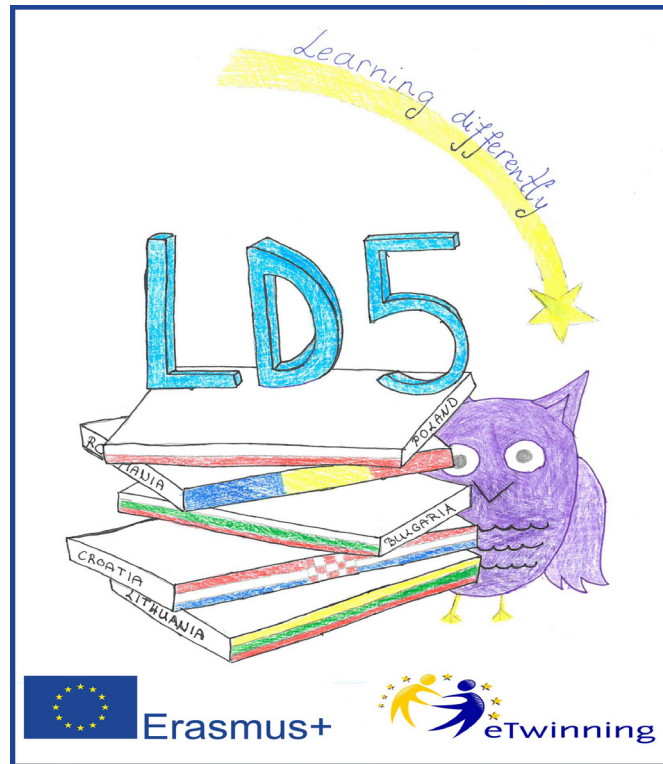




Erasmus+



EDITION
2

Learning differently Croatia

Croatia

Interviews with teachers who participated in joint staff-training event in Lithuania

Arsen Šarunić



Arsen Šarunić (Croatian coordinator) and Asta Jankauskienė (Lithuanian coordinator)

- **After a short stay in Lithuania, can you name some differences between the Croatian and Lithuanian schools?**

There are no big differences between Croatian and Lithuanian educational system. As in our country, most of the schools are public, in some schools they wear school uniforms, in others they don't, some of them are elite schools with lots of modern digital technologies, but most of them aren't. The only difference I noticed is that their headmasters have deputies, which is very useful and, in my opinion, better for school organization needs. Also during school time, students have one long break (half an hour) when they can go out of school to have lunch at home or to do something else.

- **Did you notice any new school management methods while exchanging experiences with other colleagues in this project?**

As I mentioned before, their headmasters have deputies who are responsible for certain aspects of school leadership, for example EU projects, improving educational quality etc.

That is a big benefit for improving school quality because it is impossible that one person (headmaster) is the expert in all areas.

- **What is the importance of introducing new methods into the teaching process? Why is it important that teachers recognize and implement educational innovations?**

It is important because schools have to change because our students' needs are changing. We have to understand that new generations of pupils are completely different, so called 'digital generation', with different brain structure, so we must find new methods of teaching to help them to become good, hardworking and happy people.

Arsen Šarunić





Ana Hribar Beluhan

• After participating in the lectures and workshops in Lithuania, as part of the Erasmus + Learning Differently project, what new experiences would you say you acquired?

The lectures and workshops in Lithuania impressed me because they were creative and well prepared. Our hosts showed us how to make the teaching process more interesting and fun by using different technologies and digital tools. As an ICT teacher, I think it is important to balance digital technology and traditional teaching methods to make teaching as good as possible.

• Do you consider these new experiences to be useful as new methods that you will include in your lessons?

The acquired experience will benefit me in my future work. After all, the goal of Erasmus + projects is to exchange experiences and incorporate new things into your teaching.

• What teaching methods from Lithuanian schools left an impression on you?

Most of all, I was impressed with the Scratch Workshop in which children at a younger age learn programming.

• What are the benefits of such teaching methods for students?

Students respond positively to the use of different digital tools and teaching strategies. They like to work in small groups, thus developing information and communication skills that will help them in their further work.



Ana Hribar Beluhan

In our school, we celebrated Christmas with a Christmas performance in which our students danced, sang, acted and played various instruments. Their parents and the local community were delighted to see the children express themselves in the area they are most talented and interested in. After the performance, the pupils organized a Christmas ball and they had an amazing time dancing and singing Christmas songs together with their teachers.

