

Report on the activity in the framework of the European Inventor Network



To be sent to:

Marjorie Chopinaud

Coordinator of the European Inventor Network

mchopinaud@epo.org

Name of the alumnus who implemented the activity

Filipa de Sousa Rocha

Short description of the activity

Series of robotic workshops in schools with a mixed ability classroom, where children with neurodivergence or physical impairments learn alongside their peers.

Date and place of the activity

Lisbon, Escola Básica do Restelo: January 21, 24 and 31,
February 4, 7, 11, and 14
Sintra, Escola Básica da Rinchoa: June 23 and 25

Audience (number and age of the participants)

3 classrooms of 24 children, between 6 and 10 years old
2 classes of 3rd grade and 1 class of 1st grade

Outcomes and achievement

*Ex: qualitative information ,
such as testimonials or success
stories*

Children were able to build their own robot with recyclables and integrate the BBC micro:bit card in the robot's body. The micro:bit was programmed first with a "rock, paper scissors" game and then with a flashing heart. In this class, although it was a solo project they would get together to help each other, especially to help a colleague who had more difficulties due to his cognitive issues. All children really enjoyed the activities and gave us gifts/drawings in the end to show their appreciation. Children kept the robots and micro:bit plaques to take home and asked where they could learn more and program different things.

In the other two classes we implemented math and science activities developed in collaboration with the teachers. Classes were divided into groups and all of them collaborated integrating their peers with difficulties. The older children all asked how/where they could buy the materials to build the robot and if they could do it at home. Teachers were pleased with the activities and said the activities promoted concentration and collaboration in a positive way. They were all really excited to learn that a "full kit" with the robot and activities would stay at the school.

Girls and boys alike were motivated and even brought robots they had at home to show us.

Recommendations

*Ex: any recommendation for
Future activities based on the
Experience and outcomes of
This grant-funded activity*

We learned that parents aren't always keen on giving permission to take pictures and videos of their children, we had to explain and give examples of what the pictures would look like and where they were going to be posted.

For a better integration of children with physical/cognitive impairments it is essential to have flexible activity plans and materials.

All children loved the experience with the robots and programming.

Attachments: Any supporting documents (such as photographs, testimonials or other relevant materials) that help illustrate the activity's impacts and effectiveness should be sent to mchopinaud@epo.org. These supporting documents might be posted on the European Inventor Network webpage.



