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TESTIMONIAL

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The Erasmus+ mobility programme held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from the 2nd to the 6th of November, provided an invaluable opportunity to observe and engage with educational practices in foreign schools. During this experience, our group had the privilege of visiting *Vrtec Galjevica* Kindergarten, where we explored innovative approaches to early childhood education.

Through this programme, I gained significant insight into the school's methods of fostering learning through the **NTC (Nature Talented Children)** approach a structured, scaffolding learning system designed to guide education step by step. This methodology is based on the principle that children learn most effectively through play, when they are active, curious, and intrinsically motivated, rather than passive recipients of information.

The NTC approach supports the development of speech, motor skills, and physical coordination. It encourages children to think, move, and face challenges that motivate them to achieve their goals. A key pedagogical concept underpinning this method is that educators should not provide children with definitive answers but rather guide them to think critically and arrive at solutions independently. In this way, NTC promotes the process of learning *how to learn*, using repetition and reinforcement to cultivate positive attitudes and intrinsic motivation.

At *Vrtec Galjevica*, literacy and numeracy are developed through engaging, play-based, and hands-on activities that enhance memory, fine motor skills, and critical thinking. One aspect that particularly impressed me was the **Forest School** initiative. Observing the children in this natural setting was truly inspiring. They demonstrated excellent listening skills and followed educators' instructions attentively, even while actively exploring their environment. The children displayed independence, teamwork, and enthusiasm throughout the activities, illustrating the effectiveness of outdoor experiential learning.

This experience in Ljubljana was both enriching and enlightening. The practices observed at *Vrtec Galjevica* have provided me with valuable ideas to implement in my own educational setting, particularly in the area of outdoor learning. I intend to share this knowledge and the pedagogical insights gained with my colleagues to further enhance our teaching practices.

Special thanks are extended to **Ms. Marisa Deguara**, our professional coordinator, and to all those involved in making this professional development opportunity possible.



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