



BoysLingo

The BoysLingo project is designed to **improve the language skills of boys** aged 10-14 years old, with a particular focus on reading and writing. Through the use of gamified mobile learning environments in formal educational settings, the project aims to propose a comprehensive language teaching and learning approach for **primary and secondary education**, prioritizing the needs of male learners. Providing an inclusive and engaging language learning experience for boys, it will strive for reducing the gender gap in the language field, ensuring that they achieve adequate language competence levels.

● The idea behind the project

Recent studies affirm the existence of a significant **gender gap** in language learning at the expense of **male students**. According to various research data, including Pisa (2018), for instance, girls achieve better results in reading tasks than boys who, in general, are less motivated in improving their language skills.

Behind this phenomenon lie many social, economic and cultural factors, such as the common belief that boys are keener on scientific subjects than girls, the challenging access to engaging learning tools, etc.

The understanding of these factors may be crucial in order to encourage students to develop their own language skills, promote equal learning experiences for all, and enable students to attain important results in their academic, personal, as well as professional life.



● Updates from 2023:

To analyse these circumstances affecting male and female students internationally, the partner organizations of the BoysLingo project met in **May 2023 in Cyprus**, hosted by the CARDET organization. During the meeting they studied together the causes of the gender gap in language learning at the national level in Poland, Italy, Ireland, Cyprus and Greece. Contextually, they **surveyed boys' reading habits, preferences and attitudes toward reading**, and then outlined **a set of tools, methods, recommendations and best practices** to be offered to **primary and secondary school teaching staff**. All with the goal of fostering an inclusive, interactive school experience capable of promoting equal educational achievement for all.

The partners' research efforts have been summarized in two key project documents: **the BoysLingo Handbook** and the collection of **Good Practices**. Both resources are available on our website's [Resource section](#) in all partnership languages.

Specifically:

The Handbook

delves into the causes and related effects of this gender gap in the partner countries of the project and serves as a framework for teachers to guide them through the methods and digital tools that can be integrated in their own teaching practice so as to enhance and strengthen their language learning process;

The Best Practices

(25 in total) represent a collection of practices that have shown excellent results in engaging and improving the language skills of young people that the partnership proposes for teachers to draw inspiration from.





● Our next steps



The ultimate goal is to nurture in young people a love of reading, both at school and in their own leisure time, to promote a reading habit that can also **strengthen other language skills associated with it**, thus enabling important achievements not only academically, but also professionally and, above all, personally.

The BoysLingo APP

Aware of the importance of educational roles in this process, the BoysLingo partnership invited the teaching staff in each country to share their experience on the main difficulties encountered by children in relation to the various areas of language learning. Thanks to their input, 8 learning scenarios were created in each partner language: 4 intended for use by elementary school students, 4 aimed at secondary school students. A total of 40 learning scenarios has been realised and these will be ALL available in English, 20 for each grade. By exploiting the potential of Mobile Learning and Gamification, it will facilitate teaching activities and offer support in language lessons. The BoysLingo App will be available on App store and Google play and will be tested in classrooms at the beginning of the new year.

The e-learning platform

The E-learning platform is an online space that will be designed to host the BoysLingo learning modules for the teacher training curricula. It will be freely accessible and will facilitate the award of certifications upon successful completion of the modules.

5 tailor-made learning modules will be developed that aim to improve educators, school leaders, and school staff's knowledge and competences and empower them in organizing and implementing language learning activities in the classroom with the use of digital tools, such as a gamified mobile learning environment.

The learning modules will consist of both theoretical and practical aspects that will enable holistic understanding of the learning topics. The learning modules will address both the needs of primary and secondary education teachers and will be released in all partner languages.



● The BoysLingo team



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Check out the BoysLingo Website & FB page!

The BoysLingo website and the official [FB page](https://www.facebook.com/BoysLingo) are already accessible and you are free to navigate through them! This website is going to be a reference point and we encourage you to use it for your personal and professional development.

It provides general information about the project and the partner organisations involved in its implementation, as well as all the news and project resources. From the section About The Project, a general brochure can be easily downloaded, as well as the upcoming Newsletters and Infographics, while the E-learning platform section will host the teacher training curricula. About The Project, a general brochure can be easily downloaded, as well as the upcoming Newsletters and Infographics, while the E-learning platform section will host the teacher training curricula.

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