

Loose parts play training curriculum

Introduction

This long training plan was developed within the project **Enhancing Personal Capacity Building and Climate Awareness of Pupils in Schools**, co-funded by the European Union Erasmus+ Programme (project number: 2020-1-HU01-KA201-078725).

The project aims to support schools in planning and implementing a loose parts play programme in their institution, to provide adequate time and space in the school day for pupils to play with a wide range of materials (loose parts), and so enhance opportunities for free play. The staff, especially those working directly with the children, need to understand loose parts play (LPP) so that they are able to fully support it. This curriculum is a tool for training to ensure staff are prepared to support LPP, to deliver it and have the opportunity to develop their practice. It also serves to develop organisational capacity.

Through the cooperation of eight organisations from four partner countries, the project team developed several complementary resources in addition to this curriculum. The Loose Parts Play Manual provides the necessary background information on LPP including its importance for children, its connection to sustainability, and practical guidance for teachers and staff. Accompanying the manual is the Loose Parts Play Toolbox which contains practical, ready-to-use tools (posters, forms, sample letters) to help schools with implementation. The Policy Paper, builds on our 15-months long research in the partner schools collecting information about the impact of implementing LPP.

How to use the materials in this curriculum

The curriculum is aimed at experienced trainers who can use it to support school staff. It is divided into six modules, which correspond to the topics described in the manual. It covers the basics of LPP, as well as practicalities regarding facilitation of LPP sessions and implementation of a LPP programme in the school.

If the circumstances allow, the training can be organised as a week-long course, but the modular structure allows for different timing, such as weekly or monthly sessions. Each module description contains information regarding what kind of previous knowledge is required to be able to follow the module.

The outline plans should be seen as suggestions for the trainer to adapt with a view to ensuring the learning outcomes are met. They are based on training delivered by the partners during the project and contain a mix of approaches. The training guidelines were brought together to help you deliver the LPP curriculum. They should be useful for each module and can be adapted as the trainer feels relevant.

Curriculum resources

The LPP curriculum package is made up of several resources to assist you. These are:

- This introduction
- Training guidelines applicable to all the modules
- A module plan for each module which describes an outline plan with timing
- Trainer's notes for each module which suggests activities, exercises and reference points to the manual and toolbox

- The LPP Manual
- The LPP Toolbox.

For easy reference, the following icons are used with a section reference or Tool number indicating which parts of the LPP Manual and Toolbox to refer to.



This icon refers to the manual.



This icon refers to the tools in the toolbox.



This refers to prompts in the manual.

We advise trainers to make good use of these resources as they contain valuable information to be presented in the sessions. All resources developed in the project are freely available on the project website: www.loosepartsplayproject.eu



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