





# Learning differently Lithuania

## Lithuania



The first international learning activity (Short-term exchanges of groups of pupils) has just finished. We are questioning Ema, Ugne and Skomantas, who were in an international team in Romania on March 4-8. It is curious to know how they were doing and what they have learned.

#### Skomantas



#### • What were the first impressions on arrival?

They seemed a very friendly family, amusing and friendly boy. They took very good care of me.

#### • How did the participants from other countries meet you?

They met very warmly. At first it was a little bit uncomfortable, but later everything was good. Most of them were not very talkative, but the Polish girls were singing and later talking to us. Most of the time, children from other countries spoke to each other, only teachers approached and talked more with us.

#### • What learning activities did you like most?

I really liked looking for hints. Just one minus that the majority spoke in their own language and didn't explain what to do. I really liked the art lesson because the teacher had a good sense of humor, she taught us how to make postcards in different techniques, and the works were beautiful and creative. I liked IT lessons because they had creative tasks in teams and I had the opportunity not only to create quizzes but also to have fun communicating. We had interesting tasks in English lesson - guessing the animals from the description. During one lesson we watched pupils' presentations about dinosaurs, space, Minecraft. I was surprised by the fact that the projects were carried out by children on large sheets of paper, they made a lot of effort and used PC only a little. I did not see

them using PPT or PREZI programs.

#### • What new did you learn?

I learned to use two IT applications. I learned a few new handicraft styles. Improved English knowledge and skills. I learned more about Romanian traditions and present because I knew nothing about that country. I learned about the learning system, the order in Romania. I learned about the differences between Lithuanian and Romanian characters, and the differences in lifestyle.

#### • What is the difference between Romanian and our school?

The school where we were learning has a ton of achievements, they are proud of their school and many children want to study there. They don't use any electronic diaries. It was surprising that the students didn't have to walk to another lesson but teachers had to, for example, the music teacher has to carry all the necessary tools. Children do not raise their hand to answer, but two fingers. I have noticed that children are very respectful to teachers. Some children bring their cushions and put it on the chairs to make them softer. I was surprised that I did not see a canteen in the school. There was only an old woman selling buns and other sweets.

## • Was it difficult to learn Romanian words/phrases? How do you feel when you speak Romanian?

Learning was easy, remembering was harder. When speaking, I felt like weird a little bit, but it was interesting to know the words of another language.

#### • Was it difficult to learn traditional Romanian dance?

No, their dance was very easy. I thought that we will need to move more in their dance.

#### • What new did you learn about Romania and its culture?

I learned that their dances are quite immobile. Tasted their traditional bread. I saw their national costume. The family I lived with, made interesting traditional dishes: instead of bread corn porridge - mamalyga, meat dishes. In the museum, I learned about the history of technology: an ancient supercomputer, an ancient music device, and others. I found out that this is a big country, where friendly and cheerful people live. But there are areas, where people walk with weapons

and it is dangerous to walk in there.



#### • How did you feel when your child was gone?

As he went with teachers and other participants from the project, I really didn't worry, I trusted him. We communicated and I didn't feel worried. I was also pleased that my son had the opportunity to learn English and got to know new people and improve.

#### • Did the child enjoy learning activities in Romania?

Yes, he was most interested in being in active activities, the opportunity to speak in public (presentation of Lithuanian bread).

#### • What did your child learn?

He learned a few words in Romanian, about Romania in general, about national dishes, clothes, learned the differences between learning activities in Lithuania and Romania, learned how to use several IT programs, and learned some new techniques of handicraft production. The greatest experience - to speak English and not be afraid to make mistakes. He gained motivation to learn further.

#### Ema



#### • What were the first impressions on arrival?

I was very nervous at first, but later I got courage. Everything was very interesting.

- How did the participants from other countries meet you? We came before them.
- What learning activities did you like most? Creating stories, making masks, doing handcrafts.
- What new did you learn?

Now I know how the Romanian national costume looks, I improved my computer skills.

- What is the difference between Romanian and our school?

  There are fewer lessons, no electronic diaries and there are no canteens.
- Was it difficult to learn Romanian words/phrases? How do you feel when you speak Romanian?

It was a little hard. It was strange to speak Romanian because of the difficult pronunciation.

#### • Was it difficult to learn traditional Romanian dance?

Not at all, because I'm a dancer.

