

Personal reflection

First of all I would like to thank the organizers and participants of this IP project who took great pains to make this intensive programme for future early years teachers.

During two weeks being in Haugimont we discovered an environment through all senses and creativity. All the participants lived in one building and were doing together many things: prepared meals, common preparation and organization of new activities in mixed groups of 6-7 persons.

Every participant took part in different kinds of workshops. We built 6 groups (A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2) and worked together during two weeks. All workshops were outdoors and included a part of discovery, of creation, of exchange and reflection (example: listening to the sounds, collecting things from the forest, making a perfume, blindfolding, land-art work for the story and etc.



During the second week we tried to transfer the activities which we had created into the practice with children in kindergarten.

The main things I have learnt during the programme:

1. to protect and value the nature
2. to overcome difficulties living and working in mixed groups
3. to be more self-confident

4. to be self-sufficient
5. to communicate using verbal and non-verbal languages
6. to discover the nature
7. to develop creativity

My professional development during the programme:

1. to generate ideas
2. storytelling
3. lowering the fear of otherness and differences
4. creating activities for children
5. ability to listen to each other and find common solutions
6. to transfer the activities into the practice with children

Also I had an opportunity to hear something new from the students and teachers from other countries (Hungary, Portugal, Spain, Belgium, Denmark, Germany) about the kindergartens and their activities, programmes, teacher training. Our common preparation and organization of new activities in mixed groups and experimenting these activities with the children was a good practice for me.

This international and multicultural experience changed my way of doing and of being. So I really appreciate an opportunity to participate in this intensive programme, being and working together with different people from different countries. We were so different and sometimes we had difficulties which were overcome. But we all have one in common - to make children happy.



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