



Co-funded by the European Union

## IDENTITY AND DIVERSITY PICTURE BOOK COLLECTIONS (I D P B C)

IDPBC is a transnational effort to compile international picture book collections, approaches and activities that address three issues of great importance to contemporary students and teachers across the globe: Inclusion, Diversity and Identity. Forming one's identity and finding one's place in increasingly diverse communities are central preoccupations of children from the very first day they begin to attend school. A strong sense of identity that coexists with a healthy sense of belonging and accepting are even more important for children with disabilities or marginalised, minority and migrant backgrounds. Identifying and valuing one's self-image is crucial in a student's academic and social success. In many countries, an increasing number of picture books deal with these issues in innovative and engaging ways, potentially enabling children to explore and negotiate identity, inclusion and diversity in deep and productive manners. These are the picture books the IDPBC, consortium aims to collect and place into the hands of teachers and students across Europe.

The IDPBC project aims to affect in a positive manner pre-primary and primary school pupils who feel or are considered to be 'different'. These categories include migrant children, Roma people and children with minority backgrounds, children at risk, children in care, children with same sex parents, adopted children, displaced children, others. Finally, since learning to function in diverse environments and reflecting on one's identity and stances towards difference is essential for every child growing up in a contemporary society, all pre-primary and primary school pupils in Europe and elsewhere can potentially benefit from the IDPBC stories, activities and educational approaches.

Partners: CENTRE FOR ADVANCEMENT OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY LTD-CARDET, Cyprus; UNIVERSITATEA DIN PITESTI, Romania; DOUKAS SCHOOL, Greece; INNOVADE LTD, Cyprus; INSTITUTO POLITÉCNICO DE CASTELO BRANCO, Portugal.

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