
Stories of Tomorrow Newsletter

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« This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 731872. »



STORIES of TOMORROW

Overview of the Stories of Tomorrow project

Stories of Tomorrow is a European project (30-month) funded by the Horizon 2020 program which started in January 2017. Its goal is to develop educational practices in schools that combine science and arts, through the implementation of digital stories. Using a digital storytelling platform designed for the project, students aged from 10 to 12 years old will be able to create a story on Mars exploration, using innovative tools (3D, virtual reality, augmented reality, etc.), consequently deeper learning will be enabled in a multidisciplinary cultural context.

The project consortium includes 15 partners from 10 countries. More information is available [online](#).

News from Stories

The new version of the digital storytelling platform designed for use by primary school students is now online. The pilot classes started working on the project in October. To begin, students had to complete questionnaires to enable the Stories assessment team to analyse their knowledge and fascination for science in general, as well as their ability to work in groups. These questionnaires will be renewed in a few months to assess the impact of the Stories of Tomorrow project. After this initial assessment, the students searched for documentary information about the planet Mars. What is the Solar System? Where is Mars? What are the similarities and differences between Mars and Earth, distances, seasons, gravity, etc.? Students must understand the characteristics of Mars in order to plan their mission. Teaching resources are available to teachers in [the](#)

[Stories toolbox on the website](#). Soon students will finish the first episode of their story on the platform.

Follow the project on [Facebook](#) & get more news about the project on the [news section of the website](#).



Pamiers school, France

Highlight : the Stories Summer School

The first Stories Summer School organized by Ellinogermaniki Agogi took place at the beginning of July 2017 (Marathon, Greece). Teachers had the opportunity to test the beta version of the Stories platform, to learn more about Mars with Gernot Groemer (analog astronaut of the Austrian Space Forum), to discuss with the consortium members: national coordinators, technical team, evaluation team, and other teachers. It was also an opportunity to share teaching practices in the different countries and to initiate class collaboration for the 2017-2018 school year.



Stories of Tomorrow Summer school, Greece

All the information on the next Stories of Tomorrow Summer School can be found on the [dedicated website](#).

News from one of our project school

One of the French teams has started the trip to Mars and the solar system.

“We made some investigations about the planet and are ready to test the other French teams!

We went to Sabarrat, an observatory, and learnt a lot about Mars’ characteristics and atmosphere.

We are making models of the solar system. We have a lot of fun and we will soon be ready to work on the platform. Some students started their story with original ideas.

See you soon!

Pamier’s team”



Pamiers’ student discovering Mars characteristics

Teacher’s portrait



*Hanna Ylimaula
Class teacher for 7 years*

Hanna Ylimaula has a Masters in Education, Technology based class teacher.

She **works in Ymmersta School, Espoo, Finland** in a 6th grade class of 26 students with special education teacher and an assistant. Her class is combined: special education class (7 students) and general class (19 students). She has been teaching the same general class students from 1st grade and combined class from 3rd grade with the same special education teacher and the same assistant.

Hanna teaches her own class 17 hours in a week, sports for two other classes and ethics for 3rd to 6th graders (20 students 1 hour in a week, when other students are on a lesson of their own religions).

In her school, lessons start earliest 8.15 AM and latest 10 AM, and end earliest 1.15 PM and latest 3 PM, depends of the day.

In Finland, teachers can work on many projects as they combine different subjects. That’s easy when teachers from 1st to 6th grade teach most of the subjects by themselves.

She discovered the Stories of Tomorrow project after receiving an email about it and got excited. Hanna loves everything in this project: “It’s so exciting that it combines internationally the sciences, the art, the space and story telling.” Her students are also thrilled about this project!

Upcoming Events

- **Next consortium meeting**

The next meeting of the Stories consortium will take place from 5th to 7th March, 2018 at the [Cit  de l'espace in Toulouse](#), France.



Cit  de l'espace, Toulouse

- **Stories Summer School 2018**

The second Stories of Tomorrow Summer School will be held from 1st to 7th July in Attica, Greece.



Stories of Tomorrow summer school 2018

More information on the [dedicated website](#). [Apply](#) for an Erasmus+ scholarship (mobility for school education staff) to join us for this innovative summer school about the art of storytelling science in the classroom! [More information online](#).

Info Mars

Ever met one of the team members who sent the Curiosity rover to Mars? You should take a look at their car - you will certainly see the sticker below: "My other vehicle zaps rocks on Mars!". Why this sticker? Because Curiosity has an instrument onboard to remotely analyse rocks. A laser fires on a rock, generating plasma (the 4th state of matter, comparable to a very hot gas where

electrically charged particles move freely), the light emitted by this plasma is then analysed by a spectrometer to learn about the composition of the rock. This instrument is called Chemcam and can analyse rocks up to 7m away!

More info [online](#).



Speaking of Stories

Jorge R. L pez from CreativiTIC presented Stories of Tomorrow and the summer school program during the Startup Europe Week 2017.

Christophe Chaffardon, from Cit  de l'espace, also mentioned Stories of Tomorrow in an interview for the monthly magazine Ecsite: [Spokes](#). The interview was devoted to six professionals speaking about links between storytelling and digital technologies.

Recently, Franziska K rner of the Otto von Guericke University of Magdeburg presented Stories of Tomorrow at an information session on Horizon 2020 projects at the Martin Luther University in Halle-Wittenberg.

Jos  Saraiva, from NUCLIO, gave a presentation about the project in the European Planetary Science Conference that took place in September in Riga. The [abstract is available online](#).