



DigiChild



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL COMPETENCE IN PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

MOOC OUTLINE AND STRUCTURE



DEVELOPED BY
the DigiChild team





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DigiChild



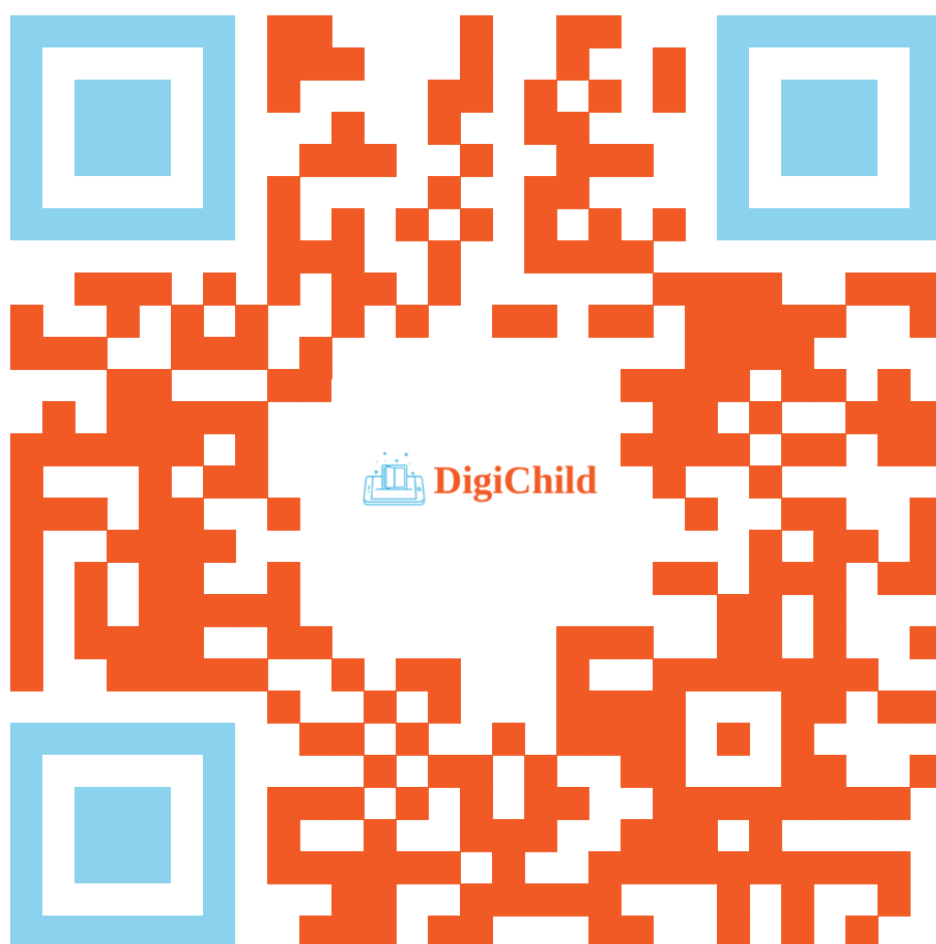
**UNIVERSITY
OF LATVIA**



CreakKids

MOOC link <https://sisu.ut.ee/digikid-eng/avaleht>

MOOC QR code



Erasmus+ DigiChild MOOC

“Development of Digital Competence in Preschool Education”

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The MOOC tasks were coded by **Oleksandra Golvoko**, PhD (University of Tartu).

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MOOC development coordination: Oleksandra Golvoko, PhD (University of Tartu).

MOOC duration: 30 hours

MOOC access: MOOC will remain open at all times. Certificates will be granted to the participants who registered for the MOOC and submitted their reflection essays on the MOOC completion.

MOOC structure

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Module 3: Development of Computational Thinking in Kindergartens

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Part 2: Computational Thinking Development: Why It Matters

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- 1.2 How to Develop Computational Thinking
- 1.3 Computational Thinking: Important Skills of the 21st Century
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Part 3: Activities for Developing Computational Thinking in Kindergartens

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- 1.1 Reflection
- 1.2 Developing Computational Thinking in Kindergartens: Step-by-Step Exercises
- 1.3 Educational Technologies in Action
- 1.4 Dear Diary: Reflection

Revision and Multilingual Materials

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Module 4: Digital Safety and Responsible Use of Internet and Media

Part 1: The Impact and Importance of Information Technology in the Development of Preschool Children

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- 1.2 Balanced Digital Diet for Children in Early Years
- 1.3 Media Use in Childhood: Evidence-Based Recommendations
- 1.4 Dear Diary: Reflection

Part 2: Safe Use of Media in Preschool to Promote Children's Development

Introduction

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- 2.2 Tips for Choosing Right Educational Apps for Kids
- 2.3 Kids' Digital Activity
- 2.4 Dear Diary: Reflection

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MOOC “Development of Digital Competence in Preschool Education”

1. General Information about the MOOC development.

Digital tools have become omnipresent in ordinary life, penetrated university and school education, and now are finding their way to the kindergartens and early-year care centres. Even if their use still often remains sporadic in some countries (displaying pictures, cartoons, or song videos), other more digitalized countries have already firmly integrated the digital tools and robots

into their curricula and everyday learning environment. Children seem to have an unlimited passion and curiosity towards technologies and have the inborn understanding how to navigate the tools, but this should not be taken for granted. Smart use of technology in the classroom from early education will help us bring up an active and mindful citizen of the future able to resist temptations of the digital world, find the digital balance, and contribute to the development of the society.

