



DIY PARENTS

NEWSLETTER 01

LEARNING, MAKING & GROWING TOGETHER

What if everyday DIY could become family learning?

When we hear “DIY”, we might think about fixing a chair, making something from scratch or giving an old object a new life. But DIY can be much more than that.

It can be opportunity for parents and children to explore, experiment, solve problems and learn together.

This is the idea behind DIY Parents, a European project bringing together organisations from Cyprus, Germany, Italy, Poland and Spain. We are exploring how practical activities can connect creativity, digital skills, environmental awareness and family learning — while helping parents feel more confident in supporting their children. And importantly, we don't want to develop ideas for families without first understanding what families need. That's why listening is one of our important steps of our journey.



Listening before creating

Before developing practical activities, we wanted to hear from the people who know family life and education best.

That's why questionnaires were prepared for three groups:

- **Parents:** What are families interested in? What skills would they like to develop? What challenges do they face?
- **Educators:** How can activities involving DIY, digital skills and environmental topics become part of educational work with families?
- **Professionals working with families:** What barriers do families experience, and how can activities become more accessible and inclusive?

Across the five partner countries, the project aimed to collect responses from these groups. This feedback, together with research carried out by the partners, are helping us understand the different national contexts and identify common needs.

A first step together: Meeting in Poland

In May 2026, the DIY Parents partners met in Bobrowniki, Poland, for our first major face-to-face project meeting. Over two days, partners worked together to shape the foundations of the project and discuss what families, educators and professionals need. One of the key questions was:

How can we turn good ideas into practical activities that really work for families?

Partners worked on a shared framework bringing together different perspectives, including DIY culture, circular economy, digital skills, parental mediation, inclusion and adult education.

The meeting also marked an important transition: from discussing the project's ideas to building the resources and activities that will eventually be tested and used in practice.



A family challenge: "Can we fix it?"

Here's a simple idea inspired by the thinking behind DIY Parents that you can **try at home**. The next time something small breaks, resist the temptation to immediately throw it away. Instead, ask:

Can we fix it?

Choose something safe and appropriate for your child's age — perhaps a loose button, a broken toy, a small household object or an item that could be reused.

Then explore it together:

Look: What is wrong?

Think: Why might it have happened?

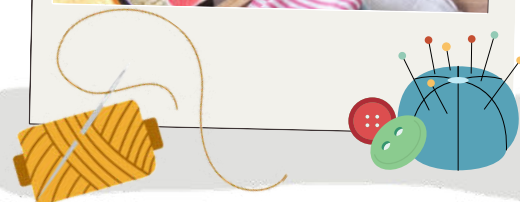
Try: What could we do to repair or reuse it?

Explore: Can we find information or instructions that could help?

Reflect: What have we saved from becoming waste?

There doesn't have to be a perfect result.

The goal is to experiment, learn and solve a problem together.



From research to practical resources

What we've learned so far is now feeding into the development of the **DIY Parents handbook and practical DIY activities**. Research, family experiences and insights from educators and professionals are coming together with ideas around making, digital skills, sustainability, parental mediation and inclusion.

The first draft of the handbook and activities will be **tested with experts** during our training in **Nicosia in November 2026**. Their feedback will help us refine the resources and make them as practical, useful and family-friendly as possible.

This is an important moment for DIY Parents because the project will move from research and planning towards practical experimentation. And that's where the real fun begins!

Less theory. More trying, making, exploring and learning!

One project, one simple idea

We believe that learning can happen anywhere.

At the kitchen table.

In a workshop.

While repairing something.

While searching for an answer online.

While trying something that

doesn't work the first time.

And especially when parents and children discover something together.

Let's turn these moments into opportunities for creativity, confidence, digital learning, environmental responsibility and stronger family connections.

Follow our journey as we learn, make and grow together.



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