

GOPRINCE

DEVELOPING GOOD PRACTICES : INCLUSIVE EDUCATION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITY IN LITHUANIA

The Lithuanian Team engaged in a number of dissemination activities

To find out about all of them please see the file [Dissemination Events Lithuania: Overview](#)

The rest of this presentation captures the dissemination activity for *teachers on 19th June 2017*

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he following presentation was used at
the event, it is written in Lithuanian.



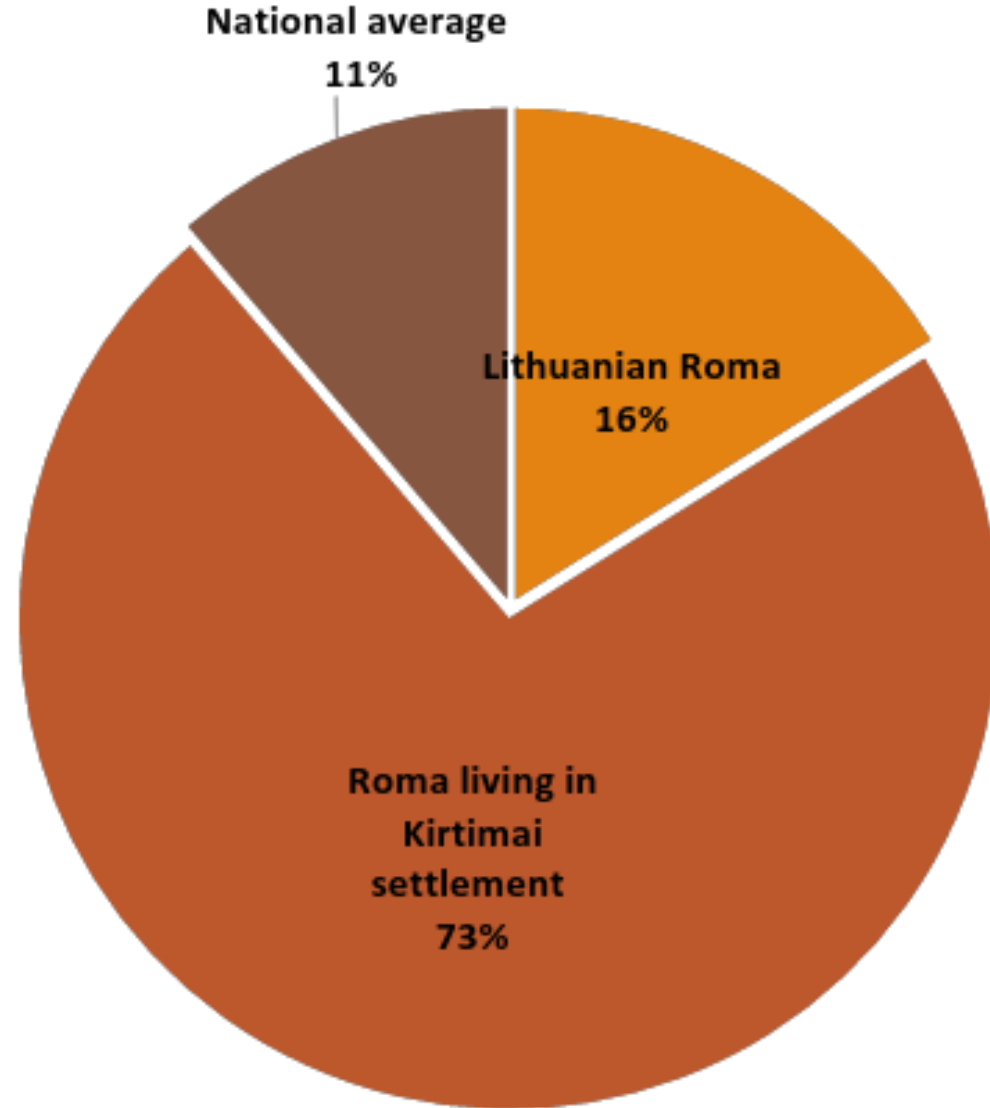
**Inclusive Education in Early Childhood:
Developing Good Practices
Ethos Case Study Two**

Vilnius Kirtimai Roma settlement (2011 data)

Out of 378
people living
in the Kirtimai
settlement,
48% are
children less
than 18 years
old.



