

# MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION IN MONOCULTURAL CLASS

Gargždų “Minijos” progimnazija  
In the framework of Erasmus+ project “Multicultural  
communication: breaking stereotypes”  
May, 2018



# Multicultural education

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In **monocultural classes** through multicultural education, children;

- ❑ learn to understand and accept people from different cultures and backgrounds;
- ❑ learn to respect other people's views and deal with each other in a constructive manner;

**Multicultural education** encourages children to see diversity as a regular part of everyday life and, we believe, sensitises them to the idea that we've all been formed by different cultural learnings and customs.

It is **expected** of children to develop a positive attitude towards different cultures.

# Multicultural education

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It refers to any form of education or teaching that incorporates:

the histories,

texts,

values,

beliefs,

and perspectives of people from different cultural backgrounds

# Learning content: inclusive learning environments

## education through curriculum areas

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In various ways through curriculum areas

- Geography: learn about diversity of people, ethnic groups and cultures throughout the world
- History: recognition of bias and stereotyping
- Music: examples of music from other countries
- Religious Education: fostering interreligious tolerance and understanding
- Arts Education: providing insight into the cultures of other periods and geographies;

## English as a resource for multicultural understandings

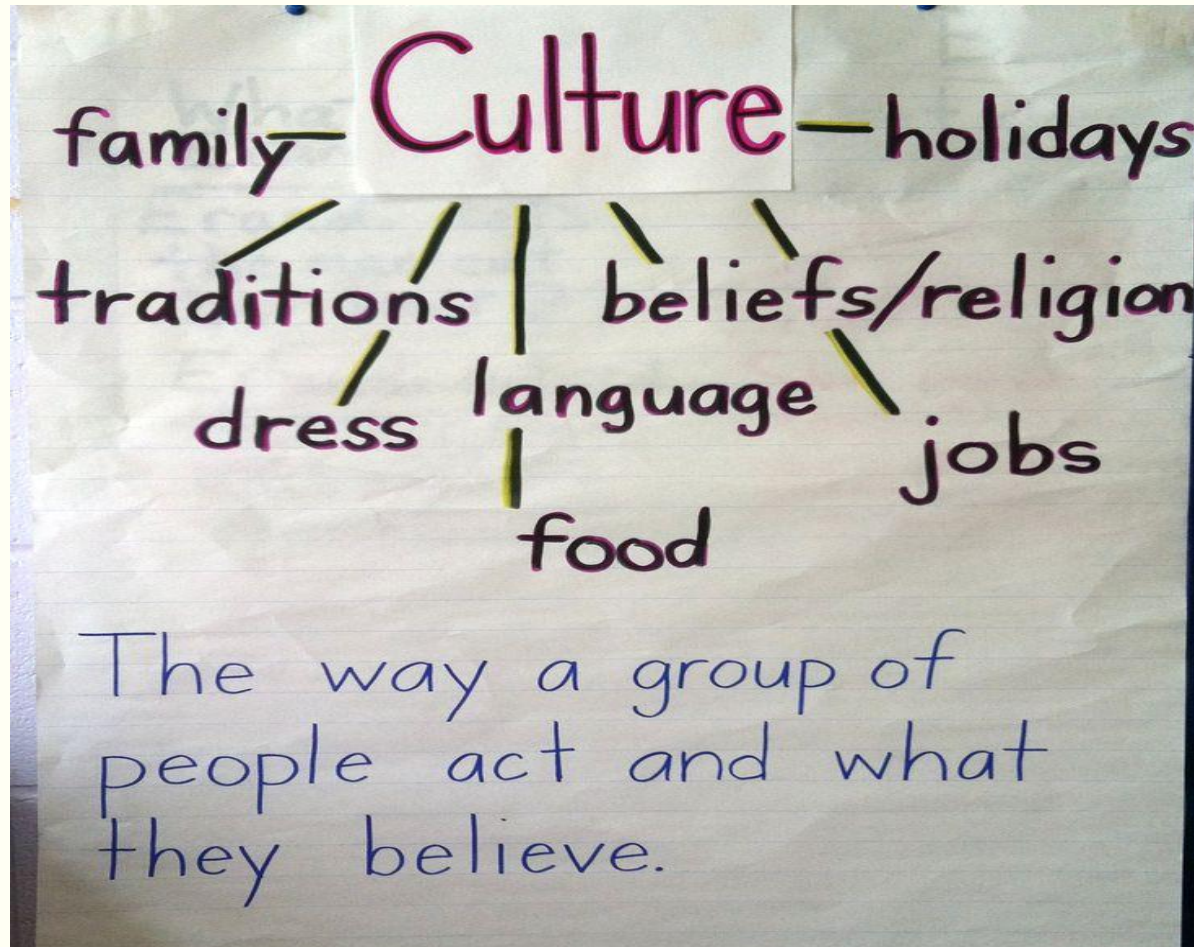
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- English has already become a global language which is not only a means of disseminating new knowledge in any field throughout the world but also a means for intercultural communication.
- In general our learners have a very positive attitude towards English and find it natural to speak the language.
- Some Lithuanian pupils find it natural to speak English because they're used to interacting with foreigners; some – do not like speaking English in the lesson but find it normal to do so when playing

