

# The Living Book – Augmenting Reading for Life



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## NEWSLETTER n. 3

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## Editorial

The Living Book is an Erasmus+ funded project that aims at the development of innovative tools that will enhance reading for young people in Europe.

Reading is a primary skill, the one that allows us to 'be' and live in a complex world, to make free and responsible choices as citizens, to work at a higher level, and to enjoy our lives more fully.

The project aims to tackle this with the development of the Living Book blended approach. That is a comprehensive framework for developing teachers' ability to support students in growing the reading skills and love for reading and to help parents back this strategy at home: Guidelines, TheLivingBook platform, Lesson Plans, Training pack for teachers.

During this year, we realized the Joint Staff Training Exchange in Cyprus and national multiplier events in order to involve locally teachers and students and promote augmented reading.

We hope you enjoy our 3<sup>rd</sup> newsletter!

*The Living Book team*

- *European University Cyprus*
- *Agrupamento de Escolas de Vila Nova de Paiva, Portugal*
- *Comune di Vicenza, Italy*
- *Forum del libro, Italy*
- *Dimotiko Scholeio Makedonitissas III-Stylianou Lena, Cyprus*
- *GRYD LTD, UK*
- *Scoala Gimnaziala "Constantin Parfene", Romania*
- *Tartu Kivilinna Kool, Esthonia*
- *Universidade Da Beira Interior, Portugal*

## Special thanks :)



Auguri carissimi e un grazie di cuore alla nostra fantastica e infaticabile collega e amica Maria Teresa Leodari – responsabile dell'ufficio Servizi Educativi Scolastici del Comune di Vicenza – che, dopo 37 anni, ha iniziato un nuovo periodo della sua vita!

Special wishes and many thanks to our great colleague and friend Maria Teresa Leodari - School and Education office responsible of Municipality of Vicenza – that, after 37 years, has started a new period of her life!

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# 1. Augmenting the reading experience with The LIVING LIBRARY

**The Living Library is an online platform** with a collection of book titles, suggested by educators from around Europe. Within each book title children can add media which they have created, based on that book. The media could be a video recreation of a scene, an audio retelling or critique of the book, stop-motion animation, user-created images inspired by the book, a Scratch coded animation or game, a 3D model of an artefact or scene in a book, or almost any type of media that pupils and teachers can think of!

## **The Living Library is also social!**

Users can become friends, create reading groups, events, post updates, send messages and more. Members will be updated in their profile when other members post comments to their content and they can follow any of their favourite book titles in the Library to see what other users are posting.

**The ability to create online reading groups is one of the unique features of the platform.** Teachers can create private reading groups for their pupils, using the social platform to interact, share and comment on the book they are reading together. Or members can create public reading groups to allow anybody who is reading that book to join the group and share their experience.

We are excited to offer this feature to the education community and look forward to pupils and schools from across Europe interacting with their experiences of popular books.

**The platform is available in 6 languages – English, Italian, Greek, Romanian, Portuguese and Estonian.** Each language version has its own library of

book titles. So users can search for and add content in their own language, or the platform could also be used in language lessons by viewing, sharing and creating content in other languages. Many book titles are available in more than one language. On the book title page you can see the other language versions available and click to see the content that members are posting in each of the other languages.

The Living Library is not only a hub for creating and sharing media content from a book it is also the home for the other resources produced by the project:

- Lesson Plans
- E-learning
- Toolkits
- Publications

**We are currently in the testing phase of The Living Library and we would like your help to test it.**

**Teachers** can sign up to the platform as **'Librarians'**, which will allow them to add new books to the platform.

You can also ask your **pupils** to sign up as **'Members'**, either using their email address or a registration code available from us (no email required).