Incomplete primary education (2011 data from the Department of Statistics)



Reasons Roma children do not attend school or dropout

- Cultural differences;
- Inclusive education not fully implemented;
- Low self-esteem, poor sense of emotional well-being in the classroom;
- Language barrier;
- Lack of social skills;
- Inferior pre-school education;
- Lack of individual consultation during the education process, after-school communication with the class;
- Lack of cooperation between institutions;
- Children's basic needs are not met;
- Parents' lack of education;
- Early marriage.



Day care center “Help to Fit”

In 2009, a Lithuanian Young Falcon Union initiative started working with Roma children living in the Kirtimai settlement. Over six years, the group tried different work models. They decided to open a small integrated after-school day care center “Help to Fit”, in order to secure a stronger bond between the children and their schools, and include children from the community of Naujininkai district. The center welcomes both Roma children, and the children living in the Naujininkai district.

Now, the day care center is regularly attended by 28 Roma children attending primary school, and 12 children from the Naujininkai district.

Day center “Help to Fit” activities:

1. Getting to know the child (talking about their day, art therapy, discussions, writing a book about themselves, games);
2. Language education (learning languages, language club, games);
3. Development of social skills (educational excursions, discussions, events, summer camp, hygiene classes, games);
4. Development of other skills (creativity, tolerance, logical thinking, concentration);
5. Preparing homework.

Introduction

A student from Vilniaus kolegija / University of Applied Sciences who studies social pedagogy chose the day care center “Help to Fit” for her internship. During the practical training a student kept the photo journal where she recorded main events taking place in the center during her internship. Here are some fragments from the student’s photo journal.



**Photo journal.
The first day in
the center –
Educational
environment**



Photo journal. The first day in the center – the acquaintance with the rules of life in the day care center developed by the children with the support of educators, social workers and volunteers



Photo journal. The first day in the centre – the acquaintance with the list of rights children have

My Rights:

- a right to live;
- to have citizenship;
- to know parents; to have parents who take care of you;
- to express your opinion freely;
- to have a right to study at school;
- to have a leisure time;
- to have proper living conditions;
- the right to receive a health care;
- to have freedom of thought and religion.