# “culture”

Encouraging students to explore culture in the classroom, can be one of the most effective ways

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Encourage children to **WORK ON THE TOPICS** that help them understand more about others who have a different background from their own

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- religion,
- family,
- concepts of humour and shame,
- hospitality,
- table manners,
- dining,
- meeting and greeting,
- gender roles,
- gift giving ect.

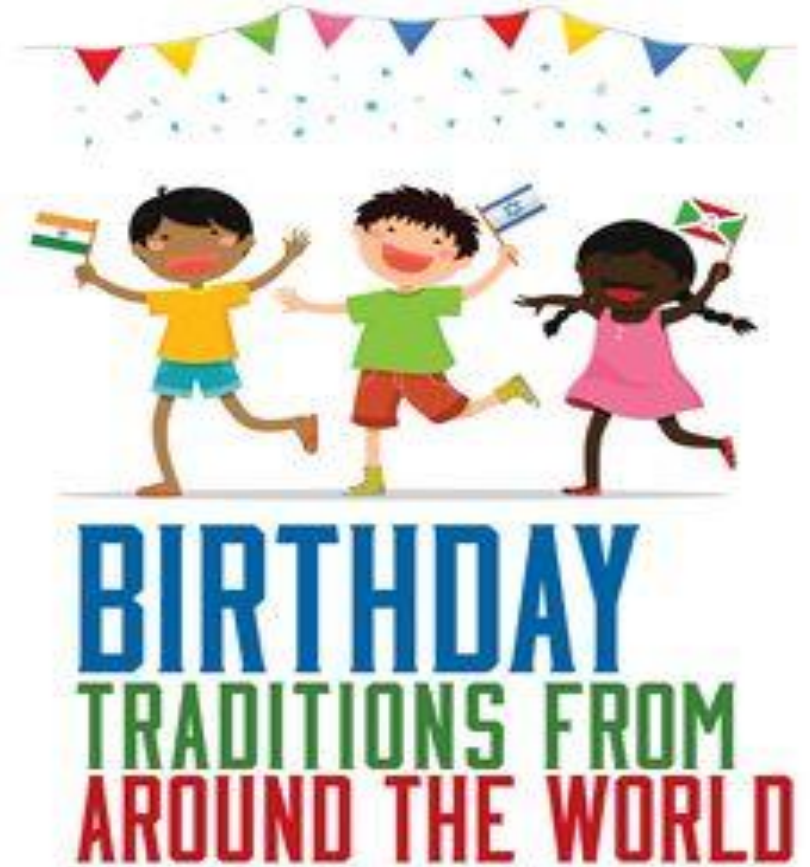




# Learn the traditions

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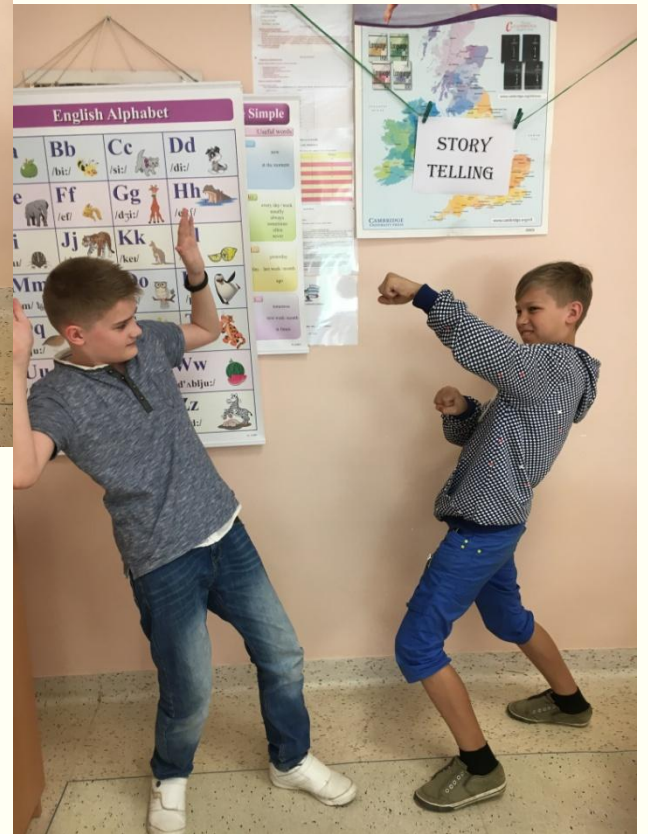
- What holidays do (they) celebrate?
- How do (they) celebrate birthdays?
- What are (their) favourite foods?
- What games do (they) play?
- ect





# Share Cultures Through Storytelling

- Storytelling is a lively way to capture a child's curiosity about others.
- This is a wonderful way to "invite" people from other cultures into your classroom.
- Be careful in your story selection. Select stories that young children can relate to.
- Think about who the children are and what they can handle.
- Let the children tell their stories and be the leader some days, too.
- You can use stories as a springboard for discussions about a culture.



# the role of literature in developing intercultural awareness

Attention should be paid to literature in the classroom in order for students to develop intercultural awareness and identity



# Teach through the mouth. Recipes around the world / Europe

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- Foods can be a great way to introduce other cultures.
- Food is a fun subject for students of all ages!
- Holiday recipes, quizzes based on food; typical dish from X country, food puzzles ect
- Students work in pairs to carry out a research on fast food facts, gathering data and creating a powerpoint presentation





# Project “Customs and traditions celebrating Christmas and New Year in different countries”

- Content and interesting title
- Vocabulary
- Country. Some facts (territory, population and other in comparison with Lithuania). Place on the map.
- Celebrating Christmas Eve and Christmas:
  - some historical facts
  - preparation (decorations, food, gifts ....)
  - celebration itself (activities, traditions, customs)
  - task for class
- Celebrating New Year:
  - some historical facts
  - preparation (decorations, food, gifts ....)
  - celebration itself (activities, traditions, customs)
  - task for class
- Feelings, comments, final thoughts, summary .Surprise