#### • What new did you learn about Romania and its culture?

I learned more about traditional food and national dances and costumes.

#### Ema's Mother

#### • How did you feel when your child was gone?

We were worried a little bit, but when we talked, we were calmed, because we knew our daughter was all right.

• Did the child enjoy learning activities in Romania?

Yes, very much!

#### • What did your child learn?

I think she has improved her English language skills, got to know Romanian culture and saw her peers in another country.

#### Ugnė

#### • What were the first impressions on arrival?

It seemed that there were many mountains in that country.

#### • How did the participants from other countries meet you?

We came to school, waited for a little bit and then the people who had to take us to their families came. It was very warm and nice.

#### • What learning activities did you like most?

I mostly liked to use ''Aurasma" to create tests. I also liked working in groups. Tuesday was the most memorable day of the week, as we had many activities.

• What new did you learn?

I learned to say many phrases in our partners' languages.

#### • What is the difference between Romanian and our school?

In Romania, all the lessons are conducted in one classroom, children are not divided into subgroups in foreign language lessons.

## • Was it difficult to learn Romanian words/phrases? How do you feel when you speak Romanian?

It was difficult to pronounce the words with many consonants. When I spoke, I did not know if I said the words correctly, I was feeling uncomfortable that the Romanians would laugh at me.

#### • Was it difficult to learn traditional Romanian dance?

No, it was very easy. All the steps were repeating.

#### • What new did you learn about Romania and its culture?

I learned a lot. The most interesting thing was that the Romanian (men) national costume includes a skirt. Initially, it made me laugh, but now I think I would like that too. I found out that when the spring begins, Romanians wear brooches with red and white stripes, because on March 1 they celebrate Spring Festival "MARCIŠOR".

#### Ugnė's Father

#### • How did you feel when your child was gone?

I was concerned and thinking if everything is OK. If she likes the new country.

#### • Did the child enjoy learning activities in Romania?

From her story, it seems that she liked.

#### • What did your child learn?

A few phrases in Romanian, visited the country where she has never been before.

## National costume



The national costume is an important symbol of the state, a testimony to our ancestors' high standard of workmanship and reflection of their conception beauty. The traditional dress bears close resemblance to folk garments once worn by our ancestors in the 19th century, when every region and parish had their own style of clothing different from neighborhood fashions.

Peasant outfits were influenced by many factors. First, tribal beliefs and superstitions, both of which were pagan in origin, persisted for a long span of time. Some clothes, ornaments and decorations were chosen so as to protect against the forces of evil, help to enjoy excellent health and bring luck. Therefore, some elements of the folk costume remained almost unchanged for centuries.

Nowadays there have been no areas left in Lithuania where people would still wear traditional festive clothes of antiquity. Only some families still keep baptismal or wedding sashes, their mother's or grandmother's kerchief, stole, necklace of coral or amber beads.

#### National costume of Klaipėda region (Minor Lithuania)

Minor or Prussian Lithuania is a historical-ethnographic region of Prussia. To-day a small portion of Lithuania Minor is within the borders of modern Lithuania and Poland while most of the territory is part of the Kaliningrad Oblast of Russia.

The region of Lithuania minor is the only area in Lithuania where the majority of people accepted the Lutheran faith. This circumstance as well as the political and cultural environment differed from the rest of Lithuania and greatly influenced this ethnographic regions clothing. Old clothing in Klaipėda as described by writers was very colourful and decorative. The darkened clothing of Klaipėda is attractive in its unique elegance and its somewhat inventive transformation of urban fashions.

Some interesting facts about Klaipėda region national costume "Delmonas"



Almost every woman and girl in the Klaipeda region had an especially decorative handbag, called 'delmonas'. The 'delmonas' presented a cloth pocket worn at the waist, with geometrical or plant designs embroidered with coloured threads or beads. It was held by a sash and worn on the apron on the right-hand side.

In the beginning of the 19th century, brides wore an impressive nettedcap, the so-called 'kykas', a high cylindrically-shaped type of head dressmade from black velvet or felt.



Women's clothing







The costume of a woman consisted of skirts, a shirt, a vest or jacket, an apron, ahead cover, footwear (stocking and shoes),sashes, 'delmonas',jewellery, scarves or kerchiefs, gloves, awrist muff, a coarsehomespun overcoatand a fur coat.

