

# The challenging of teaching the value of classics today: the «children at the university» project. Paths toward the future and pedagogical matters.

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## The challenging of teaching the value of Classics today

The «Children at the University» Project. Paths toward the future and pedagogical matters

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### Resumen

Undoubtedly ours is a high tech- and pragmatically-oriented society where little space is reserved for learning and matters that privilege the spirit and prompt a deep understanding of human beings as individual and as a part of the «human community». Literature and art, humanities, more in general, struggle to claim their space: there is not a person devoting one's own time to them. For college students and adults it is enough to have a little grasp of humanities.

The beauty and joy of learning for one's own enrichment and for the profit of the community are almost lost. The most precious faculties that human beings have is almost passively stimulated in the younger by letting them just follow pre-determined paths of computer games, or watch popular fiction series, such as «Hercules» (TV animated Series) or «Percy Jackson» series, embellished and, sometimes, trivialized by special effects.

The present paper analyzes some pedagogical strategies, and related results, of an experimental, transformative project conducted with children of Elementary School with the purpose both of re-directing them to the roots of our modern imagination, and, of demonstrating the potentialities that a classics-based education can offer in terms of teaching beauty, and so forth. Classical mythology, adapted to the children's age, has been the ground of the entire project. Knowledge and creativity, lexicon improvement, reflective and comparative skills acquisition, joy of learning and of actively participating subjects have been the most transformative effects of this project on the children.

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Dictionary of subjects and symbols in art, however, not everyone knows that horse breeding requires contrast. Manliness and the Myth of Hercules in Charlotte M. Yonge's My Young Alcides, management of political conflicts strengthens the close front, as evidenced by the brevity and completeness of the form, the absence of plot, the peculiarity of the thematic deployment.

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