

Lithuanian Traditional Toys

Gargždų “Minijos” progimnazija

In the framework of Erasmus+ project “Multicultural
communication: breaking stereotypes”
2018



Archeologists say that toy-making tradition can be traced back to the medieval period.

- Clay rattles, dolls, and animal-shaped rattles dating back to the tenth century were found in the excavations.
- Toys and games were often made or improvised by children themselves, depending on their imagination and the materials at hand.
- The most popular toys for girls were straw, clay or cloth dolls; pipes, clay or wooden whistles, carved horses or figures, wooden rocking horses were the most popular toys among boys.



The craft of carved wooden toys were extensively practised in Lithuania

- figures of people, birds, and animals



- decorated wooden bird whistle



Willow whistle. It is easy to make it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SCu1JVdKCCs>



Handmade cloth dolls

Clay pipe with a whistle



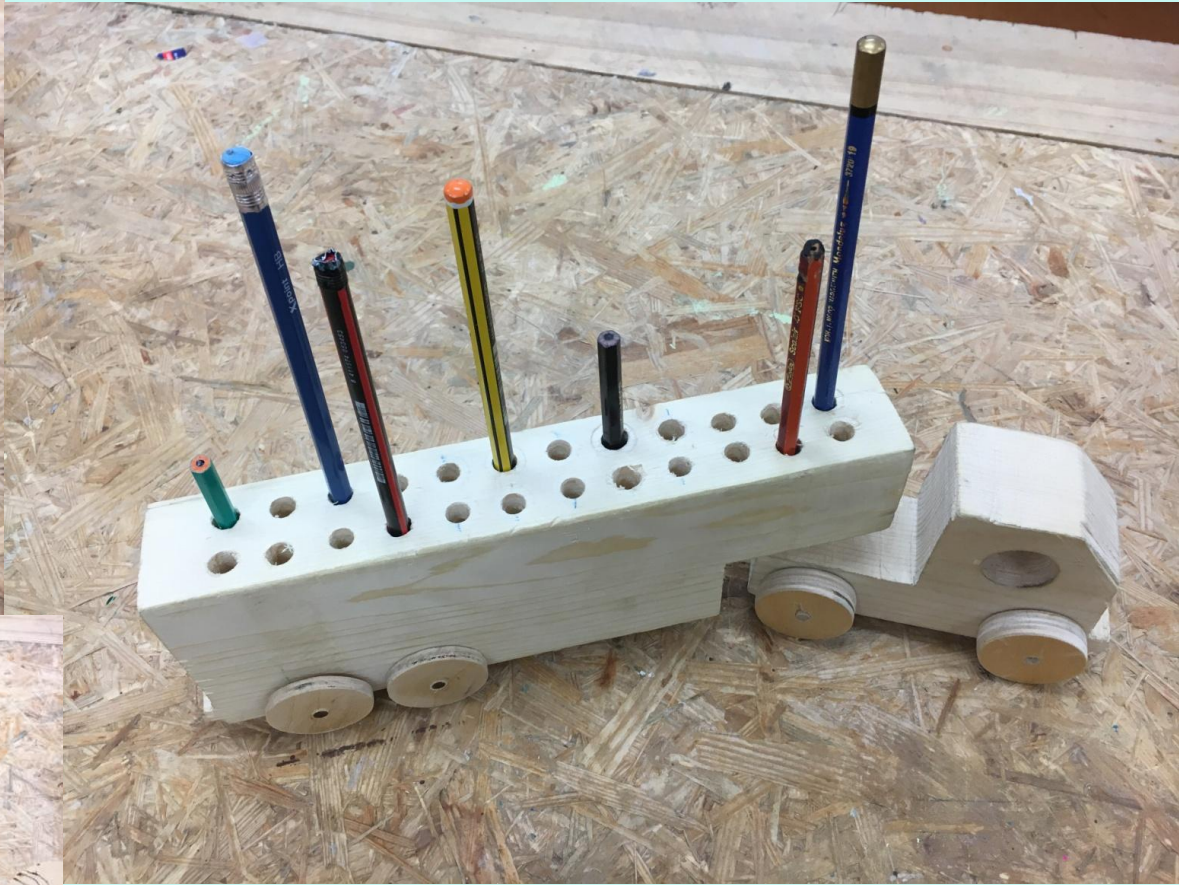
Learning by doing

Students at Minijos Progymnasium like a practical curriculum that includes woodwork, metal work, knitting, crafts, and cooking.



