



LINC Activities

'Towards realizing the value of education'

>> LEARNING SHEET

About the activity

This activity targets students 6 to 10 years old and aims at early helping them realizing the importance of education in their lives. The suggested intervention focuses primarily on exploring the value of education through real-life situations that challenge students' thinking. In this regard, students are encouraged to reflect upon different problems that appear in real-life contexts (i.e in a shop, in a park and more).

Aims and objectives:

The activity aims at:

- Teaching the value of education early in child's life
- Providing students with opportunities to reflect upon the importance of education
- Stimulating discussion among teachers and students about the value of education
- Stimulating discussion among children and parents about the importance of education
- Actively engaging in authentic tasks that allow students to understand how exploitation of knowledge is linked to development and progress
- Actively engaging in authentic tasks that allow students to realize the role that education plays in understanding the world.

Regarding educational goals and pedagogies, there is a strong focus on:

- Connection to real life
- Reflective learning
- Collaborative learning
- Use of ICT to support social communication

Who will be involved?

- Teachers
- Students
- Parents (optionally but recommended)

This activity revolves around:

- The value of education



Exploring the value of education

This task aims at exposing students at tasks that reflect the value of education. The commonly asked questions 'Why do I need to study?' and 'What is the school for?' are not in line with the idea of this activity and thus they will be eschewed. Students will be encouraged to draw conclusions on the value of education through their exposure to real-life problems and situations, the activity within authentic contexts and the interaction with key individuals.

Example: The students visit a museum and interact with the people that work there. The teacher can prepare a worksheet with intriguing questions. Students can address answers either through self-exploration or through interaction with the staff of the museum.

Other places of interest might be: a library, a university, a shop, a building under construction, a garden and more. Students can be also exposed to real-life problems that will allow them to understand the role that knowledge plays. For example, 'What the weather will be like tomorrow?', 'What causes an earthquake?', 'What causes rain?', 'How do engineers indicate whether a surface is horizontal?' and more.

The teacher can use debriefing questions to raise the dialogue in the class about the value of education, the role that education and educated people play in the society, the importance of training, the importance of being able to acquire knowledge, to explore new things and to understand the world.

Note: The students can work in pairs or in small groups.

Reflective tasks

The teacher can also encourage students to reflect upon well-known quotes. This task can take place at home. Parents and students can work together towards drawing conclusions or typing down their thoughts on the quotes.

Suggested quotes for reflection:

- 'The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet' (Aristotle)
- 'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world' (Nelson Mandela)
- 'The highest result of education is tolerance' (Helen Keller)
- 'It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it' (Aristotle)
- 'The direction in which education starts a man will determine his future in life' (Plato)

Conclusions can be gathered and discussed in the class. Given the young age of the students, teachers should not expect thoughtful reflections. Apparently, parents' contribution is of great importance. Teacher can also plan a preparatory stage that involves only parents. **The preparation** can also take place online in the Discussion area of the LINC Community.

It might be also interesting to reveal information in the class about the ones that said the quotes. Who was Aristotle? How was Nelson Mandela? Who was Helen Keler? Who was Plato? Last, encourage your students to find additional quotes.

Do not forget to add an announcement about this activity on the **Event area of the LINC Community** and to attach the invitation.

You can also encourage parents to discuss in the **Discussion area** about the value and the benefits of education or to reflect upon well-known education about the importance of education

You can also upload relevant material (i.e. articles about the value of education) in the **Resources area**.

LINC portal: <http://www.linc-project.eu>

LINC community: <http://community.linc-project.eu>