

“From heart to heart” or how E-learning helps integrate different worlds

Our mission and values are to enable pupils with special needs to develop and enhance their higher-order mental functions, extend their emotional-psychological potential and improve communication skills in order to ensure their successful integration into society.

Our goal is to motivate children with special learning needs in Mathematics classes on the basis of a common pool of interactive tasks specially designed for primary pupils of special schools of the 8th type¹ for children with special educational needs by their peers from ordinary mainstream schools.

Our objectives:

Step 1 (from August 20, 2013 to December 8, 2013)

- Organization of a working team of moderators of the project;
- Producing a list of methodical recommendations as to the development of interactive Math worksheets, taking into account specific psycho-physiological features of children with special learning needs;
- Doing thematic planning in Math;
- **Selecting the participants in the project;**
- Designing personal Math achievement templates for pupils from special schools of the 8th type;
- Monitoring the participants' achievement motivation level (Dr. Heinz-Dieter Schmalt test);
- Creating educational space engaging all participants to foster joint action.

Step 2 (from December 9, 2013 to December 31, 2014)

- Drawing up a Google Apps-based weekly collaboration calendar comprising online chats, videoconferencing, and feedback services). **Appointing the coordinators of the spaces.**
- Establishing a teaching and learning process with participants (the teachers) orchestrating the work of primary schoolers in producing interactive textbooks;
- Sharing the results (the tasks) via educational space assigned to a group;
- Putting Math textbooks to the test: teachers from special schools of the 8th type for children with special educational needs do the work and make all necessary adjustments;
- Examination (assessment tests) of the level of mathematical knowledge of the pupils;
- Monitoring the participants' achievement motivation level (Dr. Heinz-Dieter Schmalt test).

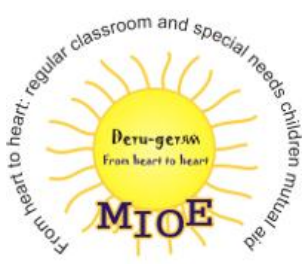
Step 2.1 (from January 16, 2014 to March 1, 2015)

- Moderators are preparing analytical articles on the results of the work (Intel Education Galaxy, EDEN, etc.);
- Submitting application for Google education grant contest on a platform of the Philosophy of Education Department of Moscow Institute of Open Education (MIOE).

Step 3 (from April 1, 2015 to June 30 2015)

- Coordinators of the educational spaces produce papers (Intel Education Galaxy) in which they reflect on the job they had done for the project;
- Moderators prepare a CD with all interactive Math tasks and multimedia resources to offer them openly and free of charge;
- Organization of master-classes and training workshops conducted by the participants in the project for all interested individuals (Intel Education Galaxy, Google, EDEN, etc.).

¹ Schools for mentally challenged children



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Target audience:

Pupils of special schools of the 8th type and their families:

- They get a free package of interactive Math tasks;
- Acquiring basic knowledge of Math;
- Social adaptation of children with special learning needs.

Pupils of mainstream schools – participants in the project:

- Increasing learner motivation for Math and Programming;
- Developing communication skills;
- Helping kids from mainstream schools nurture morally and ethically correct attitude towards their peers with special learning needs;
- Producing high demand products at an early learning stage.

Teachers of the working team:

- Taking part in a socially important project;
- Enhancing ICT-competence in object-oriented PervoLogo programming;
- Publication of the results in international journals;
- Holding master-classes.

Intel Education Galaxy:

- Forming a working group of the project in terms of an educational community.

Author of the idea and manager of the project:

Danuta Starikova

Lecturer at the Department of Primary Education of
Moscow Institute of Open Education

str47@mail.ru; sch1452@gmail.com



[Methodical recommendations for Math tasks](#) (in Russian)

Technical requirements:

1. Integrated creative system [PervoLogo3.0](#)
2. Dr. Heinz-Dieter Schmalt test
3. [N.V. Afanasyeva](#), Motivation Achievement Test Guide (For Children from 9 to 11): MD – Schmalt Achievement-Motive Grid, Moscow: Kogito-Centre, 2008

Our site:

<http://nwp.org.ru/>

See also:

<http://goo.gl/O3zBns>