VR4GIFTED

Integration of Experiential Learning and Virtual Reality on Gifted Education

January 2021, 3rd e-Newsletter



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PERIODICAL e-NEWSLETTER ON THE PROJECT

Welcome to the third Newsletter of the "Integration of Experiential Learning and Virtual Reality on Gifted Education" project (VR4Gifted). In this newsletter we have included information about the scope of the project, the specific activities for its implementation that have been done so far, and the participating institutions.

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Project Idea

Despite their recognition as students with special educational needs, gifted and talented students often do not receive in daily school practice the specialized support they require. Thus, gifted students themselves fail to develop their full potential, and societies are deprived of the contributions gifted individuals could offer to social life. Hence, it is vital that specialized programs are developed in order to support gifted and talented learners. The syllabus that will be implemented in the four participating countries may serve as a research — based paradigm for putting to practice teacher preparation programs aimed at inclusive gifted education in many other European countries.

What has been done so far?

4th Transnational meeting - online



In March 2020 we planned to meet in Thessaloniki for the 4th Partnership Meeting. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 pandemic thwarted our plans, so the meeting was held online on March 12, 2020. The project partners from Turkey, Spain, Poland and Greece held an effective meeting, discussed the scenarios of the classes and the pilot implementation.





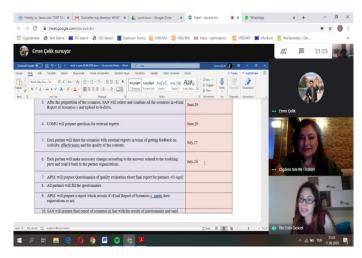


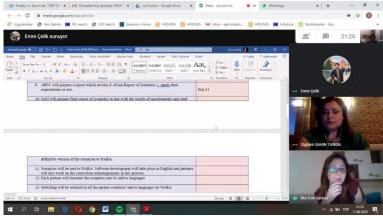


National Online Meeting in Turkey



A national online meeting was held on 11.06.2020 with the participation of project team members of Çanakkale 18 March University, Nara Education Technologies and APEC Education Consultancy, one of the national partners of the project. The main topics were the improvement of the project's website, the progress of work on the class scenarios and the implementation of pilot tests.





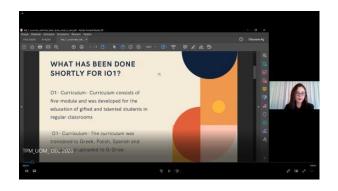






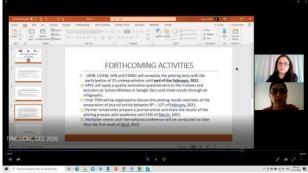


5th Transnational meeting - online



On 16 December 2020 the 5th online Partnership Meeting was held with the participation of all partners. The host of the meeting was the University of Macedonia (UOM). During the meeting the partners summarized their activities so far, presented the second result and related work and discussed the implementation of pilot tests.





Intellectual Output 2 - Virtual Reality Resources

Virtual Reality is one of the most prominent digital tools which is used for various purposes in different study areas. As for education, benefiting from newly emerged innovations always happens lately compared to different sectors. Yet, priority must be given to educational practices first and foremost, because piloting the effectiveness of innovations and benefiting from strong motivating and engaging factors of these tools will facilitate the learning processes.









Activities:

Development of VR resources, utilizing scenarios of gifted students facing difficulties with proper functioning in ordinary classrooms, and requiring inclusive education.

Prospective teachers' knowledge on inclusive gifted education will be evaluated before the beginning and upon the closure of the training program, in order for the effectiveness of the program to be decided.

Next Steps

- Software development process of VR scenarios
- Piloting process with primary school undergraduates by each academic partner
- Partner universities prepare a journal article and share the results of the piloting process with academia until the end of March, 2021.

Next Events:

- Multiplier events/Panel discussions in partners countries: Spain, Greece and Poland

- International Conference in April 2021 in Turkey

Project Coordinator: CANAKKALE ONSEKIZ MART UNIVERSITY

Project Contact Person: Ilke Evin Gencel

Project Email: vr4gifted@gmail.com

Project Website: vr4gifted.com





