



Open Schools for Open Societies

The start of a movement

Currently, over 1168 schools participate in the OSOS project. The consortium partners of the OSOS project are convinced that the Open Schools movement will continue!

The OSOS-project will enable schools to:

- *Reach out to members of their community and build lasting relations*
- *Offer students the unique possibility to learn from real life projects*
- *Develop students' competences such as team work, problem solving, presentation and entrepreneurial skills*
- *Improve students' motivation and self-esteem*
- *Build a network of stakeholders and benefit from their knowledge and resources*

OSOS conference in Lisbon

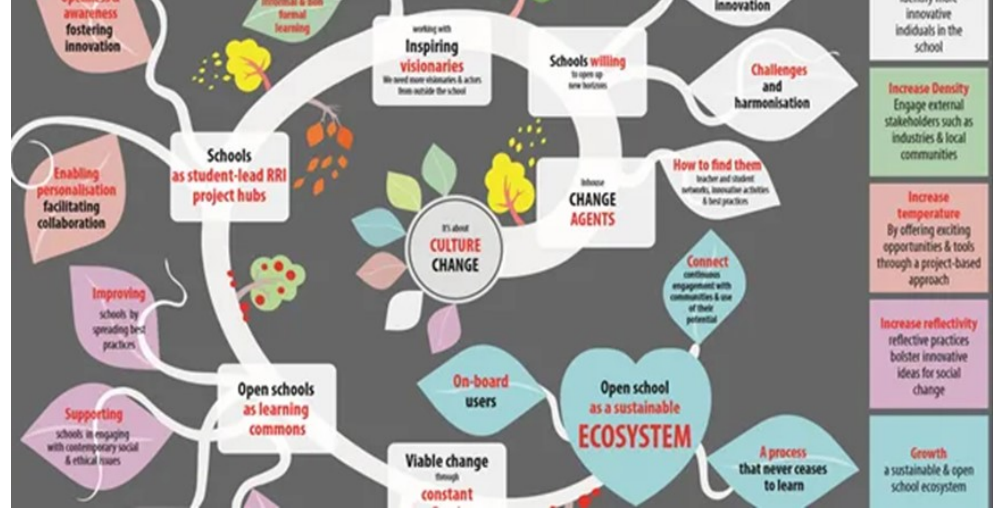


A celebration of OSOS student-led projects in Portugal marked a hugely successful implementation in the country. Over 150 students and teachers from all corners of the country assembled in the Pavilhao Do Conhecimento on Friday the 14th of February 2020 to showcase their exciting work and share their experiences with the OSOS consortium, national policy makers, university professors and 35 representatives of school leaders associations from 21 European countries.

Learn about the OSOS Open Schooling Model

The OSOS Open Schooling Model provides a powerful framework for school leaders to engage, discuss and explore how their schools can facilitate open, more effective and efficient co-design, co-creation for personalized science learning and teaching. More Information about the model can be found here:

<https://www.openschools.eu/open-school-model/>



Open school project: Escape boxes

As part of their math studies, 8th and 9th grade students at **ORT Dafna Middle School in Kiryat Bialik, Israel**, created "Escape Boxes" focused on geometry. Escape Box is a game designed to crack the code for opening the box by struggling with tasks, puzzles and clues. In this way, the students, who work in teams, practice the subjects taught in geometry in an experiential way that increases motivation for mathematics studies. At the same time, they also develop skills that are particularly relevant to 21st century life: communication, teamwork collaboration, critical thinking, creativity and innovative thinking.

After the students had created and experimented with Escape Boxes, the unique phase of the OSOS project began. During a few weeks period, the project went through 4 main stages during which 9th graders from the local Elementary Schools were enthused to create their version of the Escape boxes. The kids reacted enthusiastically: "It was really fun. We solved exercises in math, but it didn't feel like a lesson, it was more like a game." Another student stressed, "It was really nice that the people who gave the activity were the students and not the teachers."

The project has led to the creation of a learning community in their town, which consists of several schools that can now collaborate with each other. This unique interpretation for the OSOS approach, in which older students teach young students, offered a great opportunity for older students to step into their teachers' shoes, take on responsibility and teach other children - and on the way to learn for themselves more significantly! Indeed, all Middle School students agreed that it was an empowering and growth experience for them.



Need inspiration?

There are many inspiring school projects collected and published. The pilot schools have tested and improved the projects and this has resulted in excellent open school projects: www.openschools.eu



The Open Schools Journal for Open Science is the first European peer review scientific journal which accepts original papers written by school age students from Primary to Secondary schools across Europe under the mentoring of their Teachers on all aspects of Science, Engineering and Technology.

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