



Framework for reporting identified practices

Partner: Epirus

	Section	Indication of Content
1	Title of the practice	A web application developing children's awareness of natural disasters.
2	Precise theme/ issue tackled by the practice	The integration of a web application into the official website of the General Secretariat of Civil Protection. The application has been created in order to make children familiar with natural disasters and the relevant mitigation measures.
3	Objectives of the practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Make children aware of various risks like earthquakes, floods, forest fires, heat waves etc. -Make clear to children that risks like the ones mentioned above are part of our lives and we have to be ready to deal with them. -Give information about the preparedness actions that should be taken in order to keep safe ourselves and our properties. -Give information about what people have to do in case of emergency. -Approach children through playing.
4	Location	Greece
5	Detailed description of the practice	<p>-In order to reduce the impact or even the probability of occurrence of a disaster it is very important that people know what they should do before, during and after the disaster. Investing on children's awareness of disasters can have very positive results to that direction in the future. The General Secretariat of Civil Protection, taking into consideration all the above, decided to integrate into their official website an application for children, which aims to give useful information about natural disasters.</p> <p>-When children enter the application they can have a "walk" in a "path" and make several stops. The tour guide for that "walk" is an ant called Hercules. At each stop children have the opportunity to get risk-related information. At the final stop they can get the "Diploma of Civil Protection".</p>

		<p>-At the beginning children get some information about the General Secretariat of Civil protection, while in one of their "stops" they get general information about how they should act before and during a disaster.</p> <p>-During their next stop they can get more specific information about snowfalls, forest fires, storms, heat waves, floods and earthquakes. Emphasis is given on the measures that should be taken before, during and after the occurrence of the disaster. Moreover, children can interact with the application through "tests" and games.</p> <p>-At one of the stops there are gathered all the interactive "risk-related" games, while at the last one, children can get their "Diploma of Civil Protection".</p>
6	Evaluation	<p>-Making children aware of risks is a priority for the General Secretariat of Civil Protection, since this is the best way to create a "proper culture towards risks" in future society. This aim is served by the application.</p> <p>-Easy access to information is important and the internet can be used for that purpose.</p> <p>-The application is actually complementary to a series of other activities which are implemented by public organizations, like campaigns and preparedness exercises at schools.</p> <p>-The application offers a tool to teachers for the introduction of concepts relevant to risk during teaching and can be used as supporting material in schools.</p>
7	Lessons learnt from the practice	<p>-The internet can be used as an effective way to approach parents and their children.</p> <p>-Similar applications can be used as supporting material at schools when teachers talk to children about natural disasters and inform them about the proper actions in cases of emergency.</p> <p>-Children should learn about disasters through playing. In that way we don't make them feel fear, while at the same time they consider disasters as part of our lives, not like something that will never happen.</p> <p>-The use of that kind of applications from children involves the awareness of teachers and parents.</p>



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9	Other possible interesting information	Official Web Site of the General Secretariat of Civil Protection: www.gscp.gr