Elementary school Pušća Erasmus team shared their experience of participating in international projects with the teachers of Ivana Brlić Mažuranić Elementary School in Prigorje Brdovečko. Our Erasmus team gave a lecture on January 25, 2019 to all the teachers interested in European projects. The team familiarized the group with the program offered by the Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes. We talked about the procedure for applying for the projects, how to manage project budget and finances, and mentioned the activities, strategies and methods that will help them to achieve the desired outcomes. We also discussed how to integrate the projects into the teaching process and mentioned all the benefits to our students and all other participants.



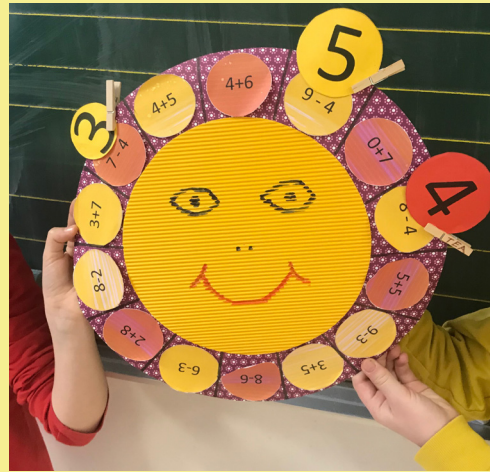
Learning tools

On a cold January afternoon, teachers, parents and students of our school gathered to design and make some new interesting teaching tools for our youngest students. These tools will help the children learn Croatian Language, Maths, Science, etc.

Here are some of the tools which were created at our meeting.

Mathematical Sun

It is a creative game with the numbers placed on the sun's rays. The task is to add two numbers and pin the result on the ray.



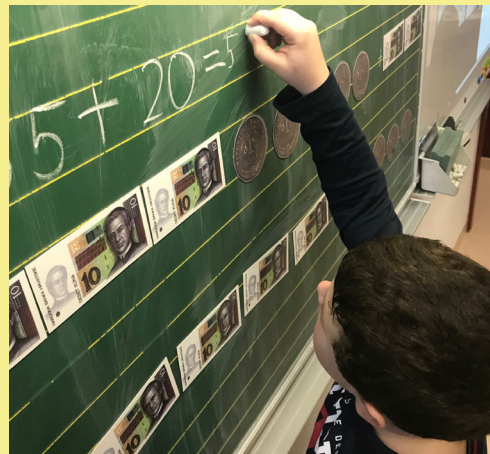
Dominoes

Learning grammatical categories (singular and plural, gender, etc.) while playing dominoes.



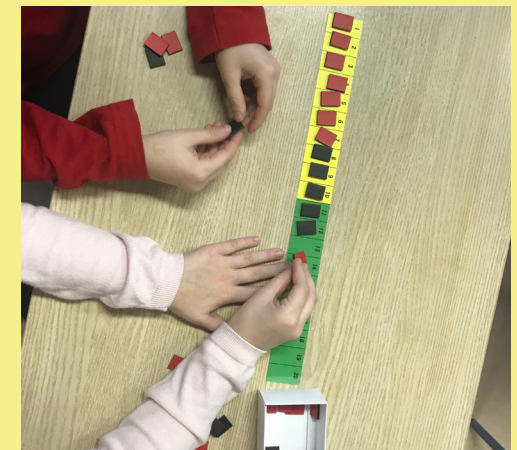
Play with Money

In this game, children have money-shaped stickers of 5 and 10 Kuna (Croatian money). Students have to add two numbers by using the stickers and show the result as the amount of Kuna.



Numbers Line

Students add red and black cubes and find the correct answer.



Quiz about Croatia

1 Croatia is a Central European and Mediterranean country.

T F

2 Croatia borders Slovenia, Hungary, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro on the land and has a sea border with Italy.

T F

3 The capital city of Croatia is:

- a) Split
- b) Vukovar
- c) Zagreb
- d) Krapina

4 Croatia became a member state of the European Union on July 1st, 2013.

T F

5 The most famous and the most visited national park in Croatia is Plitvice Lakes National Park.

T F

6 Janica and Ivica Kostelić are famous Croatian:

- a) swimmers
- b) skiers
- c) handballers
- d) dancers

7 The most popular tourist destination in Croatia is:

- a) Varaždin
- b) Osijek
- c) Karlovac
- d) Dubrovnik

8 Nikola Tesla was a famous Croatian:

- a) chef
- b) sculptor
- c) inventor
- d) singer

9 The most common surname in Croatia is:

- a) Horvat
- b) Merkl
- c) Šarunić
- d) Kovačević

10 Croatia is one of the largest car exporters in the world.

T F

T – true

F - false