**To register simply follow this link:**  
**[www.thelivinglibrary.eu/register](http://www.thelivinglibrary.eu/register)**

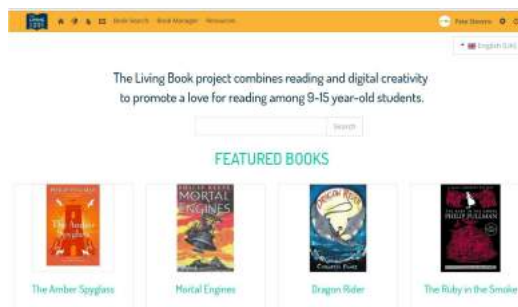
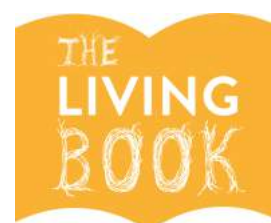


Figure – The Living Library Homepage

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## 2. The Joint Staff Training

(Cyprus, 26<sup>th</sup> February – 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018)



**European University Cyprus** hosted from 26 February until 02 March 2018, a Joint Staff Training Event that brought together delegates from the project's partners from Italy, Portugal, Estonia, Romania and the UK.

This training event was organised as part of the **CREATION OF RESOURCES AND TOOLS\*** and was based on the preliminary work about the design and production of the innovation contents of the project.



This phase is aimed at assuring at the territorial level an adequate level of knowledge and competences on the side of partners' staff to manage the testing phase with teachers and students.

**Dimotiko Scholeio Makedonitissas III-Stylianou Lena** hosted one of the training days. Teachers visited classes and observed lessons specifically designed with the Living

Book approach implementing various applications.



### \*PHASE – CREATION OF RESOURCES AND TOOLS

During Phase III, the consortium designed and developed a line of research-based curricular and instructional materials aimed at strengthening the profile and competences of teachers from primary and upper lower secondary schools (ages 9-15) in effectively integrating the Living Book approach into their classroom activities. The consortium also developed the content for a blended training course targeting teachers and other educators involved in parent training activities, on how to promote parental involvement in pro-reading activities. In parallel to the development of the Augmented Teacher and Augmented Parent-Trainer course content, partners have also been jointly working on the technical design and implementation of the infrastructure and services for the Living Book Digital Library, which will support the project activities and outputs by offering open access to the professional development courses' content and pedagogical approach, and to various other links and resources.

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### 3. Cyprus Multiplier Event (Cyprus, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2018)



Cypriot partners, European University Cyprus (EUC) and Dimotiko Scholeio Makedonitissas III, jointly organised on March 24<sup>th</sup> the 1<sup>st</sup> national hands-on sectorial dissemination seminar.

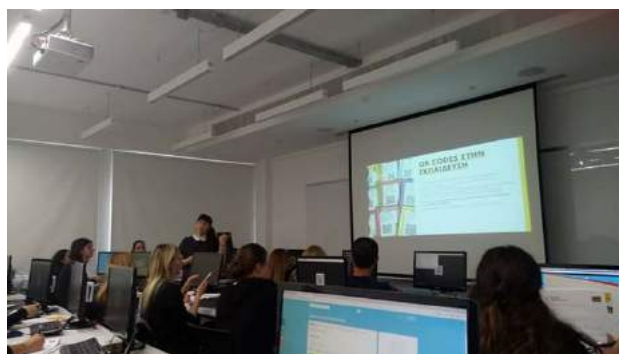


The hands-on seminar that was aimed at primary and secondary school teachers, took place at EUC campus and included keynote speeches by Dr Gino Roncaglia on The Living Book Approach.

Additionally, the seminar included a number of presentations and discussions from stakeholders and project's partners which on one hand presented the results of the project so far and on another expanded on the theoretical framework of the project's methodology.



Most importantly though, the seminar provided hands-on training to primary school teachers on the tools that are being developed by the project. At a later stage of the project these tools will be freely available to the teachers, parents and pupils.



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## 4. Estonia Multiplier event

(Tartu, 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018)



The multiplier event was organised in Tartu Kivilinna School on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

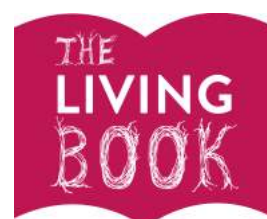


The event was really successful. There were 65 participants from different schools, libraries, and museums of Tartu.

