



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

Intensive program – 2013

Barcelona: discovering with all the senses

The intensive program of the year 2013 took place in Barcelona, in the seminary “Marti Codolar”. In April, the weather in Barcelona is very sweet when you compare it with the weather in Belgium. The sun gives you a lot of energy and that was really necessary for this program. “Intensive program”, it really makes his name worth it.

The program was very interesting in different domains. I’ve learned here a lot of things, which I can use for the rest of my life.

The first thing I was surprised of, was the different ways of teaching in all the countries. We had to make our own “ideal school” and then you saw that almost every country something nice had in his school system. For example: the respect for what you do of the Lithuanian people, the outdoor activities of the Danish people, the income of the Spanish people,.. Also I think it was funny that we all tried to speak English. It is not for everyone that easy, but we tried to explain all we wanted to say with our whole body, a lot of expression and a positive motivation. That was also the point that made everyone equal to the other persons.

The second thing was about the experience in the kindergarten here. It was really amazing to teach children who speak another language. Now you really know how important it is to teach with your whole body. I mean by demonstrations, body language , expressions,.. You reach your goal, although you don’t speak the same language. Also the program was about discovering with all the senses. I already knew this was important but I know now that I don’t do it enough during my internships. For myself it was also very enriching to discover the environment with all my senses. For example being blindfolded when you walk into the city, being blindfolded when you need to taste something, just feel at some things and then guess what it was,.. Now I will discover a lot more with the senses during my internships (and later as a teacher in my own class).

At last I learned a lot about myself during this program. I learned to deal with a “child with a special need”. In Belgium they aren’t sitting in the same classes then “normal children”. When I saw in Belgium a child with a special need, I always tried to avoid it. Just because I don’t feel comfortable in a situation like that. But now I see that also these kids are really nice to work with and that you can get a lot of appreciation from them.

I was amazed that my English at the end of the week was so much better than in the beginning. It was nice to learn new words and think about how you must say something (because there was not always an opportunity/ a teacher,.. to translate it).



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The last, but not the least important thing I would like to say, is that I made plenty of new friends! In the group there was a lot of harmony, the best example for this was the 'Flash mob' we did in the city. It was not always that easy to work so hard together, with different opinions, but after all, we all were very happy with the nice results! I met some people and I know for sure that these friendships will last.

So thank you guys, for making this IP so wonderful! I am proud I have met you, learned so many things and know how is your way of teaching.

Discovering with all the senses, five words which make you feel like you are really alive!

Vyncke Inne – Belgium

