

What is it about?

Boys Reading in a nutshell

The Boys Reading project aims to make reading an integral part in the life of boys aged 10-15, who are currently unenthusiastic about books. Boys Reading asserts that this can only be achieved if teenage boys acquire control over their reading and choose from books that address their needs and interests. In one of five EU countries 15-year-olds have poor reading skills (OECD), while the majority of poor and reluctant readers and eventually high-school drop-outs are male youths.

The Boys Reading project addresses all partners in the education process, including government, educators, parents, and community members but focuses especially on educators, enabling them to provide classroom experiences that respond to the interests, needs, and learning styles of boys, and to engage boys and girls equally as readers and writers.

Objectives

Raise the motivation and interest of boys to read and write in order to close the gender gap

Open up schools to appealing materials, including digital ones, to make reading and writing relevant to boys' individual preferences

Facilitate contact with male role-models engaging in literacy

Develop initiatives aimed at making language development fun and appealing for adolescent boys



Main outcome

The Boys Reading Toolkit

A toolkit will be developed, teachers will be trained and activities will be integrated in real classrooms in partner countries.

The Boys Reading Toolkit will include:

- Introduction to Literature for Teenage Boys
- Review of Significant Texts for Boys
- Guidelines and Ideas for Successful Reading Promotion to Boys
- Guidelines and Ideas for Incorporating Boys' Literature in the Curriculum
- Sample Actions and Activities for Reading Promotion to Boys
- Boys Reading Case Studies
- blended training for teachers and facilitators on how to use the Boys Reading toolkit
- an interactive portal with resources and material in all partner languages

Kick-off in Croatia

The University of Split—Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and partners from Cyprus, Romania, Portugal, Greece, and Austria have been awarded the project Boys Reading, under the ERASMUS+ Strategic Partnerships programme of the European Commission. The kick off meeting took place in Split from 30-31, October, 2014. The full project plan was discussed and finalized with contribution from all partners and first working steps were set.

Research phase as a starting point

The project partners started to develop a state of the art report on effective reading promotion to teenage boys. Furthermore, the partners organised focus groups with teachers and parents as well as with boys to find out more details about the specific needs of the different groups. In a third step a literature review was carried out identifying reading interests of boys and collecting sub-categories used in teenage literature. The outcomes will serve as a basis for the toolkit and to formulate recommendations for further developments

The reports will soon be online.

Coming up next...

The next working phases include:

- Analysis of texts
- Developing guidelines on reading promotion and reading motivation
- Collecting ideas on integrating boys' literature in existing curricula
- National promotion events



Contact us at:

<http://boysreading.org>



Partners



Consortium