



I. ABOUT THE PROJECT

ARTinED is an educational project that is designing innovative methodologies to improve the teaching of any primary school subject by using four forms of art, i.e. literature, music, dance, and visual arts. So, art in this project is, as Elbert Hubbard an American writer, publisher, artist and philosopher points out is not a thing; it is a way. In this sense, the project will meet the needs of those teachers who feel that there is no time to include art in daily instruction because of needs and benchmarks that are to be met in other school subjects.

The project will create a methodology and an in-service training course for stake holders (teachers, authority curriculum experts) to enhance European teachers' knowledge and confidence in using the arts in their daily teaching and use resources from schools across Europe. The methodology will focus on how to teach environmental education. That is, students will study five sources of nature, i.e. water, sun, soil, air, and wind through the medium of four forms of art. The reason why the field of environment is selected to implement this new methodology is that it is a cross curricular subject and will enable the project to give examples in a number of subject areas. Also, getting environmental education through the medium of arts influence seriously what the students think, feel and do about environmental problems because they can remember the images for a long time instead of the words that they will forget in a short time.

An example set of activities using four forms of art to teach the five sources of nature will be prepared and then piloted by primary school students. They will create art (drawings, paintings, writing, poetry, drama, sculpture, music, and singing) in response to lessons on environment.

The activities will go through a number of phases. There will be a preparation phase around the subject areas. In the next phase, the activities will be implemented in the classroom by means of collaborative group work. The community phase includes sharing children's work with their families, friends and local communities. Finally, children's productions are collaboratively used and shared through a web platform with other children and schools across Europe. The activities will be designed to address many transversal key competencies as well as bringing creativity through artistic expression and learning.