In the early 19th century the women used to wear long and wide tailored woollen skirts, gathered at the waist and fastened in the front. In the late 19th century, black or dark brown skirts, interwoven with diagonal coloured stripes, pleated or in accordion pleats, appeared. Several skirts used to be worn simultaneously. Shirts used to be white, linen or cotton, made of rectangular pieces of cloth, generally collarless, with a heavily gathered low-cut neck or a folded-over collar. The sleeves were wide, with cuffs or without them, gathered at the wrist with wide loose ends. The upper part of the sleeve and the collar were decorated with embroidered red, black or blue patterns.

The apron of the lietuvininkai women in the early 19th century were white linen, with woven patterns forming red longitudinal stripes. In the second half of the 19th century, the aprons became darker, one-colour with evenly distributed multi-coloured patterns, flowery or with longitudinal stripes, made mainly of silk. In the late 19th century, Klaipeda women wore knitted patterned stockings, woollen in winter and cotton or linen in summer. The nicest summer stockings were white, knitted in openwork in diamond-shaped, small bend or herringbone designs. In the 17th- 18th centuries, women wore wooden clogs or 'nagines' (sandals made of a single piece of leather) every day, while better-off women had shoes for holidays. In the 19th- 20th centuries different kinds of leather shoes were worn.

#### Men's clothing











A full set of traditional holiday clothes of a man consisted of a shirt, trousers, a vest, a 'sermega' (a homespun coarse overcoat or a jacket), head cover, a scarf, a belt and footwear. Male shirts were made of the same cloth as female ones Men in Western Lithuania used to wear short (arm-length) shirts thrust in trousers. The men used to wear their trousers either long and not wide or short and tied below the knees. Before the 20th century, woollen, semi-woollen or linen home- made cloth was used for trousers. The scarf presented a thin fancy kerchief, folded in a triangle and worn around the neck. The best home-made or manufactured kerchiefs fashionable at the time, linen, woollen, cotton or silk, were used.

A compulsory part of a male costume was felt hats of different shapes. Felt hats were not too high, with very wide or medium-wide brims. Men would decorate their hats with one-colour or multi-colour bands or with rooster or pigeon feather. Men would wear either footcloth or socks on their feet and calves. In the late 19th century, knitted multi-coloured socks were popular. The most expensive holiday type of footwear was high boots. Both in winter and in summer, the compulsory parts of man holiday costume were a shirt, trousers (long or short), a vest, a 'sermèga' or a jacket, a felt cap or hat, a scarf, high boots or shoes, patterned knitted socks, a sash or a belt.

#### Children's clothes





On holidays, the children would be dressed in the same costumes as adults. Young girls and unmarried women would plait their hair into braids and put them around the head in very complex ways – this kind of hairstyle would be done for Sunday and would last for the whole week.

#### Exibition in the school





### Our greatings

Литва ви пожелава красива късно, добра учебна година! Lituania vă dorește un frumos an școlar târziu! Litva vam želi lijepu kasno, dobru školsku godinu! Litwa życzy Państwu pięknego, dobrego późnego roku szkolnego!



#### 1. When was the Independence of Lithuania restored?

A 1928

B 1980

C 1918

D 1885

#### 2. What is the most popular sport in Lithuania?

A Football

**B** Tennis

C Gaming

D Basketball

#### 3. What is the most popular holiday/festival in Klaipeda?

A The Sea Festival

B Black Friday

C Christmas

D "Karklė" festival

#### 4. What are the 2 most popular dishes in Lithuania?

A Sourdough

B Cepelinai

C Cold beetroot soup

D Dumplings

#### 5. Which singer got respect from the President of Lithuanian?

A Kristijonas Donelaitis

B Marijonas Mikutavičius

C Jazzu

D Mantas Kalnietis

#### 6. What are the colors of the Lithuanian flag?

A Red, yellow, black

B Yellow, green, red

C Black, blue

D White, green, orange

#### 7. What is the coat of arms of Lithuania?

A A snake on a white background

B A bear with leaves falling in the background

C An eagle in black background

D A Rider on a red background

#### 8. Lithuania's national bird is:

A An eagle

B A sparrow

C A white stork

D A hawk



8. C A white stork

7. D A Rider on a red background

6. B Yellow, green, red

5. B Marijonas Mikutavičius

C Cold beetroot soup

4. B Cepelinai

3. A The Sea Festival

2. D Basketball

I. C 1918