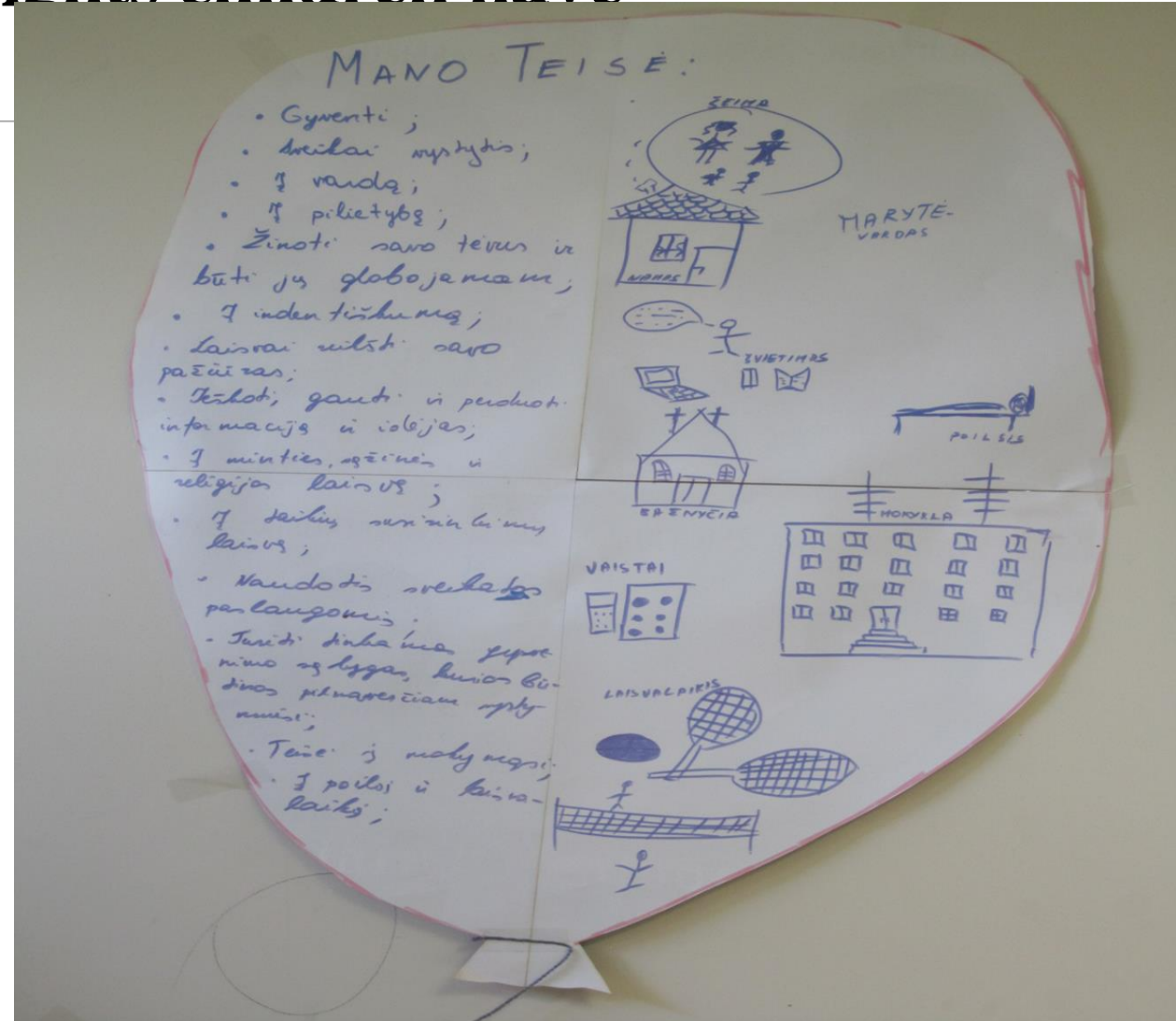


Photo journal. The first day in the center – learning letters and geography

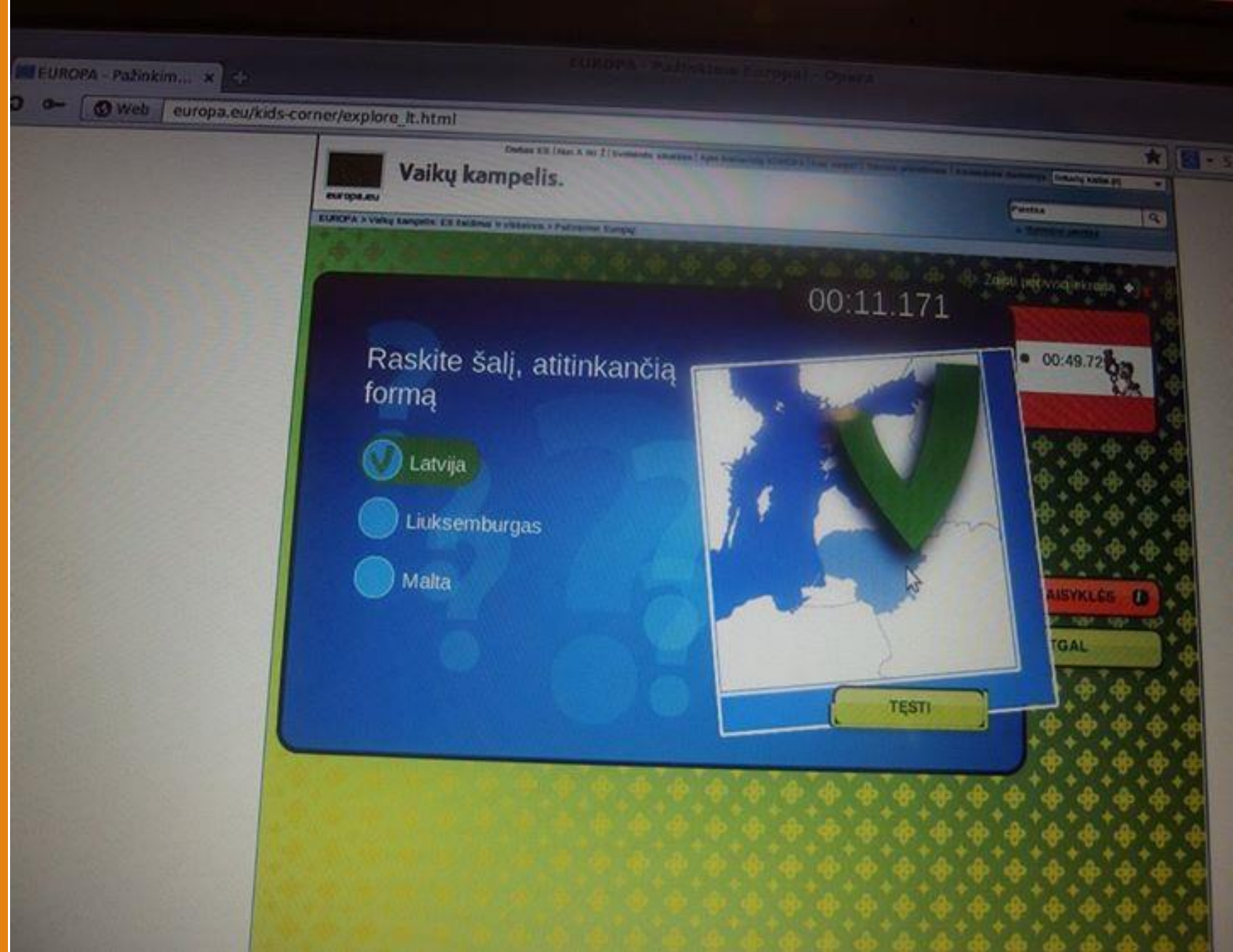




Photo journal. The first day in the center – getting to know each other better (Talking about children's day, what children liked, what they disliked)



Photo journal. The first day in the center – Joining the discussion about good and bad things that have happened in children's life during weekend, planning the present week activities.

Photo journal. The first day in the center – Helping to do homework



**Photo journal.
The first day in
the center –
English
language
learning**





Photo journal. The first day in the center – helping each other to develop computer skills



Photo journal. The 2nd day in the centre – Getting to know each other better: Talking about children's day, what has happened at school



Photo journal. The 2nd day in the center – getting to know each other better (a game with a mask: write down or paint something on the white mask that characterizes you)

Photo journal. The 2nd day in the center – getting to know better each other (talking about the masks and what they reveal)





**Photo journal. The 2nd day in the center –
arranging a snack break**

Photo journal. The 2nd day in the center – making a sweet snack





Photo journal. The 2nd day in the center – games to build mutual trust

**Photo journal.
The 2nd day in
the center – he
likes to sew**



Photo journal. The 3rd day in the center – resolving a conflict situation

Coming after school, Roma children were having snacks in the Center. A 7 year old boy accidentally dropped his mug of hot chocolate. The mug broke into pieces and hot chocolate splashed around. The volunteer came up to a little boy and asked him to clean everything. However, a boy didn't even move from his chair and started to cry. Then the older Roma girls started to clean everything and did that very quickly, without saying a word. A volunteer wanted to stop them, insisting it was the boy's duty to clean, but the social worker asked the volunteer to leave the situation as it is, explaining that children follow traditional gender roles established in Roma society, and it is not correct to force children to question the traditions of their parents and their community.

