



# **Innovative Methods of Teaching Foreign Languages**



# English For Young Learners

---

The “*English for young learners*” program introduced as a **compulsory subject** in 2010-11 academic year in 800 large primary schools throughout Greece

Next year expanded to include all schools operating as enriched curriculum “all day” schools

It concerns English language learning in First and Second Grades (Year 1 and Year 2) of Greek public Primary Schools

Two hours per week



# Aim of the Program

---

## Pedagogical aims

1. Self and social growth
2. Cognitive growth and development of cognitive skills

## Specific cognitive skills

1. Tolerance towards linguistic, social and cultural differences
2. Building the foundation for further foreign language development (positive attitude towards language and language learning through appropriate activities for young learners)



# The Curriculum Material

---

The curricular material is based on the principles of  
**interactive learning**

Designing language activities

- ***Special characteristics of children at that age***
- ***Special consideration of their cognitive development***

The material revolves around **thematic areas** that interest young learners such as:

**animals, toys, family, special customs, colours, numbers, feelings, body etc.**



# The Curriculum Material

---

Following the  
**cross-curricular approach**  
to language learning,  
the *topics* and *issues* on which the activities are based on **are related**  
with the issues dealt with **the other subjects** of the curriculum

Each activity is **like a game**  
but it also has **specific** language learning objectives  
and employs techniques for the *presentation, practice* and *use* of new  
utterances and stretches of *talk* in a variety of situational contexts



# The Curriculum Material

---

Here is a list of educational material that can be used with young learners

- Poems & rhymes**
- Songs**
- Games**
- Stories, myths and tales**
- Flashcards**
- Art & craft**
- Action-oriented activities**
- CD-ROM and DVD based activities**



# The Curriculum Material

---

The curricular material is included in **dossiers** with **visual CD** and **detailed guidelines** to teachers

The main bulk of the instructional material  
is complemented with **extra activities**

Each teacher can **choose** among a wide variety of activities,  
those which best suit her/his class, the differentiated interests and  
needs of her/his pupils