

HITZARGIAK – Languages illuminating each other

CRESSI CUN PLUI LENGHIS

GENERAL INFORMATION

DATE: 08th March 2016

1	Name	“Cressi cun plui lenghis”
2	Language	Friulian
3	Working area (education, communication, teaching, leisure, administration...)	Education
4	Email and phone number for contact	arlef@regione.fvg.it william.cisilin@regione.fvg.it 0432 555812
5	Social networks (Webpage, Facebook, Twitter...)	www.arlef.it Facebook: ARLeF

DESCRIPTION OF GOOD PRACTICE

1	Description of the practices	“Cressi cun plui lenghis” is a project to sustain plurilingualism and the use of Friulian since the first months of life.
2	Brief description of the practices	It is about a campaign to encourage parents to speak Friulian to their children. Regional Agency argues people raised bilingually learn other languages more easily, are more clever and bilingualism will delay cognitive decline when they get older. In order to ensure the continuity of the language to new generations, ARLEF has unveiled an awareness campaign emphasizing the benefits of transmitting Friulian to newborns. Taken for granted that any Friulian child will learn Italian, knowing Friulian will allow them to be bilingual speakers from a very early age. In this regard, lots of information leaflets explaining the advantages of speaking Friulian to children will be distributed. Parents will also receive advice on the coexistence of several languages within family. Regarding Friulian, the leaflet encourages parents to speak in the language in all situations, both at home and outside. The leaflet stresses that Friulian must be transmitted to the children even if only one of both parents can speak it. If both parents are Friulian speakers, ARLEF advises to use it as the main family language, shifting to another language when necessary.



3	Precedents (reasons, needs...)	It is needed to erase all prejudices against the simultaneous use of several languages in the early years of life and make people conscious about the richness of being bilingual or plurilingual. Moreover, the campaign wants to strengthen the use of Friulian as a language equal to a majority one.
4	Objectives	The campaign wants to show people, through the contribution of expert, how plurilingualism only brings benefits and has no contraindications. One of the common prejudices against minorised languages (such as Friulian) is the idea that it might be harmful to raise children bilingually, since it could impair their knowledge of the majority language.
5	Main and close working areas	The regional body has started implementing the campaign in Palmanova's maternity, as a part of a larger project that aims to promote multilingualism in Friuli. The campaign could be expanded to other maternity and pediatric units, and vaccination centres in Friuli.
6	Collaborating entities and their working areas	The Agency obtained the collaboration of maternity wards in the hospital of Palmanova, Latisana and hopefully other more in the future.
7	Implementation period	From 2014 up to now, with the intention of extending the project in time.

FILE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BEST PRACTICES

8	Expansion (number of influenced people, internal and external expansion...)	The campaign influenced about 80.000, through the press, the distribution of material, such as leaflets or the placement of banners, and the online the diffusion of the project.
9	Investment (economic, time, people...)	For about two years, the project involved the ARLeF staff in its organisation and advertising, experts and researchers in languages and education, sanitary personnel in the hospitals engaged the investment in virtual and manual material to be distributed.
10	Results	Forward in time, we expect an increase of children speaking Friulian since the first years of life and being perfectly bilingual, independently from being or not italian/friulian seen that the project aims to involve also foreign mothers, normally speaking other languages to their languages.
11	Documentation, reference material	Instructive manuals, 20,000 information leaflets and a little box for each newborn which contains some material in friulian language, such as DVDs and gadgets for the child and his family.
12	Presentation video	On ARLeF's website you can find some video interview with the consideration and explanation of experts and researchers about the topic, trying to solve parents' doubts and questions. http://www.arlef.it/it/progetti/crescere-con-piu-lingue/video-interviste

13	Other relevant information	In addition to the dedicated section on the ARLeF's website http://www.arlef.it/it/progetti/crescere-con-piu-lingue , we also suggest to look at the "Multilingual Families" portal http://www.multilingual-families.eu/repository/ .
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