

TITLE:

“KARST in the eyes of children and adolescents” 2006 - 2010

“POSTOJNSKA JAMA in the eyes of children and adolescents” from 2011

“POSTOJNSKA JAMA in the eyes of children and adolescents” - network, programmes and competition - is connecting educational institutions in all levels and areas of educational process from preschool to university education and other organisers of activities for children and young people across Slovenia and Europe.

TYPE OF PROJECT:

POSTOJNSKA JAMA offers organised groups a modern way of getting to know interesting natural and cultural sights, which we variegate with additional activities and exhibitions during the school year in the natural environment of Postojna Cave. Owing to the special characteristics and importance of geographical, natural and cultural heritage, KARST is the common thread of cooperation between the **Classroom in Nature – education centre** and the planning of the annual activities of educational institutions.

With a location in the immediate vicinity of Postojna Cave, it is an information and for organised groups of children and young people and the headquarters of the innovative “POSTOJNSKA JAMA in the eyes of children and adolescents” Network. The reception of individual groups is by agreement between the educational programmes manager and the group leader or network coordinator of the institution, and on the basis of a written confirmation of the booking. In the company of a guide and group leaders, curious youngsters observe, explore, discover or expand their knowledge about the characteristics and formation of the Karst, cave life and the life of people in the Notranjska region from prehistoric times, through the Middle Ages up to more recent times. They can then present their experiences in the form of an exhibition, an article or a Competition entry.

Contact person:

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Location/Address:

Postojnska jama d.d. , Jamska cesta 30, 6230 Postojna, Slovenija

History of the company: Postojnska jama d.d. continues a rich tradition of managing visits and events that dates back to the 1820s, when the cave was first opened as a show cave. The cave was already receiving large numbers of visitors in the Austro-Hungarian period (under the management of a special cave commission). During the period of Italian rule it was administered by a state institute, while after the second world war it was taken over by a Yugoslav state institute and then by an company.

Website :

www.turizem-kras.si; “KARST in the eyes of children and adolescents” 2006 - 2010

www.postojnska-jama.si;

“POSTOJNSKA JAMA in the eyes of children and adolescents” from 2011

The “POSTOJNSKA JAMA in the eyes of children and adolescents” **Network** connects coordinators with Postojnska jama d.d. free of charge, in a system of reciprocal promotional cooperation.

Project is aimed for learners from preschool up to high school education: teachers, educators, special needed teachers, preschool teachers, mentors....There is no age or pre-knowledge limitations. Teachers and educators with aim to develop professionally, who want to discover new ways of teaching methods, want to develop excellent teaching practices and learn one from another and know the benefits of building and developing open curriculum and innovative learning.



It has been started 2006 with aim to bring together learners and teachers from different environment and areas of education. It is aiming to promote, encourage and develop open learning curriculum with innovative and lifelong learning.

Network connects 150 institutions. On this traditional event take part children, scholars and students accompanied by teachers, educators even on international level

Learning Aims

- promoting early science,
- connecting all curriculum areas and Slovenian natural and cultural heritage
- oriented towards active learning process in nature environments
- offering endless opportunities for lifelong integrated open learning aiming learners and educators

- supporting and building open curriculum, which is covering innovative learning, learning and teaching autonomy, long life and sustainable learning

Intended Learning Outcomes for

Learners:

- to discover Karst and all its features and diversity
- to discover
- to promote and discover natural and cultural heritage

Educators:

- professional development
- connect different areas of curriculum and are able to develop innovative and creative ways of teaching methods,
- exchange and develop good and excellent teaching practices

Substantive consolidation allows the educational groups:

- implementation of specific educational objectives of education in the natural environment
- the integration of educational training contents for promotion Karst environment, Postojnska jama - and Predjamski grad - Cultural Heritage
- organized presentation at the April event, the spread of project activities and results
- coordinators work closely with open classroom Vivarium and Postojna cave
- special benefits for active participants in the promotion of Vivarium, the Postojna Cave and Predjama Castle and other Karst's attractions



Organisation of Learning in “POSTOJNSKA JAMA in the eyes of children and adolescents:

There is an open call for cooperation and each year coordinators from educational institutions apply with their open curriculum activities and ideas.

Teachers, educators from different educational institutions plan their innovative educational activities. Institution's coordinator gather activities, ideas.

Coordinators meet on work meetings and exchange ideas, plan, coordinate project on the institution promote their achievements in natural environment of the biggest KARST beauty.

During the year each educator work on the thematic exploring Karst environment and cultural heritage and they implement into their learning process natural environment, early science, innovative methods, come to visit open environment classroom areas: Vivarium lab, the cave, nature.

They write reports, publish articles and in the end of the year all participants gather and prepare end of the year event for promoting their work and results to public.

All participants follow active, innovative learning pedagogical methods based on action researching methods and supporting open curriculum.

Learning is taking place innovative way of exploring, researching, active learning, action reserching.

It is done in open classroom in nature, on trips, and in connection with classroom work and use of ICT .

Parents are supporting all ongoing activities and are actively involved in learning process.



Outcomes Evidence and Assessment

Work and Learning is assessed by regularly created reports on activities in form of documenting learning process, portfolio assessment and regular evaluation on teacher team work meetings with main point or a reflection.

Documentation

- www.turizem-kras.si , “KARST in the eyes of children and adolescents”
- www.postojnska-jama.si.si, “POSTOJNSKA JAMA in the eyes of children and adolescents”
- Portfolio the activities / reports on activities, photos, dvd, cd, mp3, didactical games/
- Traditional Event “POSTOJNSKA JAMA in the eyes of children and adolescents”

- Web pages, links, articles

<http://www.oscankova.si/natecaj.htm>

http://www.os-sostro.si/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=151&Itemid=161

http://www.os-vrhovci.si/info/natecaj_postonjska_jama.pdf

<http://www.osbrod.si/kras.htm>

<https://picasaweb.google.com/joze.trepelj/VPOSTOJNI>

<http://www.turizem-kras.si/?cat=87&lang=si>