

EARLYCODE

Developing Teaching Materials for Preschool Teaching Undergraduates on Computational Thinking and Introduction to Coding

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Faculty of Psychology and Educational Science

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Project Coordinator: AHİ EVRAN ÜNİVERSİTESİ

Project Partners: APEC EGİTİM DANISMANLIK LTD., UNIVERSITATEA DIN BUCUREȘTI, EARLY YEARS - THE ORGANISATION FOR YOUNG CHILDREN LBG, SCUOLA DI ROBOTICA, LATVIJAS UNIVERSITĀTI, GAZI ÜNİVERSİTESİ

EARLYCODE is an European project having the main aim of fostering and developing computational and algorithmic thinking in the early years. Within the project, the following outputs will be produced: a curriculum, teaching materials and linked games for undergraduates to practice with in early childhood settings and will teach them how to produce their own materials for preschool children. In addition, a lecturer's manual will be prepared to be used in the training activity.

The project's consortium is made up of public and private organizations from five countries: Turkey, Romania, UK, Italy and Latvia.

The main goal of the project is to raise preschool teachers' skills and to provide training opportunities to enthuse and motivate children's interest in this new future. The project will build capacity within the education sector to provide high quality computational thinking teaching at preschool level in the partner countries. The project will specifically target higher education students studying to become preschool teachers. The specific objective of the project will be upskilling preschool teaching undergraduates on Introduction to Coding Education and equipping them to inspire and teach children computational thinking principals utilising effective, innovative and engaging methods.

The EARLYCODE consortium is experienced on all the project theme and activities. The partnership ensures a breadth of knowledge and experience from teacher training, preschool education, project delivery, designing seminars and courses related to ICT topics and personal

and academic professional development. The highly experienced partners will ensure that there is a high level of cooperation in the project and also ensure the sustainability of the project outcomes. The consortium is made up of five universities, two small and medium sized enterprises and a NGO. The researchers and academics are engaged in the project implementation.

The training activities will create added value by testing out the curriculum, training resources and the manual on preschool teaching undergraduates. The training will consist of an intensive 40 hours (5 days) programme and will be delivered to undergraduates from each partner country (5 undergraduates from each partner country and 10 from Italy). At the end of the training activity, the undergraduates will complete a quality evaluation to gather their feedback on the curriculum. The curriculum will be modified based on the results of this evaluation. This pilot process will also present the opportunity to test the applicability and appropriateness of the training in each of the National Contexts. Furthermore, it will demonstrate the validity of the curriculum to the Management of Preschool Teaching programmes in each of the Universities and facilitate discussion on how this curriculum can be integrated into the relevant full time curriculum within the organisations.

More info:

<http://www.earlycoders.org/>