

MAKE. REPAIR. LEARN. TOGETHER.



DIY PARENTS

Empowering adults and family figures
through collaborative DIY and digital skills



Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnership in Adult Education



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Why DIY Parents?



PRACTICAL SKILLS ARE DISAPPEARING

Repairing, sewing, maintaining and making things at home are becoming less common.



SCREENS ARE EVERYWHERE

Digital devices often occupy family time instead of becoming tools for shared learning.



WE NEED TO REPAIR MORE AND WASTE LESS

European families are being encouraged to reuse, repair and extend the life of everyday objects.



FAMILIES NEED MEANINGFUL TIME TOGETHER

Practical activities can become opportunities for communication, confidence and shared learning.

**DIY is not just about fixing things.
It can help families learn together.**

One project. Several everyday challenges.



Technology becomes purposeful. Sustainability becomes practical. Parents become co-learners.

We asked families and professionals what they really need



171
people
consulted



108

parents



22

Family-support
& wellbeing
professionals



41

educators

3 questionnaires



Poland



Italy



Spain



Germany



Cyprus



Different countries. Surprisingly similar needs.



LACK OF TIME

The number-one barrier for parents in every country could yield



Limited time and parental fatigue



Low confidence or limited tools

Few affordable local opportunities



Digital tensions and passive screen use



Families are interested.
The challenge is making participation realistic.



What we can **DO** with and for families



Simple household repairs



Parent-child DIY



Reuse & upcycling



Gardening & saving resources



Better ways to use technology together



Practical everyday skills



Low-cost creative activities



Interest in repair, sustainability and digital-skills activities is often higher than families' previous opportunities to participate in them.



DIY-PARENTS

Educators believe in learning by doing...

Hands-on activities can strengthen communication, confidence, responsibility and family connection.



...BUT THERE IS A GAP.



Not enough ready-to-use resources



Limited material on repair, reuse and Right to Repair



Many organisations are not yet ready to run regular family DIY workshops

WHAT EDUCATORS WANT



ready-to-use activities



step-by-step instructions



low-cost workshop ideas



short videos and visual guidance



inclusion adaptations



safety guidance



The missing ingredient is not motivation. It is practical educational infrastructure.

The research became a learning framework



6
UNITS



18
LEARNING AREAS



Each unit contains 3 practical learning areas.

♥ U1

Learning and Spending Time Together as a Family



01 Enjoying family time without trying to be perfect

Focus on curiosity, participation and enjoyment instead of the perfect final object.

02 Working together and managing frustration

Practise listening, turn-taking, patience and problem-solving.

03 Learning together without needing to be an expert

Parents and children explore, make mistakes and discover solutions together.

“

The parent does not have to know everything. Learning together is the activity.

”





U2

Using Digital Tools Together and Safely



04

Creating fair family rules for screens

Build realistic agreements about screen use and family time.



05

Turning screen time into shared activities

Search, watch, discuss, plan and create together.



06

Finding safe and reliable DIY information online

Check the source, safety, advertising, privacy and suitability of tutorials.



FROM passive consumption



TO shared problem-solving



U3

Learning to Repair Everyday Objects Safely



07

Check what is wrong before replacing something

Observe → investigate → decide whether to maintain, repair, reuse, recycle or replace.



08

Use tools safely with children

Introduce basic tools, safe habits and age-appropriate family roles.



09

Carry out simple repairs at home

Start with toys, textiles, furniture accessories, bicycles and everyday household objects.



KNOW WHEN TO STOP

Electricity, gas, hazardous chemicals, structural repairs and other specialist risks belong to qualified professionals.





U4

Reusing Materials and Saving Resources



10

Make new things from everyday materials

Use cardboard, containers, jars, paper and safe leftovers already available at home.



11

Repair and reuse clothes and fabrics

Buttons, seams, patches and simple textile transformations.



12

Grow food and save household resources

Herbs, small-space gardening, composting, food-waste reduction and responsible resource use.



Use what you **already** have.



U5

Making DIY Activities Easier for Every Family



13



Complete a family project in a short time

Activities should include a manageable core that can usually be completed in:

30–60 MINUTES

14



Do DIY with little money, space or equipment

Use recycled materials, shared tools and temporary workspaces.

15



Include children of different ages and abilities

Give everyone a meaningful role.



single parents



larger families



migrant families



multilingual families



disability



different ages

Good DIY activities adapt to families — families should not have to adapt to the activity.

Using Family Projects to Build Sustainable Habits

16 Use simple digital tools to solve practical problems

Visual search, translation, repair apps, image identification and carefully supervised AI.



