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23. MOTIVATION

How to encourage participants to share the knowledge they already have on different subjects to improve knowledge sharing

CONTEXT

The general context is the use of digital tools in adult education. Older learners and seniors might feel that they lack digital skills. Digital tools offer a powerful resource to break isolation; however, the lack of digital skills or training in their use highlights some of the problems with distance communication.

THEORETICAL BASIS

Knowledge sharing is the process of exchanging information, which may be explicit, i.e. coming from documents or procedures, or tacit, i.e. coming directly from experience.

Sharing knowledge is beneficial to the sharer as well as the recipient and encourages sharpness and adaptability. Group activities represent ideal settings to encourage participants to share knowledge and skills. A case in point are book clubs or reading groups, which are very popular and help build positive relationships between people.

ACTIVITY IN A NUTSHELL

To create opportunities for sharing knowledge and skills, activities performed by "reading groups" have been designed: using different ways of working (in groups, in breakout rooms, individually), the participants create a final product that can be a PowerPoint presentation or flyer.

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CONTACT TYPE

Online/hybrid/contact

TIME NEEDED

1h – 1h 30 minutes

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

8-12

ACTIVITY TYPE

Individual/group work

TARGET GROUP

- Adult learners
- Senior learners

VARIATION OF THE ACTIVITY

This activity can be adapted to other target groups

Goal

- To create a group product characterised by the exchange of knowledge and skills.
- To acquire better linguistic and digital skills.
- To learn the correct use of reading group chat and social media (WhatsApp, Messenger, Facebook, etc.) and increase cooperation and socialization.

How to prepare

Preliminary actions: Refer to Card 21.
- Create an online survey (via Google Forms), and choose a book to read from a list proposed by the participants (via the WhatsApp chat created for the reading group).
- Create shared folders (Google Drive) so that the documents produced can always be available at all stages.
- Invite the participants (via the WhatsApp chat created for the reading group):
    - a) to use specifically provided links and search engines to learn more about the author and the context of the book
    - b) to read reviews
    - c) to buy the book (better if online) and read it by the date set of the meeting
- Contact the author to schedule an online interaction with the entire reading group.

Activity step by step

1. Start a round table and invite the participants in their turn (online and in person) to share their first impressions, emotions, and judgments about the book using one to two sentences. The round table will be recorded (about 15–20 min).
2. Invite the participants to choose a concluding activity to carry out:
    a. Presentation slides about the book
    b. An invitation flyer for a convivial meeting to present and share customs, habits, and flavours linked to the setting of the book or the author's origin. Divide the concluding activity (a or b) into parts to be assigned to small groups.
3. Form small groups, and organise breakout rooms to carry out the assigned parts (look for information, write the text, select pictures to prepare 1–2 slides/1–2 sections for the flyer: 30min).
4. Share the recordings of the roundtable with the group on social networks/in shared folders.
5. Ask the groups to send their work in a WhatsApp group.
6. Present the software to be used (e.g. Power Point, Prezi, Google document, blisher, etc.), and make a demonstration, using the material produced.
7. At the end, give instructions to download the software, and invite the participants to try it out with the material produced (individual homework).
8. Schedule a discussion on what has been achieved and the continuation/conclusion of the work for the following meeting.