Portugal

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DIGITAL AND MULTIMODAL COMMUNICATION PRACTICES IN EARLY YEARS EDUCATION. OFFICIAL DISCOURSES & PRACTICAL INITIATIVES

1. OFFICIAL DISCOURSES (pre-school & elementary education (& standards))

- *Curricula* **(A + B):**
  - **Widely dominant, print-centred conception of literacy learning;**
  - **Instrumental conception of digital media of communication and multimodal meaning making practices (scattered & non-systematic).**
- *Parallel regulations* **(C):**
  - **More updated conception of digital media and literacy and multimodal meaning making practices.**

A. *Curriculum Guidelines for Early Childhood Education*, **2016 (3-6 year-olds)***

Among the structuring areas, there is **Expression and Communication**, which includes "Oral Language and Approach to Writing Domain"**, and World Knowledge Area**, which includes "Technological world and technology use":

> Nowadays, children contact with complex tools and technologies and have access, through digital media and technologies, to knowledge about distant realities, which are also part of their world and of which they gradually become aware and know. This is why technological, communication and information media are included in this area. (p. 88)

B. *Portuguese Curriculum and language standards for elementary education*, **2015 (6-10 year-olds)****

READING AND WRITING:
Transcribe and write
.To type copy, using the keyboard, a 5-line length, handwritten text (...). (p. 46, 1st grade)
Elaborate and deepen knowledge
.To search for information in the internet from keywords provided by the teacher or in sites previously selected in order to fill in previously prepared tables. (p. 50, 2nd grade)
. To list pertinent sources of information regarding a theme through search done at the library or in the internet. (p. 50, 3rd grade)
ORALITY:
Produce oral speech with different aims, accounting for the situation and interlocutor
.To make an oral presentation (about 3 minutes) about a theme, with eventual resource to information technologies. (p. 53, 3rd grade)

C. *Educational Referential for the Media (pre-school up to secondary* school), **2014 (pre-school onwards)*****

> The importance of Media Education at Schools comes from the fact that children and young people are, in an increasing manner, media consumers and producers. It is necessary, therefore, to provide knowledge and capacities that enable them to an informed consumption and knowledge, in particular considering the rising complexity of such media and the contexts in which they emerge and develop (p. 5).

Sources:
* http://www.dge.mec.pt/sites/default/files/Noticias_Imagens/ocepe_abril2016.pdf
** http://www.dge.mec.pt/sites/default/files/Basico/Metas/Portugues/pmcpeb_julho_2015.pdf
***http://www.dge.mec.pt/sites/default/files/ficheiros/referencial_educacao_media_2014.pdf

PRACTICAL INITIATIVES

- **Proliferation of official (as well as well-funded yet unofficial) initiatives/projects to increase the experience of digital literacy and multimodal practices from pre-school *onwards***

Some examples:

1. *Conta-nos uma história* (Tell us a story) - Primary and elementary school
(DGE-ERTE)
http://erte.dge.mec.pt/concurso-conta-nos-uma-historia

2. Kids Media Lab - Preschool Education
(Robotics and learning how to program) (Funding: FCT)
http://www.nonio.uminho.pt/kidsmedialab/

3. INCoDe.2030 *ação 2*/ Action 2
(Digital skills & competences for digital literacy)
http://www.incode2030.gov.pt/eixo/educa%C3%A7%C3%A3o

4. O Kiitos@21st Century Preschools (2015-2018) ERASMUS PLUS KA2- N.º 2015-1-PT01-KA201-013122
(Integrated pedagogical approach to promote second language learning) - **Preschool Education**
http://www.cm-pontedesor.pt/images/educacao/SOCIOEDUCATIVO/CenturyPreschools/Project_Description_EN.pdf

5. *E.M.A. Estímulo à melhoria da aprendizagem* (Stimulating the improvement of learning) - Preschool onwards – (Funding: F.C.Gulbenkian)
http://atb23saladofuturo.weebly.com/espaccedilo-e-equipamentos.html

6. Creative Classrooms Lab - Preschool onwards
(DGE-ERTE - coordinated by the European Schoolnet)
http://creative.dge.mec.pt/

7. *Jornais Escolares* (School Newspapers) – Preschool onwards
(DGE-ERTE)
http://erte.dge.mec.pt/jornais-escolares

8. *Blogues Educativos da Direção Geral de Educação* (Educational Blogs at the Ministry of Education) – Preschool onwards - (DGE-ERTE)
http://erte.dge.mec.pt/catalogo-bloguesedu

9. *Portal das Escolas* (Schools' Portal) – Preschool onwards
(DGE-ERTE)
https://www.portaldasescolas.pt/

10. *aLeR+* (Reading+) – Preschool onwards
(Libraries national network)
http://rbe.mec.pt/np4/aLeR+.html

11. *Amostras para ler+* (Samples to Read +) – Preschool onwards
(Libraries national network)
http://rbe.mec.pt/np4/1109.html

12. *Todos juntos podemos ler* (Together we can read) – Preschool onwards
(Libraries national network)
http://rbe.mec.pt/np4/todos_juntos_podemos_ler.html

13. Media Smart – Elementary education
(Libraries national network)
http://rbe.mec.pt/np4/885.html

14. *Plano Nacional de Leitura* (National Reading Plan) – Preschool onwards
http://www.planonacionaldeleitura.gov.pt/index.php
http://www.planonacionaldeleitura.gov.pt/biblioteca/ - Digital library
http://www.planonacionaldeleitura.gov.pt/index.php?s=diretorio&pid=3&title=ESCOLAS&tema=18&subtema=29 – Crianças a Ler+ (Children Reading +)

15. *Observatório de Recursos Educativos* (Observatory of educational resources) – Preschool onwards
http://www.ore.org.pt/observatorio/home.aspx