



LABORATORY on MEDIA EDUCATION OUTLINE DESCRIPTION for the FINAL PUBLICATION

ORGANISATION

Associação Juvenil de Peniche

TITLE OF THE LABORATORY

Digital Photo Lab

TARGET

13 youngsters between 14 to 18 years old.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT AND AIMS

This lab is one of the parts of a bigger project: the realization of the movie, the final product that our organisation created for the project “Media for Inclusion”.

The objective of this lab was teaching how to take good photos using the available digital cameras. Youngsters learned the basics of visual composition and lighting. They were challenged to participate in photography contest that resulted in the basic images of the scenarios that appear in the final stop motion film.

TOPICS PROJECT

1) OBJECTIVES

- Communication through the image;
- Unique image and sequential images;
- Framework and plans;
- The lighting;
- Understanding the personal point of view;
- Balance;
- The expression of ideas through the media;
- Critical view of the work.

2) STEPS AND METHODS

Realisation of exercises to understand and put into practice the theory:

- “Luz”: this exercise implied taking several pictures of the same object at different hours of the day;
- “Sensações”: this one was an exercise to know how to communicate sensations, feelings and states of minds through the photos;
- “Equilibrio estático e dinâmico”: an exercise to understand how to take pictures showing movement or completely static pictures;

-“O argumento e o cenário”: in this exercise the youngsters have to know the story and understand which kind of Picture they have to take (moving from the written story to the visual story).

All of these exercises were important because the youngsters learned how to take good picture, regarding the aims they were looking to reach.

- The next step was “Tirar as fotografias para o filme”: they took the pictures to the scenarios of the movie.

3) LENGTH

6 meetings of 2 hours each one, from the 12th of June to the 10th of August.

4) MATERIALS, INSTRUMENTS AND SOFTWARE

- 4 educators;
- Digital cameras;
- Memory Cards;
- Reading Cards;
- Computers;
- Printing material.

RATING and FINAL REMARKS

They took around 1000 photos (between practical exercises and scenarios). We chose the best ones, around 180, and we used them in the movie, as the background.

The participants liked a lot this lab and all of them learned the basics about the initial work with Digital Photo.

They also started to use the Digital Photo like a tool to participate in the Media Society with an active role (not just taking the pictures, but expressing themselves through photography).

EVALUATION ON MEANS OF COMMUNICATION USED

(gives a short consideration about each point mentioned in the description project approved in the section “EXPECTED RESULTS”):

1) to stand out and create new skills among young people by using media as a means of inclusion and access to new information channels and new ways of communication;

- The participants learned how to use the Digital Camera as a communication medium;
- The participants learned how to select and communicate information

2) enhancing the skills of educators in designing and managing learning paths useful to promote among youngs an access and a critical and conscious use of means of communication and information;

- Educators enhanced their communication skills while working key concepts like lighting, sensation... through all of the exercises, discussing and reflecting about concepts while developing the products;
- Educators promoted the healthy and critical use of media as means of self expression;
- Educators created paths to reach the objectives of the project, through continuous communication and adaptation of the exercises.

3) to test and define a model and a new methodological approach to media education applicable in the contexts of informal education and replicable in different European contexts

The method that we used worked very well with our target group:

- Definition of a concept;
- Show examples of the concept that we wanted to explore;
- Resolving practical exercises about the theme;
- Evaluate the results with the participants.

IN YOUR OPINION, THE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION USED (videocamera, photcamera, ecc..) HAS BEEN CONSIDERED BY YOUNGS AN AIM OR A MEANS?

They used the means like a “mean” to reach the final objective.
They had to learn how to use them and now they share with others their know-how.

IN YOUR OPINION, THE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION USED (videocamera, photcamera, ecc..) HAVE MAINLY VEHICLE INFORMATION AND DATA OR EMOTIONS AND AFFECTIVITY?

The means of communication have both functions: they are vehicle information / data and emotions/affectivity.