

Newsletter No.2

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STELA Learning Pedagogy

STELA (2020-2023) is an Erasmus+ strategic partnerships for school education, which seeks to promote storytelling as a method among language teachers and thus contribute to improving the national and European language learning policies. The project directly supports the strategy by contributing to promote key competences, specifically - by promoting comprehensive approach to language teaching and learning.

Project Title: STELA: Storytelling for Teaching English as Second Language
Project Start Date: 01.11.2020
Project End Date: 30.10.2023
National Agency of the Applicant Organisation: British Council, in partnership with Ecorys UK – British Council

During the last months in Stela project, we have realized about the importance of telling stories as a key element in developing a child's literacy and language skills.

All stories can help children structure their view of the world, and create even stimulus in their personalities. So for Stela partners, it has been crucial to introduce stories in a variety of formats and themes.

Partners in Stela project have been closely working in order to create learning scenarios, posing motivating situations and raising interesting conversations about many and varied topics in which teachers and students have learned while enjoying.

STELA Learning pedagogy development have produced learning scenarios with Pedagogy Concept.



Developed scenarios have been influenced directly by the research to understand the context of use of deep research achieved in partner countries in order to obtain separate learning scenarios designed for each students group, to help them achieve language proficiency and a specific learning goal - cognitive abilities and transferable skills.

Why Digital

The digital storytelling, as researcher and digital culture consultant John Seely Brown described it is: **“a new way to use multiple media to tell stories and in the ability of kids, who are now growing up in a digital world, to figure out new ways to tell stories. ”**



Digital storytelling can provide learners with a great opportunity to absorb information in a significant way. Currently, everyone is constantly bombarded with lots of information and stories in digital formats. This is why digital storytelling allow trainers to truly engage students in the story's messages while they are getting more skilled in foreign languages.

Thanks to 21st century technologies, storytelling methodologies are coming on new ways of teaching with richer incorporations of digital media like images videos, as well as audio files.

STELA Innovation

Stela project is being innovative because it has been able to connect advanced ideas proven scientifically as efficient and engaging for the adolescence age students:

Language learning through storytelling: as many scientific studies states that encouraging learners to be storytellers plays a very



relevant role in promoting language learning, by encouraging them to actively participate in the learning process. Studies also suggest that storytelling promotes the development of language skills, because it boosts learners' motivation to learn a second or foreign language, promotes social interactions among learners and between learners and teachers in the classroom, helping learners keep within their ZPD (zone of proximal development), and also provides them with comprehensible input. The reviewed studies suggest that storytelling plays an important role in facilitating comprehension because stories are highly contextualized, through the use of illustrations, verbal repetitions and/or body language, for instance, and also because they are fun and engaging.

The project has many innovative aspects:

- It has created framework and Guidelines for an efficient and professional use of storytelling methods and new digital tools.
- It has used advanced ICT tools for a Digital STELA Portfolio, creating an attractive tool for adolescents that will enhance their digital competences and help them to learn English language in an engaging and personalized way.

What's Next



- IO3 - Guidelines for STELA Digital Storytelling
- Digital stories prepared by the project partners applying STELA Kit and digital software for storytelling.
- The empowerment of adolescents on the use of English skills, digital technologies and to have raised their awareness about the

opportunities the new available resources and instruments offer. The active involvement of teachers and students in partner countries in the reflection on their use of the storytelling within digital tools, the platform underlying the contents created by students and for students.

- Partners will organize multiplier events in which education professionals (English teachers, language teachers), school administrative, as well parents will be introduced with the powerful storytelling method and dedicated digital tools engaging the students in creative interactive learning process.
- Series of dissemination events in the vast network of the project consortium at national and international level. Education professionals will be introduced with the project outcomes.

To get detailed information about Stela Project and to be informed about updates, Please follow our project website: <https://project-stela.eu/> and facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/stelaproject2020/>

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