As the social worker explained, in Roma society women and girls have much lower status than men or even boys do. This is the reason why 12 or 13 year old girls leave the school, because they have to obey to their parents' decision and get married to a man they often haven't even met before. After marriage, the husband is regarded as a head of the family and the wife must always obey him.

The volunteer replied that these traditions should be changed, and at least they shouldn't be preserved in the Center. However, the social worker didn't agree with her.

**Photo
journal. The
3rd day in the
center –
trying to find
different
solutions to
children's
problems
together**



Photo journal.
The 3rd day in the
center – helping
with the
homework



**Photo journal.
The 3rd day in
the center –
State
(Lithuanian)
language
learning**



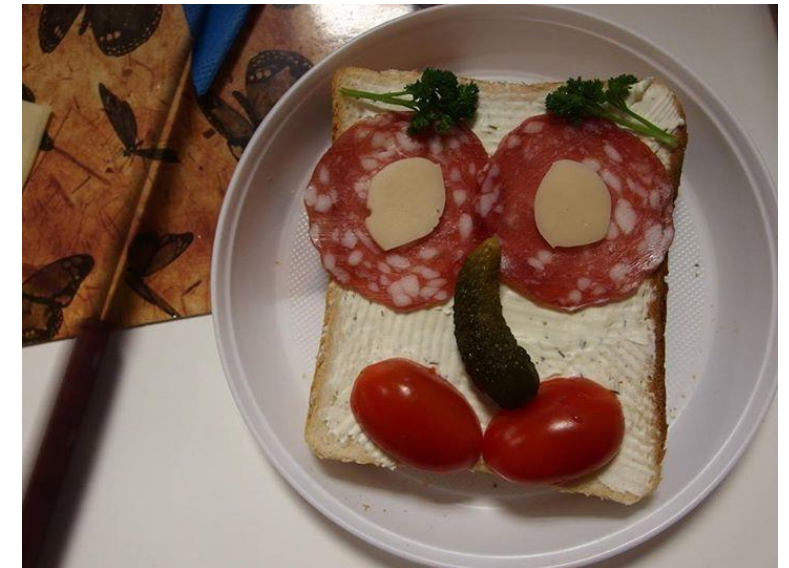
**Photo journal.
The 4th day in the
center –
Educational
excursions
(the visit to
Museum of
Railways in
Vilnius)**



**Photo journal.
The 4th day in
the center –
Reflections on the
impressions from
the museum**



Photo journal.
The 5th day in the
center –preparing
for the birthday
party





**Photo journal. The 5th day in the center –
Celebration of a birthday**



**Photo journal. The 5th day in the center –
Celebration of a birthday**



Photo journal. The 5th day in the center – Staff reflection of a week



**Photo journal. The 6th day in the center –
doing homework**



**Photo journal. The 6th day in the center –
Getting to know the child (art therapy)**

**Photo journal.
The 6th day in
the center –
Language
education
(Language
club)**



Photo journal. The 6th day in the center – Language education





**Photo journal. The 7th day in the center –
Exercising Creativity**



Photo journal. The 7th day in the center – Learning numbers

Photo journal. The 8th day in the center – Educational excursion to the farm house





**Photo journal. The 8th day in the center –
Educational excursion to the farm house (Making
bread in the traditional way)**



**Photo journal. The 9th day in the center –
Day of partnership (with the Roma leader)**

**Photo journal.
The 9th day in
the center –
Day of
partnership
(with teachers)**



**Photo journal.
The 9th day in
the center –
Day of
partnership
(with vice-
mayor of
Vilnius)**





**Photo journal. The 10th day in the center –
socializing with the elderly people**



**Photo journal. The 11th day in the center –
Christmas Celebration**



The 11th day in the center – sharing photos and best memories from the outgoing year (the best moments from the summer camp)



The 11th day in the center – sharing photos and best memories from the outgoing year (the best moments from the summer camp)



The 11th day in the center – sharing photos and best memories from the outgoing year (the best moments from the summer camp)

**The 11th day in the center –
sharing photos and best
memories from the outgoing
year (visit of the Kirtimai
Roma settlement)**





Thank you for your attention!