

Empowering Future Citizens, and Preserving Built Heritage

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YoungArchers



The Young Archers project is a European program promoting the protection of heritage buildings in partner cities (Paris, Nicosia, Athens, and Barcelona), by developing educational materials and tools for primary schools. The project aims to raise awareness on accessibility and inclusion in educational contexts. It also outlines common values for the protection of architectural heritage and provides guidance to primary teachers to enhance the cognitive and soft skills of their students (9-12y/o) through accessible team activities and experiential learning. To achieve this, Young Archers focuses on providing primary school teachers with an accessible digital educational resources to be used by teachers in classrooms and in field activities.

After two incredibly successful years of dedicated collaboration, it is with a touch of melancholy that we announce the conclusion of the Young Archers project. The consortium poured tremendous effort and commitment into this endeavor, achieving remarkable milestones along the way.

To celebrate the successful culmination of the Young Archers project, the partnership launched both a local and an international awareness campaign that underscored the important role of built heritage in education. Cyprus and Greece, represented by two Elementary schools, chose a dynamic approach to mark the project's closure. The celebration took the form of two captivating video clips, one from each country, showcasing the experiences gathered during the audio-guided walks in Nicosia and Athens. Morningside Montessori Elementary Private School in Cyprus went the extra mile by allowing the children themselves to take the creative reins. Assuming roles such as camera operator, journalist, and note-taker, the students collaborated to produce a heartfelt video. Through their Film club lessons, they skillfully edited scenes, incorporated logos, and information, presenting a captivating digital story on their journey through the old part of the city. Similarly, the Athens clip provided a comprehensive overview of the project, elucidating its scope and objectives, featuring snippets from various activities conducted throughout the initiative, including highlights from their exploratory walk in the heart of Athens. In addition, the young participants took their responsibility as future citizens seriously by crafting a compelling poster of their own, shedding light on the plight of endangered buildings and emphasizing the crucial importance of preserving our built heritage.

The video clips not only serve as a testament to the project's success but also embody the collaborative spirit and hands-on learning experiences embraced by the Young Archers initiative. By engaging the children in the creative process of producing these clips, the project not only celebrated its achievements but also empowered the young participants to become storytellers of their own educational journey, fostering a lasting connection to their local heritage and architectural surroundings, highlighting the multifaceted and indispensable role of built heritage in education.

The role of cultural heritage in education is multifaceted and indispensable. By recognizing both tangible and intangible aspects, education becomes a transformative tool for nurturing understanding, appreciation, and empowerment of children and teachers alike.

In Nicosia, the Morningside guided tour provided a unique educational experience for children as they explored the historic old part of the city. Teachers strategically used audio guides at various buildings and focused on the Municipality of Nicosia and NiMac for in-depth exploration. During their visit to the Municipality, students engaged in an insightful interview with the civil engineer, delving into topics such as architectural heritage preservation criteria, municipal decision-making processes, and the Mayor's role. The tour continued at NiMac, where children interviewed the Director, gaining insights into the building's architectural evolution and its transformation from an old power station to a contemporary art center.

Meanwhile, the 22nd Primary School of Athens embarked on a captivating tour with Athens Walks, exploring the architectural heritage of the city. Guided by the Young Archers project, students encountered buildings with historical significance, designed by renowned architects from the 19th and early 20th centuries. Utilizing audio guides, they delved into architectural styles, historical contexts, and the evolving purposes of these structures. The students' keen observations included identifying endangered buildings, sparking conversations about the importance of preservation. Through the Young Archers initiative, children gained valuable insights into their local architectural heritage, fostering civic responsibility and a commitment to preserving historical landmarks.

As the Young Archers project concludes, its impact resonates in the hearts and minds of educators. Serving as a catalyst for innovative teaching approaches, the initiative has equipped educators with valuable ideas and resources. With this newfound knowledge, educators are poised to transform traditional teaching methods, providing students with a more engaging and enriched learning experience. The project's legacy lives on as educators continue to inspire future generations with a deeper appreciation for cultural heritage and architecture.

Detailed content will be available soon on the [YoungArchHers project website!](#) 😊

Stay tuned!