improve their science and language knowledge and methodology.

The benefits of CLIL may be seen in terms of cultural awareness, language competence, preparation for both study and working life, and increased motivation. The project aims to provide secondary school teachers with the necessary knowledge and skills to create CLIL based teaching materials focusing on STEAM curricula. The article presents the project's objectives, methodology, its main outputs and their impact on the teachers participating in the project. The partnership identified twenty most relevant topics in science which were illustrated by short videos in English with subtitles in partners' languages. Research focused on finding the most relevant and useful teaching resources on the internet. These resources were accompanied by tips and concrete explanations as to how to integrate them into engaging and meaningful lessons. In addition to this, interactive online activities enabled students to further practice the language and consolidate the content (matching, crosswords, quizzes, word search, etc). The products were tested on 50 teachers, who evaluated the CLIL method used in the project and the project's platform.

Key words: science, languages, CLIL, teachers, learning