



Content-based modern language teaching for young learners (EPLC)

Enseignement précoce des langues modernes par des contenus

Inhaltsorientiertes frühes Fremdsprachenlernen

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Medium-term project 2008 – 2011

Working languages: French, German

Project website: <http://eplc.ecml.at/>

Aim

Will develop CLIL teaching modules in three languages (French, German, Russian) for use in primary schools.

Abstract

This project will produce and pilot content-based modules for language classes in French, German and Russian for use in primary schools. The subject matter will essentially be taken from history/geography, music and the arts and the themes and didactic and methodological approach chosen will be adapted to the needs and level of the learners. The teaching of meaningful and new content should stimulate the interest of the learners and encourage them to use the L2 as a tool of communication.

In contrast to the bilingual education courses taught in some specialised primary schools, these modules may be used in all primary schools in Europe. They may be easily integrated into any foreign language-teaching curriculum and teachers may adapt them to suit their needs. As language teaching commonly begins from the age of six in Europe, the modules will be designed for children from six to eleven. They can be used as required in normal language courses, but also in interdisciplinary courses or projects.

Expected results

The modules will be available on a website giving information on the project and on teaching languages in primary education using content-based modules. The modules will be presented in chapters according to the relevant subjects and each will contain worksheets for the learners and teachers. Some of the learner sheets may be translated into Bulgarian, Spanish and Dutch.

From the second year of the project, piloting and evaluation of the material will begin. Thus the website, which constitutes the final product of this project, will evolve out of a process of cooperation between researchers, teacher trainers, teachers and learners.

Targeted sector: primary level

