



Presentation of Linguistically, culturally and developmentally appropriate multilingual material for children (picture books)

3rd international training:

Activities for children, who are not enrolled in preschool, and their parents

Ljubljana, Slovenia May 9-13, 2016







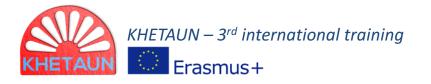




EXAMPLE FROM SLOVENIA:

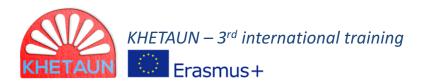
The process of developing a picture book

- Preschool Šentvid local project partner
- Workshop in preschool: Romani and non-Romani children and their parents
- NGO Mosaik
- Romani children: a story about horses
- Non-Romani children: a story about the sea
- The title: With Friends to the Sea
- The story is not finished yet
- Plan: workshop in Romani settlement to finish a story and make illustrations











Our findings and suggestions

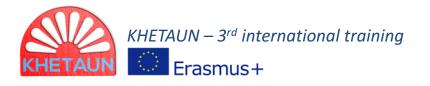
- Elements, which are present in Romani communities: love of nature (and animals) + wish to go to the sea
- Based on a written story and identified elements, which can be found in Romani communities → include a content about fear of water/swimming and strategies for overcoming this kind of fear
- Language: Slovenian + Romani from Dolenjska region
 - + blank space for entering any other language





Multilingual picture books

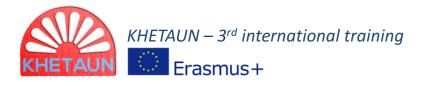
- ISSA has created three Activity Kits to accompany selected groups of Reading Corner books
- Each Activity Kit includes the following: Adult manual Opening Magic Doors: Reading and Learning Together with Children for Different Age Group + 4 children's story books
- 3 age groups: 2-3, 4-5, 6-8
- We translated all 12 story books to Slovenian language, Romani dialect from Prekmurje region and Romani dialect from Dolenjska region + Adult manuals to Slovenian language
- We also left a **blank space** in each story book in order to encourage teachers and parents to translate the story in any of child's mother tongue





Multilingual picture dictionaries

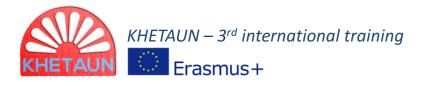
- Development of trilingual picture dictionaries was based on multilingual picture books.
- Equipped with transcription in Slovene and two of the most common dialects of Romani language in Slovenia: the Prekmurje Romani and Dolenjska Romani dialect
- A possibility of entering its own language, that is the closest to the child, was also given in these dictionaries
- This enabled yet accessibility to the same material to the other children living in Slovenia, whose mother tongue is not Slovenian
- Romani children drowned pictures, used in the dictionaries
- For age groups from 2 to 3, from 4 to 5 and from 6 to 8 years





Implementation of multilingual didactic materials in the educational process

- Practitioners faced different situations: children whose mother tongue is Romani + children who grow up in a multilingual environment, but for various reasons do not use Romani for communication
- Findings:
- 1) children felt uncomfortable when reading in Romani; parents do not see sense in bringing elements of Romani culture and language in preschool
- 2) children who poorly understood Slovenian, showed particularly enthusiasm for reading the story in Romani, since it is rarely encountered in preschools
- 3) parents were impressed about the fact that it is possible to write and read in Romani





Workshop

1) Any ideas how to upgrade your picture books?

2) Possible uses of the picture books in implementation of the *Activities for children, who are not enrolled in preschool, and their parents...*





From a project workers' report

"A Romani mother was encouraged to read out loud a book in Romani. She was encouraged by the other parents, who expressed particular satisfaction at her performance [...]. The children were interested to hear something read in Romani. They were happy to hear a story in their own language. The girl whose mother read the story showed particular pride."

"Both parents and children were happy, since we still have pre-school children who do not understand Slovene and know only their mother tongue (Romani). At the end, they praised us and gave us a round of applause... and asked for more similar stories."

