



LET EVERYBODY INSIDE

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Good Practices from Italy

Virgo Carmeli Primary School - Verona

Integration Project

In our school most part of foreign students have Chinese origins.

Even if Italian is a language whose sounds and spelling are easy to learn, children coming from China show a great difficulty in learning and pronouncing some letters and words.

COOPERATE WITH FAMILIES



That's the reason why our first need is to cooperate with families, who are obviously not able to help their children in practicing the language, so they usually ask for an Italian teacher or educator who can help the children at home.



WELCOME



Meanwhile at school we plan activities to welcome the new student, which means, let him or her being part of our community.

We prepare the students of the class receiving the girl or boy, first asking them something about the country where the children come from: "Do you know where China is?", "Is it big or small?", "Is it in Europe or not?". The questions depend on the class grade and children ask many questions too.

We also try to let the students put themselves in the new children's shoes, by thinking about the difficulties in understanding, learning, speaking a language which is different from theirs.

We do this by giving them something written in Chinese and asking them questions about the symbols.

THE ARRIVAL

The arrival of the student is always full of positive feelings, children spend most time in surrounding these new students talking to them very slowly, asking a lot of questions, someone just looking at them.

We introduce our names one by one letting him or her repeating, then we play some game together.



WELCOME ACTIVITY TO LEARN VOCABULARY AND LANGUAGE

The first activities with the teacher are "My School and people working here". A teacher helps the student identifying and repeating the words referring to the school spaces and people.



Next step is to introduce school objects, colors, numbers. After having presented the basic vocabulary, the teacher starts teaching the phonetic, followed by reading activities.

THE CHINESE SCHOOL

In our school there is the possibility for Chinese families who want to preserve their origins, to let their





children attend a Chinese school in which they can learn how to write and read in their own language, since most of them can only speak it.

There are also Italian students who want to learn Chinese language, because interested in deepening this culture knowledge. The school organizes trips to China and video



conferences, by which the students have the possibility to visit famous buildings or take part to lessons in China.