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# THE PROJECT

## IMPORTANT UPDATES ON THE READTWINNING PLATFORM

### Video Tutorials

If you are a user of the ReadTwinning Platform you may have noticed that during the last months a lot of new Reading Tandems have been created. Of course children and young people are more familiar with surfing the net but if there are any doubts left on how to use the Platform the **video tutorials** are now online to help you!

The ReadTwinning Team created **8 videos** that show more in detail the functioning of the platform

First of all it is important to have an account to enter the platform. Select the profile type (*Librarian* for Teachers and *Member* for students) and register here.

About these process there are two videos:

- *Overview*
- *How to register for RT*

Once you complete the registration process, it is important to edit your profile by adding your photo, your personal interests, the genre of books and films you like. For that we prepared a simple questionnaire so that you could easily find tandems or guru you will enjoy.

- *View and edit your profile*

Now it is time to find some friends! One of the main ideas of the project is that sharing interests can help in the development of the love for reading. For this, it is important to add friends on the platform with whom share passions, ideas and reading advice!

- *Finding Friends*

Now the best part: create and participate in a tandem! The ReadTwinning tandems present different sections in which, with the help of different tools, members can discuss, evaluate or grade the book they are reading together. To describe all the features of the Tandem three videos are available:

- *Create a tandem*
- *How to add members to a tandem*
- *Participate in a tandem*

The last figure to complete the presentation is the Guru. Gurus are the experts in some field: they can be ReadTwinning Team members, teachers or librarians who have special interest in some field such as romance, science fiction or historical genre.

- *What are gurus?*

View the tutorial videos on the platform: <https://readtwinning.eu/tutorial> and share your reading experience with the ReadTwinners!





## Lesson Plans

Surprises do not end here: now **more than 50 Lesson Plans** are available on the website! Designed by the ReadTwinning Teachers to be replicated by any teachers with their students, the Lesson Plans are available in the **Resources section**, and soon they will be at your disposal in all the **five languages** of the project: English, Italian, Romanian, Cypriot and Portuguese.

The Lesson Plans are extremely various: from the presentation of **classical literature books**, such as "A Christmas Carol" and "Doctor Jekyll and Mr. Hide", to some more **digital activities** such as "Boookselfie". There is no shortage of ideas on how to develop the reading skills of the children and on how to involve **parents** in the process.

ReadTwinning Lesson Plans are an important source of ideas on how to enhance the love for reading, if you use them let us know how it went. Have fun!

### Celebrating kindness - 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens

Age: 11 - 12 Hours 1 - 2

Students read a fragment from the short story 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens (Marley's visit) and then accomplish tasks about the importance of being kind and nice using different online tools.

[Read More](#)

[Group Work](#) [Pair Work](#) [PicCollage](#) [Pixton Comic Maker](#)

[Story Jumper](#)

### Reading in family

Age: 11 - 12 Hours 1 - 2

Student and his/her family member read and analyse the same book at home.

In class, they present the book to the other pupils and exchange opinions about it.

[Read More](#)

[Argumentative Text](#) [Digital Tools](#) [Narrative Text](#) [Oral Expression](#)

### Short stories- a great way of developing reading skills

Age: 13 - 15 Hours 1 - 2

Students read an adaptation of Dracula by Bram Stoker and during this lesson they share ideas and do a kahoot game on it.

[Read More](#)

[Fantasy](#) [Formative Assessment](#) [Horror](#) [Kahoot](#) [Spoken Interaction](#)

### Playing tricks and having fun with the ghost

Age: 13 - 15 Hours 1 - 2

Two students who like reading adventure books decided to read the same story "The Canterville ghost" by Oscar Wilde. They are going to share it with their classmates and roleplay one of the scenes.

[Read More](#)

[Adventure](#) [Dramatizing](#) [Prezzi](#) [Supernatural](#) [Tandem](#)

### Travelling with Ulysses





## READTWINNING BLENDED COURSES EXPERIMENTATION: HOW TO BE A CONNECTED TEACHER

The University of Cyprus structured the course for the **Connected Teachers**, a series of modules with plenty of materials and tools inspired by the ReadTwinning approach. The course has been experimented in the partners' countries in a **blended form**: live and online. This form allowed the participants to enable discussion and interaction between trainees and trainers during the live sessions, and at the same time they had the opportunity to engage with the course material in their own time.

In **Cyprus** the experimentation happened throughout January and March 2022 (21/01, 04/02, 11/02, 18/03). The *Connected Teachers* modules created by the University consisted of a series of teaching training seminars for teachers and parent educators regarding the theoretical framework and practical implementation of the Readtwinning approach. The seminars included **interactive methodologies** and participants had the opportunity to register to the Readtwinning platform and engage in several activities. Participants were also expected to complete three more modules on their own time in the moodle platform.

On the 21st May in **Portugal**, after a brief presentation of the project and its methodology, the course focused on the presentation of some activities already developed in the school according to the **Reading Tandem methodology** and included the use of digital tools. The Platform was also presented and described to the participants who show some interest particularly for the Reading Tandem section and for the provided **Lesson Plans**. To the participants it was given the assignment to create a Reading Tandem that will be run until September.

In **Romania**, the experimentation took place on the 20th May, the date of the **school's annual Symposium**. The participants were teachers from the Vaslui area who participated face-to-face, but the event also hosted online guests from other countries and from the school involved in the project. After the general presentation of the project and its **results**, participants were invited to register for the Readtwinning course. Soon there will be other face-to-face sessions of the course which will include the Module 1, the **ReadTwinning Approach**, and the Module 4, which is focused on the use of the **Platform**.