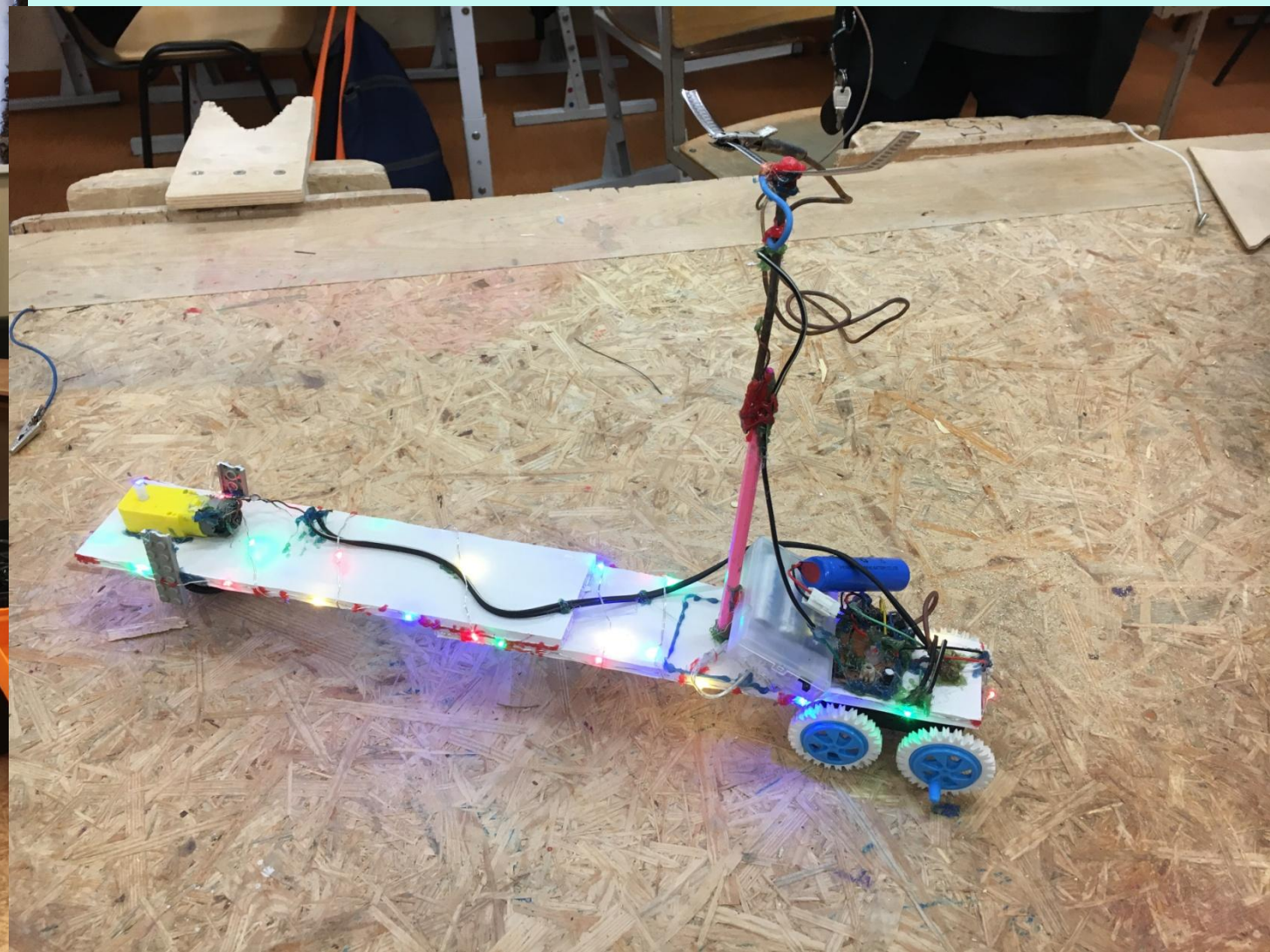
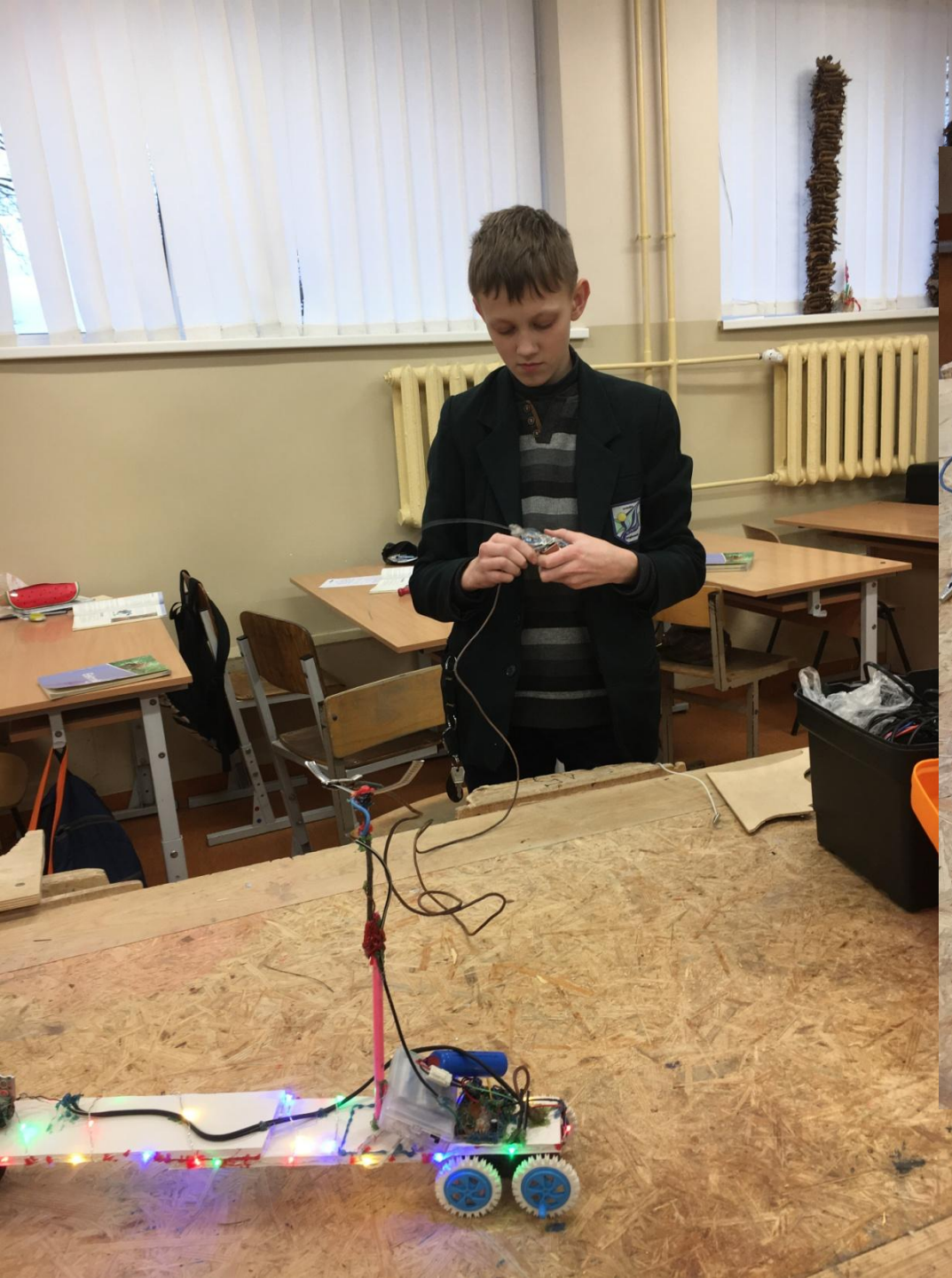
Here by there are our students carved wooden toys during practical workshop (led by teacher Dariusz Gruzdzys)











Primary class teacher Rasa Marcinkevičienė teachers her students to make toys from different used materials











Traditional toys workshop led by teacher Rasa

Students from Lithuania and Catalonia



- Unfortunately, nowadays traditional handmade toys aren't so popular as industrial production about play and toy, exceptionally wooden toys.

- Traditional wooden toys that are designed for maximum fun and safety, providing a range of beautifully crafted traditional children's toys which last for years, are gaining more and more fans since they might be used for educational purposes.

Benefits of using wooden toys

It is said that wooden toys

- encourage Imagination
- encourage Interaction
- improve hand-eye coordination
- support problem-solving while creating logic puzzles

