

Our Community

Description:

“Our Community” is a primary school programme designed for pupils aged 8 to 10 (Cycles 3.1. and 3.2.). Launched in Luxembourg in 2011, the programme is available to schools free of charge and can be organised at any time between October and July.

The programme consists of five learning units (5 × 50–60 minutes) and provides pupils with the skills and knowledge they need to understand how people, businesses and municipalities work together as a community. Through a variety of age-appropriate exercises and activities, the five units build on one another to foster pupils' skills, interests and personal development.

Together with a specially trained volunteer from the business community, pupils discover the links between what they learn at school and the realities of the economic and professional world. Making decisions and adapting to a changing world are important skills. The programme therefore aims to develop children's sense of initiative, help them identify and value their personal strengths, and encourage them to take responsibility within a group.

“Our Community” currently reaches around 900 pupils across 60 classes in approximately 15 primary schools. Around 40 volunteers deliver the programme in classrooms, sharing their professional experience and expertise with pupils.

Learning Objectives:

Duration: 5 learning units of 50–60 minutes each	Target audience: Pupils aged 8 - 10 (Cycle 3.1. or 3.2.)
Description: “Our Community” consists of five learning units delivered by a trained volunteer from the business community.	

Lesson 1: How a Municipality Works The children explore the “Our Community” poster, which depicts a municipality, and use it to identify as many different professions as possible. Through this activity, they discover how people live and work together within a community.	Key learning objectives The children will: • Identify different professions. • Observe and understand how people live and work together. • Become aware of the wide variety of professions that exist.
Lesson 2: The Bakery The children learn about two different methods of producing croissants.	Key learning objectives The children will: • Understand the concepts of production and manufacturing. • Compare individual production with assembly-line production. • Understand that different production methods are suitable for different types of products.
Lesson 3: The Role of Government The children learn that local government provides services to people living in the municipality and collects taxes to fund these services and help maintain a certain quality of life.	Key learning objectives The children will: • Identify which employees and professions are funded by the municipality or government. • Understand why the municipality collects taxes.
Lesson 4: A New Business The children decide what should happen to an empty shop marked “for rent” on the “Our Community” poster. Through the decision-making process, they learn how collective decisions are made.	Key learning objectives The children will: • Describe and consider different options. • Use a decision-making model. • Understand the importance of making decisions carefully. • Explain and defend their decisions.
Lesson 5: Money and Banks The children discover the origins of money and how money circulates within society.	Key learning objectives The children will: • Recognise when and how money is exchanged for goods and services. • Understand how money is used in our society.