Stay connected to discover more on the Connected Teachers Courses!





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## CYPRUS

Children of the Third Primary School of Makedonitissa who participated in the two tandems evaluated their reading experience through the platform of the Program as a **unique experience**. Specifically, a student described her experience with the following 3 words: **cooperation, way of learning, enrichment**. "Cooperation" because all the children of the tandem cooperated with each other and interacted, "way of learning" because they had the opportunity to learn new information and finally, "enrichment", after enriching their vocabulary through various activities. Another student described her experience as **fun, relaxing** and **creative** because they had the opportunity, through creative and playful activities, to relax and have fun, while creating various projects in a team spirit.

The children said that they liked the "**Discussions**" feature of the platform because they had the opportunity to submit their views on a question related to the book they were reading. They also liked the ability provided by the platform for online tools like Padlet to create a presentation on a topic. The main difficulty they encountered was their registration on the platform. Furthermore, the lack of free time prevented them from making more use of the platform from home.

To sum up, the children positively evaluated their participation in this program and as a unique experience, since it was something different. They learned to collaborate and enjoyed reading the same book, being able to participate and interact through a digital platform. All the children would unreservedly suggest to their friends to participate in the Program because it is a fun and wonderful experience.





## PORTUGAL

### ***Reading Tandem, what do Portuguese students think?***

In our opinion a Reading Tandem is...

- inspiring
- enriching
- experience
- cozy
- interactive
- exciting
- fun
- uplifting
- educational
- unique
- useful
- fantastic
- sharing
- ideas

For us, Reading Tandems are good reading groups where we really like to participate, because they are a new experience to share ideas about books. What we enjoyed most was participating in the Reading Tandem created by our class about the book "The Widow and the Parrot", and socializing in the Reading Tandem chats. With this Tandem we discovered that, after all, there are many more people like us, who love to read. We had some difficulties in the Platform, because the Internet was slow and because it takes many steps to be able to interact in the Reading Tandem. We recommend that you try the Reading Tandems, because it is a very interesting and fun experience, but before you join, read the book and understand what it is about, so you can participate and "socialize" better.

*Nádia, Margarida, Pedro e Beatriz*





## ***What about the Reading Tandem “The Adventures of Ulisses”?***

“I liked the Reading Tandem. I think it's a very interesting activity. It's exciting, because you can do many activities; fun because it was fun exploring the platform and inspiring because it motivated me to continue writing. The activity I liked the most was to be able to comment on the comments of my colleagues with "emojis".

I didn't have any difficulties and I learned more about the book "Ulysses". If I suggested it to a friend, I'd say Tandem is the most fun part.”

*Leandro Marques de Sousa*

“At first I really liked Tandem, because we can talk to friends. Besides, it was fun, **inspiring** and lively. The best features are to be able to post videos and hold debates. The application is very simple to use. I really suggest that my friends use and try the platform and do as I am, I had a great time. Above all, this activity is pure fun. READTWINNING is a beautiful site, because we can share our knowledge about books and we can create texts and put “like” on the tales we like.”

*Gonçalo Albuquerque*

“When I started using the platform, I didn't really like the experience, because I couldn't get into the Tandem; it was always blocking and could not send the invitation to participate in the activities. But after some time I was able to get in and participate in the activities. I found the project and the platform incredible. I advise my colleagues and friends to get on the platform and explore everything, as there is no experience like it.”

*Rodrigo Pinto*





## ROMANIA

"I enjoyed using the site and I can define the experience as:

- **Challenging** - because I used many of my skills to access the platform.
- **Interesting** - because I had the opportunity to interact with people who have the same passion for books like me and see how they perceive some characters or situations.
- **Needed** - because there are not many platforms especially created for the interactions between reading enthusiasts. Most sites like Instagram or Facebook are used only to talk, but on this platform people can also post information or fan arts about books."

*Miruna Iorga, 8th grade*

"The system on the platform which matches people who are interested in the same type of genres **impressed me**, but it can be improved. I am a teenager but I still find or I am 'matched' with adults over 40 years old which I'm not so interested in talking to, because of the age and experience gap. I also think that the hardest part is making an attractive Tandem to intrigue people and to make them want to see what it is about."

*Natalia Păduraru, 8th grade*

"I loved using the **polls**, because it helped me to have a clear idea of how certain aspects of the book were perceived by people in tandem.

It has been confirmed to me, using this platform, that reading is an interesting way to spend your time, to travel to new worlds, to experience emotions, to make friends with other people who have the same passion as you. It was also a way to get to know myself and get rich emotionally and intellectually."

*Clara Doniga, 8th grade*

"I really liked that, for each tandem, we have a **private chat** where we can discuss everything we'd like about the chosen book. One thing that was a little bit difficult was accessing the platform. I think it would be easier for it to be available as a downloadable social media app while also keeping the web version just like Instagram, WhatsApp, discord, TikTok do. That way people will be more familiar with the interface of the platform and so they will feel more drawn to it. Plus, if it's an app on their phone lock screen then they will see it more often and the chances of opening the app will increase. Another useful thing would be a deadline type of notification as a reminder for you to read and stop postponing it.

Overall, I've learned how to **listen to everybody's opinion** and respect it but also the **value of teamwork**. If people asked me about my experience, I'd tell them to create an account on the platform as fast as possible so they could start experiencing new things, too!"

*Alexia Ivan, 8th grade*

