

Name of Project: [Children's Stories Will Be Glorious](#)

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School: Municipality Primary School "ILINDEN" KrivaPalanka Republic of North Macedonia

Age /Grade level: 4th grade Elementary school

Content/ Subject area: Native language, Art, Science, Math, Music, Life skills

Project Objectives: The overall goal of the project is to achieve a set of different learning objectives for the national educational platform by creating digital picture books.

The project connects traditional and family storytelling values, developing authentic values and new teaching methods that develop a unique approach to lifelong learning.

The need of the new IT generation for 21st century education is to create digital resources, picture books. **This type of artistic expression has a positive effect on the mental, emotional and social development of children due to the Covid-19 pandemic.**

Project Description: The project highlights the benefits of technology and online learning, but in a different way where students not only learn, but also create their own written creative works. In this way, they apply digital resources and create a database of written works housed in a digital library, and other students and teachers can use them in their stimulating learning environment. It is a holistic approach in order to recognize the meaning of the story as a great tool for knowledge with transfer and form.

The offered contents will arouse students' curiosity, initiative, creativity and innovation.

The activities of the project are in accordance with the curriculum, they enable students to develop an interest in using the mother tongue as a basic means of communication, to learn about artistic expression and to get acquainted with writing picture books as a form of expression through text and image. (Illustration). For these activities I use the online application [Storibird - \(manual\)](#).

As students write picture books, they develop skills in written expression, writing, communication, and comprehensive skills. They reinforce the oral expression as they read the texts from the picture books of their peers online. In addition, students apply standard linguistic norms (phonetic, morphological, syntactic, lexical, and spelling). In Art classes, students develop a sense of expression through appropriate images that are in line with the text and content of the picture books, and have extended artistic literacy through illustration of the picture books; develop their own creative abilities and acquire new technological skills. Mathematical concepts are tailored to students' cognitive developmental skills and abilities.

Design of the Learning Environment

Creative using of technology and stimulation of the learning environment in students has increased the competencies for online teaching and the use of online applications to create their own picture books. The students and I, as their teacher, for the first time had the opportunity to use [onlineteaching through](#) the ZOOM application. We had the opportunity to share information and good school practices and activities with each other. This was done at the same time with 20 students. And each student became the author of his own picture book.

[Books...](#)

ICT enabled us to create proof of learning and teaching!

Look at our picture books at the following links...

...with evidence of the use of ICT, acquired IT competencies.

Making e-products, creativity and innovation

We have published the made picture books on the [Facebook group](#) of our department where they can see the other teachers and students and gain new knowledge from the contents of the picture books.



Impact of the innovative teaching on students/learners:

The creation of digital picture books by students is a process where the teaching by the teacher and the students' learning are connected in an interesting way. Gaining knowledge is not just a simple memorization of facts but a creative process because students use ICT competencies, seek the necessary information to fit into their story, use their imagination, fantasy and inventiveness.

The idea is to use the online application to realize the teaching content. The role of the teacher is to give topics from the students' teaching platform. Students then select images from the online application and create their own original text. This is how they create the picture book. The significance of the picture book in the development of the child is that the visual elements direct the perception and increase the curiosity and therefore I recommend its application in the teaching of the subjects of Mother Tongue, Sciences, Mathematics, Art Education and Life Skills. Students need to use the teacher's guidance, prior knowledge, and draw real-life ideas to create a picture book. Connecting teaching content in a realistic context presented in a fun and interesting way, facilitates the process of understanding and adopting abstract concepts from Mathematics, Sciences and other subjects. Through the text, children easily learn the coded mathematical facts about the relationships between objects and phenomena of everyday life. In this way, it encourages children to think, to discover, and to solve problems based on that. At the same time, they acquire knowledge that is related to life, which are not isolated facts from certain subject areas. All this indicates the possibility that the picture book will be a suitable instrument in the socio-emotional and child's cognitive development.