Annika Rebane made a presentation on the theoretical framework of the project's methodology, also, Living Library platform was introduced.

The participants could try some of the tools being developed. All the presentations were shared with the participants.

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## 5. Italy Multiplier event (Vicenza, 17<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018)



Municipality of Vicenza successfully realized the Italian multiplier event "The Living Book... e i libri prendono vita a Vicenza" [*The living book... Books are coming to life in Vicenza*], as follow.

17<sup>th</sup> April 2018

16.00 - 20.00: hands-on dissemination seminar for the school sector (with Gino Roncaglia – Forum del Libro that presented the Living Book Guideline and Pete Stevens – Gryd Ltd that presented the LivingLibrary platform), involving about 50 persons (mainly teachers and school sector staff but also libraries, e-book and digital publishers, associations, etc..).



20<sup>th</sup> April 2018

10.30 - 11.00: Flash mob book "Vo(g)liamo la lettura" - "We want to read!" in Piazza Matteotti (outdoor), involving about 300 students of 11 - 13 years old + teachers



11.00 - 12.00: "The living book" professional reading of Martina Pittarello at Cinema Odeon (indoor) - involving about 300 students of 11 - 13 years old + teachers



14.00 - 16.00: Reading competition on "La pelle dell'orso" di Matteo Righetto in Piazza dei Signori (outdoor) - involving about 500 students of 14-15 years old + about 20 teachers



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## 6. Portugal MultiplierEvent

(Vila Nova de Paiva, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018)



**THE LIVING BOOK AUGMENTING READING FOR LIFE**

Evento Multiplicador  
9 de maio  
2018

Erasmus+  
REPUBLICA PORTUGUESA  
VNP

Co-financiado pela União Europeia

### PROGRAMA

14:00	Receção aos participantes
14:15	Sessão de abertura Diretor do Agrupamento de Escolas- João Adelino Santos; Presidente da Câmara Municipal de V.N.P.-José Morgado; Diretor da Edufor-José Miguel Sousa
14:30	Visão geral sobre o Projeto Maria Idália Gomes
15:00	Guiadlines do projeto/ O papel da Biblioteca na motivação para a leitura Maria Helena Pinto
15:30	Plataforma "The Living Library" - Intervenção (pré-gravada) de Peter Stevens
15:45	Apresentação de dois planos de aula elaborados na plataforma e aplicados em sala de aula Maria Paula Neves
16:15	Momento de reflexão /troca de ideias sobre o projeto
16:30	Coffee break
17:00	Workshop HP Reveal (Realidade Aumentada) José Gomes (Escola Secundária de Arouca)
19:00	Encerramento dos trabalhos

Nota:  
1- Inscrições até ao dia 30 de abril para o email [joata.gomes@escolasdepaiva.pt](mailto:joata.gomes@escolasdepaiva.pt)  
2-Se possível, os participantes deverão trazer-se um tablet ou smartphone.

The multiplier event in Agrupamento de Escolas de Vila Nova de Paiva (AEVPN), Portugal school was great!

Considering we are a very small town, we had a reasonable number of participants, around 40. We had mainly teachers, librarians and also some local authorities. Rita Carrilho, our partner from UBI honored us with her presence too.

We could see people were fascinated by the project and the platform, as they attended the presentation.

The video on the Living Library was a great aid, everything is so clear there. After showing the video, we showed our lesson plans on the platform and a video with the students working on the book "The widow and the parrot".

We think it was quite clear for everybody how the platform works. At the end there was a discussion and people participated actively on it, showing all their enthusiasm and motivation.



The second part of our multiplier event was dedicated to the digital tool HP Reveal. We got a person who is actually an expert in the subject to promote a workshop. This was actually a great experience for all of us!