# Developing intercultural skills through cross-curricular activities

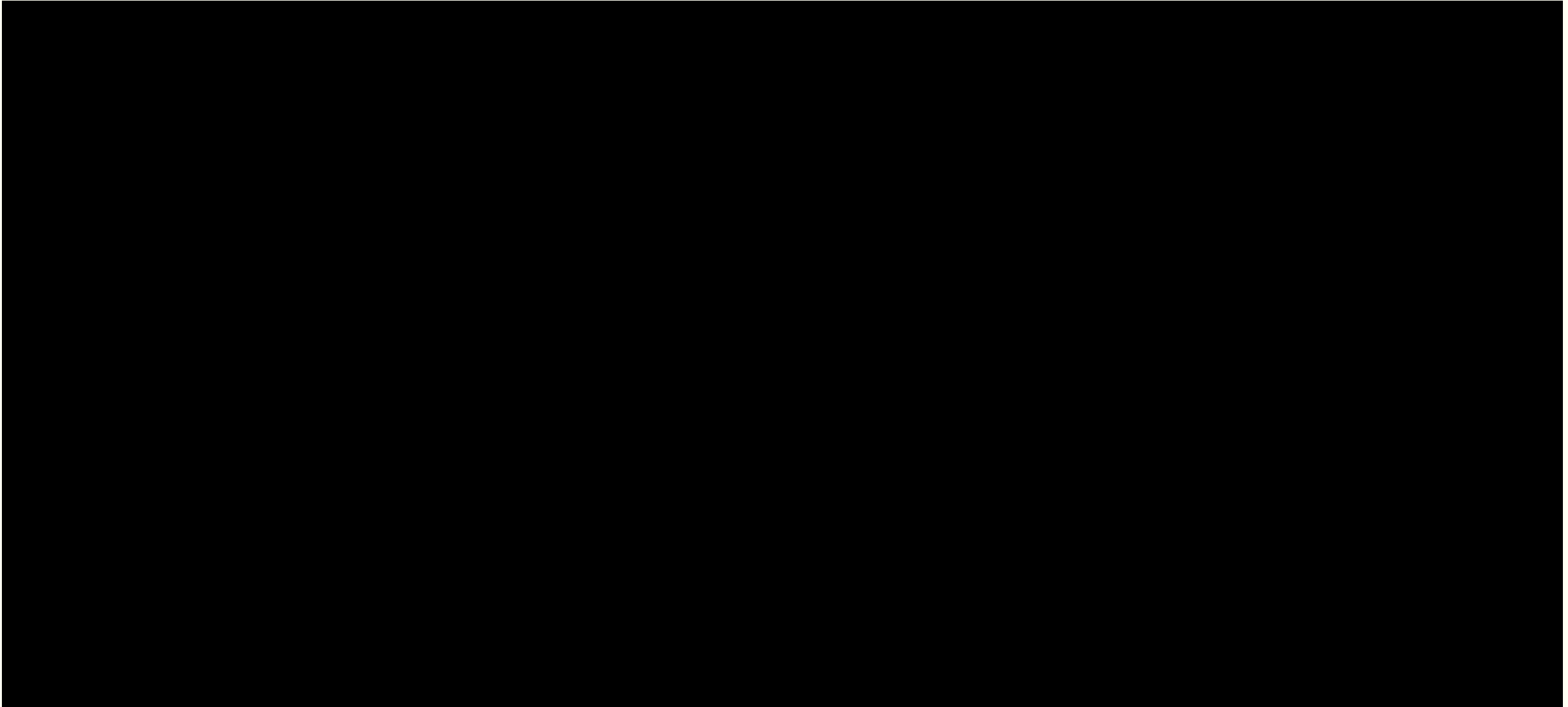
By developing cross-curricular activities that are both fun and motivating, teachers can easily integrate different subject areas — it only requires a bit of planning and creativity

## MY NATIVE PLACE



a souvenir from Lithuania

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# Coordinating a cultural celebration

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Coordinating a cultural celebration at school can be one of the most enjoyable ways to get students involved in learning more about different cultures

## **“Project Partner Day”**





# Coordinating a cultural celebration







# Participating in a virtual exchange eTwinning

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- collaborate on joint projects, share ideas, communicate and develop their skills in a creative and fun way while exploring a topic across different curriculum subjects





# Participating in European projects/ exchange programmes/ international camps

living, socialising with people from different cultures;  
learning to negotiate with people from different  
cultures, living in a different culture



# Multicultural education

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Education  
that aims to include all students,  
promote learning of other cultures,  
and teach healthy social skills.

