

## **WG1: Young children's digital literacy and multimodal practices in homes and communities**

Summary of research meeting March 18, 2016

After a presentation given by Julia Gillen on the 'A day in the life' methodology, several members of working group 1 gathered to discuss potential avenues for a collaborative research project, possibly based on (an adapted version) of this methodology. With the main purpose of finding common ground, the discussion focused on (i) the research questions the members have worked, are working and/or would like to work on, and (ii) the suitability of the 'A day in the life' methodology.

With respect to the research question that could inform a future, collaborative research effort, the members expressed a shared interest in obtaining young children's own perspectives on the role digital literacy practices play in their out-of-school lives. As research interests otherwise seemed to vary, one challenge ahead will be to develop a research proposal that allows members to explore additional and diverging research questions.

With respect to the 'A day in the life' methodology, members were enthusiastic and suggested some alterations that could be made, based on their own experiences with innovative methods. The main concerns were how to gather data in a way that is non-intrusive (e.g. in order to be able to include migrant families) and feasible (e.g. in terms of available manpower). The members also questioned whether one day would be enough to get a good impression of everyday digital literacy practices, as previous research has shown that weekdays differ from weekends. So a second challenge for the development of a proposal is to adapt the 'A day in the life' methodology in such a way that similarly rich data can be gathered while taking into account the wishes and constraints of different research groups.

Before the next meeting in Prague at November 7-8, 2016, the main goal is to write an outline of a research proposal. All COST members will first be invited to express interest in collaborating and to share relevant information through e-mail (e.g. further wishes, previous experiences, papers and instruments). Claudia van Kruistum (the contact person) will collect and evaluate this information in order to write the outline. A Google Drive or Dropbox folder will be created so that others can join in the process.

At the meeting in Prague, the outline of the proposal can be used as a discussion document so that (i) further alterations can be made that suit the wishes of those who would be willing to collaborate, (ii) practical issues can be discussed, such as a timeline and funding options, and (iii) members that have not done so yet have the possibility to express interest and weigh in.

### **Reference**

Gillen, J., & Cameron, C. (Eds.). (2010). International perspectives on early childhood research: A day in the life. UK: Palgrave Macmillan. 10.1057/9780230251373

### **Contact person**

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