The DigiChild project aspired to develop an open-source multilingual MOOC course. The basis of the course is in English, but every module has materials in different languages that will help the teachers with limited linguistic capacity to progress throughout the course.

The first brave steps to introduce technology into teach kindergarten children both with and through technology appeared around a decade ago in a handful of kindergartens scattered around the globe. Globally speaking, the development of early age digital competence is virtually non-existent and remains a totally foreign practice for the majority of the countries. Some countries are ahead of the others and have introduced digital competence in the preschool curriculum, but this mostly remains an exception than a general practice.

2. MOOC general principles.

In our MOOC, we tried to incorporate the best EU and global experience in the area of digital preschool education and digital competence development and offer the opportunities for teachers to learn new and advanced approaches as well as easy ways to introduce them into their everyday practices.

We also introduced a concept of “Dear Diary”, which is a reflection tool that will stimulate the participants to reflect on their own learning progress, put it down, making sure that the acquired knowledge, skills, and attitudes are not instantly forgotten and will find place in new teaching practices and approaches of educators who undertook the MOOC.

The rich, interactive, mind-broadening, and multilingual MOOC became possible only thanks to the devoted work of 7 partners from 4 countries (Estonia, Slovenia, Latvia, and Germany). The partners collaborated actively to design the best possible course. Many of the MOOC ideas in a reformulated format adopted for digital and independent learning were borrowed from the BA course developed during the same DigiChild project. The course was designed by all the 7 partners and launched on the platform of the University of Tartu (coordinator of the DigiChild project).

3. MOOC indicators

Qualitative indicators: (1) every module of the course was successfully piloted by partners, during the piloting stage the shortcomings were identified and eliminated, (2) MOOC included the latest global information related to the area of digital preschool education transformation, (3) MOOC included case studies/success stories and presentations of digitalized kindergartens, how they work and function, (4) interactive tasks with rich visual components that will stimulate the learners to finish the MOOC, (5) multilingual materials will help the struggling learners progress, (6) reflective tasks will help the learners accommodate the new knowledge and skills and adopt them into their everyday practice.

Quantitative indicator: at least 102 students from both EU and non-EU countries applied for the course. They will receive certificates of completion.

4. MOOC development strategies

1) we heavily relied on experience and know-how sharing. The project includes 4 LTTs in 4 project countries for all the partners. This allowed sharing the available experience and starting on a sound and advanced international basis. We also tried to accommodate the international experience available outside the project countries.

2) we surveyed different target groups to identify the areas of potential quick progress and concerns. Through the MOOC we tried to change the negative attitudes towards digital tools in education and form a more open-minded approach to learning and their use. Thanks to survey we also found the best ways for the smart introduction of technology and further raising awareness of the public and tried to reflect them logically in the MOOC.

3) cooperative discussion and development of the course content and learning outcomes. We regularly met to share the progress, gave feedback on each other's tasks, commented how clear is the information presented in the MOOC.

4) reflecting the direction of the EU Commission Digital Education Plan and of the partner countries' Ministries of Education. In the MOOC, we also reminded the learners about the strategic documents developed by the EU Commission as well as gave examples of how the Ministries of Education can support the promotion of digital tools in kindergartens (e.g., ProgeTiiger of the Ministry of Education of Estonia).

5) testing the course at all the partner universities, meeting face-to-face and online to eliminate drawbacks. The course was launched after all the problems were eliminated.

6) preparing reports on the MOOC development.

7) The University of Tartu was the lead partner of this intellectual output. The university partners were more involved in the development of the course than the kindergarten partners. All partners disseminated the MOOC link and information about it as wide as possible in their countries.

5. MOOC target group

The MOOC targets teachers of kindergartens and parents of preschool children

6. MOOC duration, access, and certificate

Learning hours: 30h of independent learning

Access: open access

Certificates: The University of Tartu (depending on the request) will offer opportunity to receive certificates of MOOC completion for the interested learners.

7. Development of the competences and learning outcomes:

MOOC learners will become more competent (knowledgeable and skilled) in:

- digital professional engagement;
- digital education plans and strategies;
- digitalization of education and kindergartens;
- investigating and applying digital resources;
- using digital technology in teaching/learning & assessment;
- empowering learners & facilitating learners in digital competencies development;
- using and developing computational thinking skills and computer science concepts in pre-school education;
- providing support to their students to become active citizens in a technology-rich future.

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Epipheo. What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKaWJ72x1rI&t=1s>
SciShow Psych. Are Digital Screens Actually Bad For Kids? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFFWRqkGmX0>
The List Show TV. How to Help Kids Start a Digital Detox. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0SzyHkdkVtY>

C. Digital Content Creation Platforms

[Actionbound](#) with a [tutorial](#)

BBC Games for Kids <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/collections/primary-games/1>

[Bingo Baker](#)

[bit.studio](#)

[Calaméo](#) with a [tutorial](#).

[Canva](#)

[Chrome Music Lab](#) with a [tutorial](#).

[FlexClip](#) with a [tutorial](#)

[Genially](#) with a [tutorial](#).

[iPiccy](#) with a [tutorial](#)

[Jeopardy Labs](#)

[Kahoot](#)

[LearningApps](#)

[MyAdvent](#)

National Geographic Games for Kids <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/games/>

[Padlet](#) with a [tutorial](#).

[PIXABAY](#)

[Scroobly](#)

[Storyjumper](#)

[Wheel of Names](#) with a [tutorial](#).

[Wordwall](#) with a [video](#).