17 Learn practical skills from different generations

Children + parents + grandparents + craftspeople + volunteers.



18 Turn one family project into a lasting habit

Repair one object.
Reduce one source of waste.
Grow something.
Save a resource.
Avoid one unnecessary purchase.



Older generations → practical knowledge

repair / gardening
/ sewing / cooking



Younger generations → digital knowledge

search / documentation
/ communication



One small project can become a family habit.

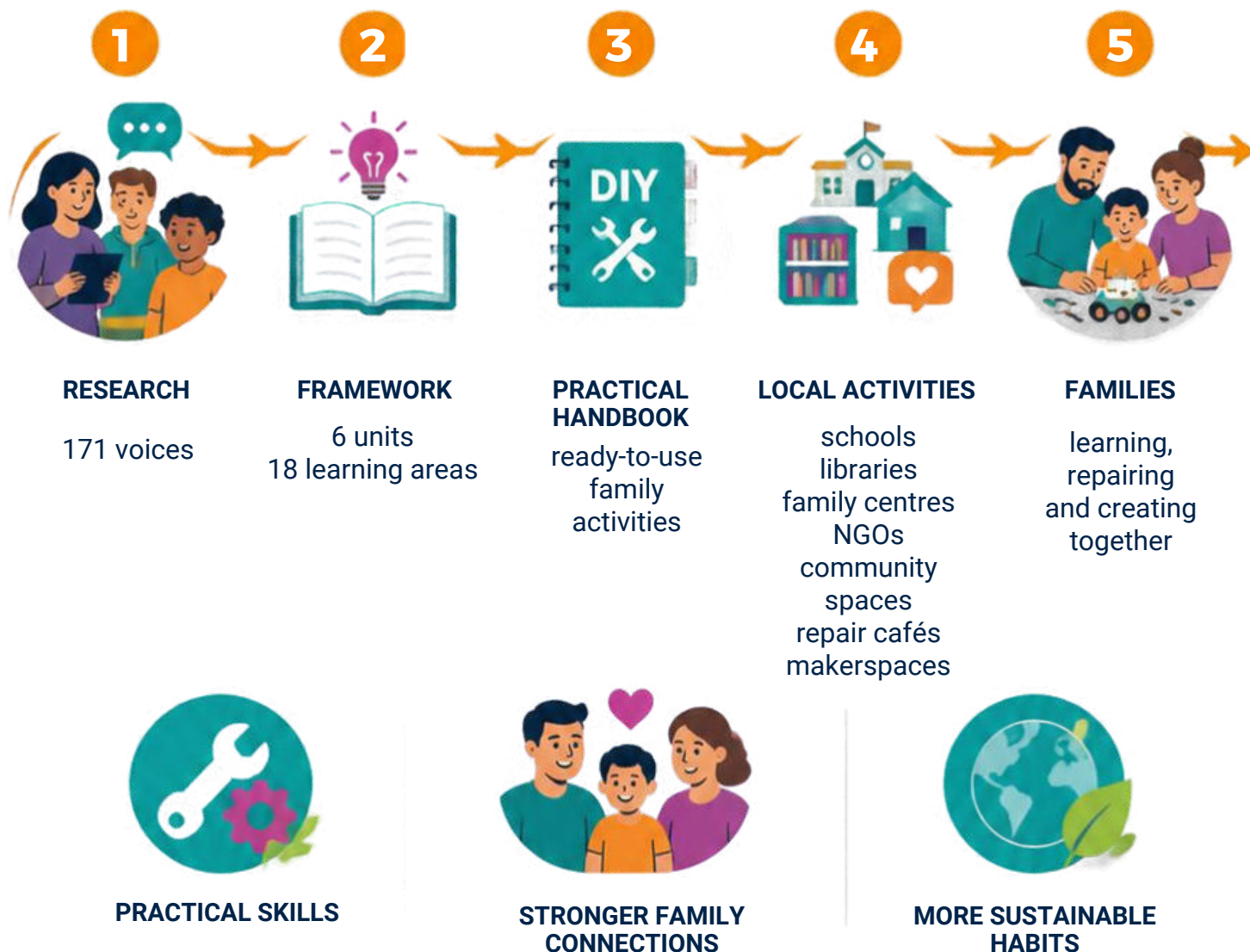
From a family need to a family activity




Success is not only the final object. It is also how the family learned together.



From research to real family experiences



**DON'T JUST THROW IT AWAY.
EXPLORE IT. REPAIR IT. LEARN TOGETHER.**

DIY Parents

**Practical skills + Digital skills +
Family learning + Sustainability**



All results are made available free of charge as open educational resources (OER).