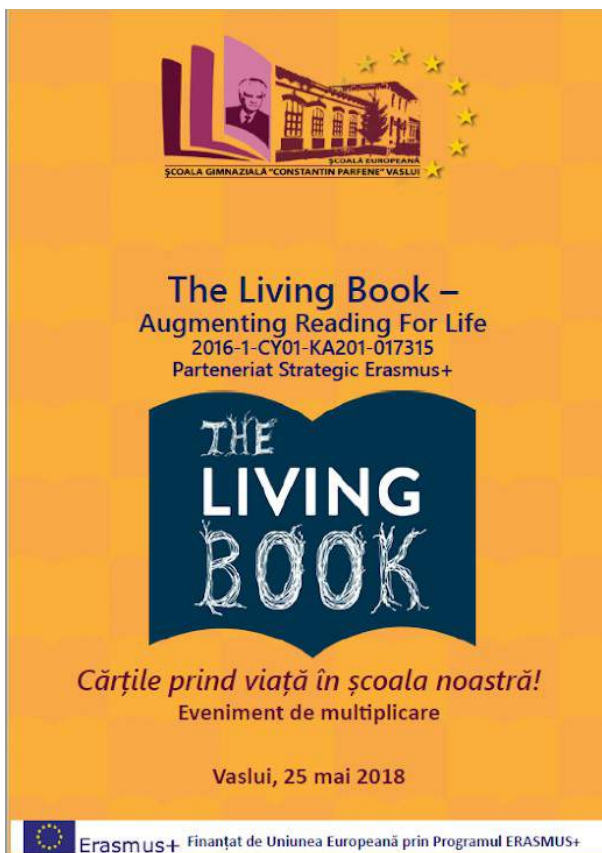
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## 7. Romania Multiplier event

(Vaslui, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018)



The Romanian school "Constantin Parfene" Vaslui organised on 25th of May the first multiplier event, a sectorial and cross sectorial dissemination event for teachers, students, parents, local representatives.

The first part consisted in activities for promoting reading with all school's students and teachers. Students were very enthusiastic about activities such as parade of the favourite books, parade of costumes or favorite characters, reading in the chain, presentation the school-magazin and fleshmobs.

In the second part, during a seminar on the Living Book Approach, we presented to 55 people outside the school the project philosophy and results.



Our students presented some applications that they had already used in lessons on augmenting reading as well as some results of using them.



The living library platform was presented too and participants were invited to log in and to take part in activities. Very impressed about all activities, they subscribed to participate in the teachers' training organised on 15th of June.



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## 8. Consortium Meeting

(Tartu, 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018)



On June 20 and 21 Tartu Kivlinna School hosted Living Book project partners from Italy, Portugal, Cyprus, Romania and the UK. European University of Cyprus made an overview of the project activities carried out so far and introduced the parent training pack.



The role of libraries and reading groups in teaching reading was discussed under the direction of Forum del Libro.

The project partners from Gryd introduced new improvements to the Living Library platform.



The participants from partner schools shared their teacher training experience and discussed the details of mobility activities to be ready for the students exchange.



A study visit to the Science Centre Ahhaa was included in the meeting agenda.





## **BE AN AUGMENTED TEACHER**

The Living Book needs teachers from different disciplines (Humanities, ICT and Technology) to test our resources!

We need you!

### **WHY SHOULD YOU ENGAGE WITH US?**

- To experiment a new model in your classroom to convince the most reluctant students to start reading while strengthening their digital skills and creativity
- To join flexible and high quality training opportunities and courses for your professional development
- To get a Certification as Augmented Teacher and support us in disseminating the model and resources in your territory
- To strengthen your European profile and boost the internationalisation of your school by joining a local team of highly qualified teachers

### **GET INVOLVED!**

<http://thelivingbook.eu>

### **FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!**

[https://www.facebook.com  
/TheLivingBookProject](https://www.facebook.com/TheLivingBookProject)

## **REGISTER TO THE LIVING LIBRARY!**

We are currently in the testing phase of The Living Library and we would like your help to test it.

Teachers can sign up to the platform as 'Librarians', which will allow them to add new books to the platform.

You can also ask your pupils to sign up as 'Members', either using their email address or a registration code available from us (no email required).

To register simply follow this link:

[www.thelivinglibrary.eu/re  
gister](http://www.thelivinglibrary.eu/register)

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