

# **The Living Book – Augmenting Reading for Life**



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## **NEWSLETTER n. 5**

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**BE AN AUGMENTED  
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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 the pilot teaching experiment, four short-term exchanges of pupils in Romania (29th October – 2nd November 2018), Cyprus (21st – 25th January 2019), Portugal (11th – 15th March 2019) and Estonia (May 2019) take place, so as to deepen the cooperation among involved schools and to provide pupils with an engaging exchange revolving around reading and "augmented reading".

The exchanges aim to develop the participating students' reading skills as well as other key competencies such as digital skills, learning to learn, critical thinking, cooperative and collaborative skills.

The groups of pupils work collaboratively in engaging activities of book reading and virtual augmentation.

The use of "augmentation" techniques also help overcome language barriers.

This newsletter'd share the Second Students' exchange experience in Nicosia (Cyprus) from 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

We hope you enjoy our 5<sup>th</sup> newsletter and see you soon with the 6<sup>th</sup> newsletter dedicated to the Third Students' exchange experience in Portugal!

### *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, Estonia
- Universidade Da Beira Interior, Portugal



## 2. Second Students' Exchange Journal (Cyprus)

(Nicosia, 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019)

Makedonitissa 3 Primary School (Dimotiko Scholeio Makedonitissas 3 – Stylianou Lena) organized a week with learning activities, based upon the Living Book approach, in order to motivate students, read literature and then interact and cooperate using various applications to augment reading. In addition, visits, tours and excursions were organized to enhance The Living Book activities and familiarize the guests with aspects of Cyprus history and tradition.

### DAY 1, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019

Students and teachers from all four countries arrived at school premises and were welcomed by the school's headteacher Dr Costantinos Michael.

A short welcoming ceremony with traditional dance and song from Cyprus pupils and short presentations from each team took place, followed by a guided tour to the school's premises.



Then, ice breaking activities amongst students of 6th grade and guests helped everyone feel comfortable and relaxed, leading to an auspicious week.



### DAY 2, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019

Students were engaged in activities organized by 4th grade teachers, based upon the classic book of Jules Verne "Around the world on 80 days". Students needed to interact with the book and locate information about Phileas Fogg's journeys. In multicultural groups they used the "Tour Builder" application to present Fogg's route and define "the around the world" part of the book's title!



Students, teachers and 4th graders were then transferred to the Nicosia city center, where they had a guided tour in the old part of the city mainly focused on the Venetian Walls.

In the afternoon students, teachers and host families all met at the Cyprus Museum, where students were involved in on-site, hands on activities. A guided tour for adults was also provided. All together had dinner in Phaneromeni Square in Nicosia city center.



### DAY 3, 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019



On Wednesday, students, teachers and 5th graders of Makedonitissa 3 primary school were transferred at the University of Cyprus Campus. Cyprus teachers organized a visit and guided tour at the recently inaugurated University of Cyprus' Library, officially named as "Learning

Resource Centre-Library "Stelios Ioannou", a unique piece of architectural design (<http://library.ucy.ac.cy/en/library/stelios-ioannou-lrc>).



After the visit - which was conducted in small groups - students were involved in creative activities based upon excerpts from the Jules Verne book. They used mobile devices and applications such as Book Creator, PicCollage, Video Recording and online games.



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In the afternoon students, teachers and parents participated at the Opening Ceremony of the Annual Book Exhibition, organised by both the Parents Association and the School.



Activities for students and parents were organised and performed by local, well known writers, based upon literary books.



#### **DAY 4, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

Guest students and teachers had a full day excursion with 6th graders of Makedonitissa 3 primary school and their teachers. They all visited the church of PanagiaAggeloktisti situated in Larnaka district, a historical and religious monument inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List, which facilitated everyone to comprehend the several aspects of local

history and religion (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5987/> ). They all had lunch at a coastal restaurant in Larnaka city.



In the evening a traditional dinner at a local restaurant-taverna was organised, where guests had the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the rich and delicious Cyprus cuisine. Students and teachers were given their presents/mementos from the school in a cheerful atmosphere.



**DAY 5, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019**



Guest students participated in art lessons where they had to present artistically the means of transport Fogg used to travel “Around the world in 80 days” after reading and discussing in groups certain excerpts from the book.



Their work with a short description was later uploaded on a ‘wall’, using Padlet application and QR codes.



Guest teachers and the project’s coordinators from Makedonitissa 3 Primary School had time for reflection and evaluation of the week and discussed further activities and ways of further cooperation.

Certificates of attendance were given to all participants and the teams left Cyprus filled with nice memories, experiences and new friends!



...Till we meet again in Portugal and Estonia!

## 2. 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.

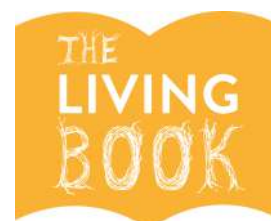
You can also ask your **pupils** to sign up as **'Members'**, either using their email address or a registration code available from us (no email required).

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



Figure – The Living Library Homepage

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### **3. SAVE THE DATE: The Living book Final Meeting (Rome - Italy, 6-7<sup>th</sup> June 2019)**

Forum del Libro is organizing the final Living Book meeting that will take place in Rome on the 6-7<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

In this occasion, every partner will share its experience and the achievements of the project will be presented. Teachers and general public (including experts from the publishing industry) will attend the meeting: therefore, it will be a great opportunity to do communication and dissemination about the project.

**If you are interested in participating, follow the newsletter for further updates.**

See you in Rome!



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## **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>

## **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/register](http://www.thelivinglibrary.eu/register)

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