

Detailed Description

For Kindergarten to 5th Grade Primary School Students

The new educational program of IMMA aims to bring students into creative contact with the city's architectural heritage and history, helping them discover it as an exciting process of exploration through direct spatial experience.

The starting point is the museum's neoclassical building (Ernest Ziller, 1894), along with the building complex of the Metropolitan Church of Saint Gregory Palamas, located within the same historic core.

Through an enjoyable and experiential outdoor tour, students learn basic information about the history and architecture of the buildings, observe key morphological elements of neoclassicism, and connect this knowledge to the broader historical context of the city with the use of technology.

Observation, comparison, and recognition of architectural patterns enhance experiential understanding of architecture as a carrier of cultural memory.

On a practical level, the program unfolds through interdisciplinary activities, complementing the historical narrative within the very building where important figures of the Macedonian Struggle once acted, such as Consul Lambros Koromilas.

Activities are structured as an educational scenario and include:

- Outdoor exploration
- Observation exercises
- Role-playing theatrical games in permanent exhibition spaces
- A drawing workshop in the projection room

Students are encouraged to:

- Observe building details (balconies, doors, railings)
- Engage with cards and photographs
- "Interact" with exhibits

- Recognize architectural patterns
- Collaborate to solve small investigative tasks

With a focus on collaborative learning, inquiry-based approaches, and active participation, the neoclassical building “comes to life and tells its story.”

The program develops in three stages:

1. Introduction to the metropolitan complex and museum architecture (observation sheets, tablets)
2. Interactive games fostering observation, critical thinking, and role-playing
3. Interactive drawing workshop with a slideshow on Ziller and Thessaloniki

The program highlights historic buildings and museum exhibitions as dynamic spaces of knowledge, encouraging children to rediscover architecture as a living part of their daily lives and to develop their own critical perspective and aesthetic sense.

Through this process, monuments are not treated merely as remnants of the past, but as living narratives revealing aspects of the city’s history and everyday life from their creation to the present.

For 6th Grade Primary, Middle School, and High School Students

The influence of history on students leads us to recognize museum exhibitions and historic buildings not only as monuments, but also as learning tools through an interdisciplinary approach.

The educational program “*The Architectural Heritage of E. Ziller in Thessaloniki*” offers student-centered activities with emphasis on:

- Active participation
- Group collaboration
- Guided discovery
- Interaction among students

The program is implemented through educational visits to the Metropolitan Church complex of Saint Gregory Palamas and the Museum.

It consists of two parts:

Part 1:

Students visit and are guided through the Metropolitan complex and the Museum.

Part 2:

Students conduct digital research at the Center for Research of Macedonian History and Documentation (KEMIT-IMMA), focusing on:

- Architecture of the 19th and early 20th century in Thessaloniki
- The personality of Ziller
- The city's history
- Population groups
- Literary and artistic production
- Economic activities of these groups

Main Objectives

- Familiarization with museums and historical monuments of Thessaloniki
- Direct engagement with their historical, aesthetic, artistic, and even therapeutic dimensions
- Development of oral and written expression through processing texts and information
- Engagement with poetry, literature, visual arts, and new technologies

Selected Bibliography

(Translated titles where appropriate)

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D. Interdisciplinary Framework

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