

Introduction

This project has been realized during the 2008-2009 school year thanks to a paid study leave granted by the Catalan Department of Education. These didactic materials have been designed in order to introduce the study of History to students of fifth and sixth year in the primary school using English as a teaching language. The methodology of the activities is based in CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning).

They look at history from a social perspective using different sources of information to help pupils to learn about the societies in the past both in depth and in overview, depending on the unit. Pupils are going to use dates and historical vocabulary to describe people and developments.

Notice that these units do not include all the aims for Coneixement del Medi Natural, Social i Cultural in Cicle Superior. The thread of the didactic materials in this project is the life of the people through History, as its title shows.

Aspects as the study of significant events in the History of Spain and Catalonia (Greek and Roman settlements, Muslim invasion, wars...) and individuals, including monarchs and politicians, are not going to be taught, so the teachers using these materials should bear it in mind when preparing their plan for the school year, since they will have to be taught using Catalan as a teaching language. If it is not the teacher who usually teaches Coneixement del Medi Natural i Social the professional who is going to use these materials, take into account that coordination is essential to run them in a proper way.

The activities have been organized in 4 units and they are designed to be done in 35 hours as follows:

- **Prehistory, *the fight for survival* (5th year, 11 sessions)**

Introducing the basic division and chronology of the Prehistory and studying how people lived in that period, and how they overcame the obstacles they found in their fight for survival.

- **Middles Ages, *a feudal society* (5th year, 6 sessions)**

Introducing the basics of the lifestyle in the Middles Ages as well as the social structure in this period.

- **The Industrial Revolution, *a time of change* (6th year, 13 sessions)**

Introducing and studying the impact of significant changes in work and transport on the everyday lives of men, women and children.

- **21st century, *global challenges* (6th year, 5 sessions)**

Introducing some challenges facing the global community: progress, consumerism and its consequences, the inequalities between countries, and the role the UN plays.

These didactics materials are designed so that all the sessions can be run with a minimum of preparation. Each unit includes:

- **Teacher's guideline:** It contains the lesson plan (aims of the sequence of activities, teaching objectives and outcomes of the lesson and the teaching notes (development of activities, grouping and resources divided into sessions.
- **Student's book.** It contains the sheets to be handed out to the students. Most of the activities can be directly done in these sheets.
- **Supplementary materials:** They contain flashcards, labels, language frames, pictures and other material to be used through the different sessions in some activities.
- **PowerPoint presentations:** Each lesson has a presentation that should to be used.

A key part of using these materials is becoming thoroughly familiar with them. Here are some tips on using them to run the lessons confidently:

- Print the teacher's guideline, the supplementary materials and the worksheets.
- Prepare each lesson, classifying the respective teaching notes with the supplementary materials and worksheets related to.
- Study the teaching notes carefully, watching the respective slides in the PWP presentation.
- Pupils have to complete the activities in the student's book, so you should photocopy it. Furthermore, although they are not supposed to have to write on any of the supplementary materials, you may need to photocopy some of the sheets. In any case, follow the advise in the teaching notes.
- Each session is thought to last for 60 minutes, however the length may vary since they have not been implemented yet. Maybe one hour won't be enough time for the tasks completion. You may need some extra sessions.