

THINK TANK - CREATING CAPTIVATING TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR VULNERABLE LEARNERS

PAPER A

PORTUGAL



Lifelong
Learning
Programme

OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING COURSE



- To give strategies to teachers who work with students of very distinct age groups, in order to make it possible for them to allow every student to feel welcome and connected to the activities.
- To make it easier for students of different age groups, with cultural, behavioural and educational singularities, to engage in pair or group work without feeling excluded or prejudiced and thus allowing them to learn together.
- To prevent the formation of age clusters within the classroom.

LEARNER PROFILE



- Students who have left school without finishing their education but need the certificate of secondary education to get a job, to keep their jobs or to climb the career ladder. They come in two distinct combinations:
 - Students aged between 18 to 25 years old, who have left day school not long ago and who still see school as having the same rules and feel as when they were trying to complete their compulsory education.
 - Students older than 25, sometimes much older, who left school a long time ago and find it difficult to integrate in a place where, now as adults, they have to follow rules and make a serious effort to attain the necessary working rhythm of classes where they find many of the students who could be their children.

CONTEXT: SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, EMOTIONAL



- Ideally, night school was designed to give adults the opportunity of finally completing the school levels they haven't enrolled in before because they were not compulsory when they were young students. Many of these students come from poor, uneducated backgrounds, they lack ambitions, some are unemployed (many with no prospects of getting a job any time soon). Most of the older students feel motivated, though they sometimes show lots of difficulties in getting ahead.
- However, many young students, who should have finished compulsory education, didn't accomplish it and are now given a second chance of taking it to term, at night school. Many of those younger students feel unmotivated, don't like school much and feel they are forced to study, in order to get a proper job in the future.

ENVIRONMENT: PLACE / TIME

- At Agrupamento de Escolas D. Sancho I, in V. N. de Famalicão, at night school / evening classes, during the school year.



OBSTACLES: DIFFICULTIES MET



- Age-mixed classes bring some serious challenges. What motivates one generation doesn't necessarily motivate the other. What may seem childish for the most mature ones is what makes the youngest ones tick.
- Pair or group work is a complex task because of age differences, which bring with it cultural, behavioural and educational barriers. How do we break the ice that keeps colleagues apart? What kind of activities will bring them together and may work for younger as well as older ones?

ILLUSTRATION



Nº Processo	Nº Turma	Nome	Idade
23729	1	Carla Elisabete Ribeiro Soto Maior e Barbosa	36
32756	2	Carlos André Rodrigues dos Santos	22
32757	3	Cátia Patrícia Machado da Silva	25
32755	4	Maria de Fátima Monteiro de Sousa	29
32760	5	Marta Raquel Moreira da Silva	27
23401	6	Rui Daniel da Silva	27
32763	7	Tiago Augusto da Silva Faria	30
32764	8	Hernâni de Araújo Monteiro	54
32749	9	Ricardo José Veloso da Cunha e Costa	29
25530	10	João António de Freitas Carvalho	64
26854	11	Jorge Filipe Reis da Costa	33
32767	12	Vera Mónica Rodrigues Azevedo	19
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