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OUR RESEARCH-BASED METHOD COMBINES


- Finnish early childhood education
- Language immersion
- Technology-enhanced learning
- Spaced learning

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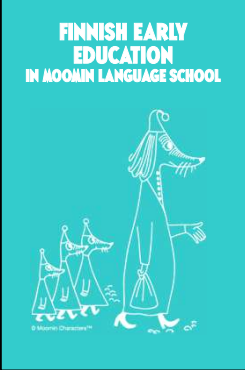
FINNISH EARLY EDUCATION


- Children **learn**, they don't study
 - Play is a natural way for children to learn
 - Playing, physical activities, exploring, interacting with others, artistic experiences and self-expression
- Holistic pedagogy: daily activities help develop multiple skills at the same time
 - Not just academic skills, but social, emotional, physical and communication skills as well
- Play and playful pedagogy is at the core of all activities
 - In play, children practice new skills¹, structure their experiences and learn about the world
 - Play reduces stress and problem behavior²

¹Myck-Wayne, J., 2010. In defense of play: Beginning the dialog about the power of play. *Young Exceptional Children*, Vol. 13, No. 4, pp. 15-23.
²Weinberg, D.S., Birch-Presk, K. and Gollinoff, R.M., 2013. Guided play: Where curricular goals meet a playful pedagogy. *Mind, Brain, and Education*, 7(2), pp.104-112.

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**FINNISH EARLY EDUCATION
IN MOOMIN LANGUAGE SCHOOL**

- Focus on playful learning
 - Playful, gamified learning with the learning application
 - Interaction and arts & crafts in playful lessons
- Developing many other skills in addition to language
- Children are comfortable and confident in learning through play because playing is a natural way for them to learn

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**LANGUAGE IMMERSION
IN MOOMIN LANGUAGE SCHOOL**

- Learning a language vs. learning *in* a language
- From 3 years onwards
 - Mother tongue is strong enough to support the new language
- Language is learned through play and normal daily situations
- Focus on encouraging children to use the language, not correcting grammar
 - Corrections done through modelling

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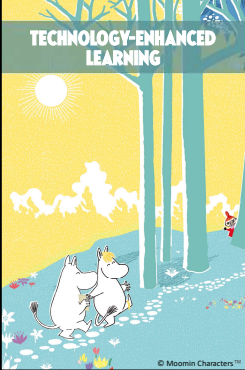


**LANGUAGE IMMERSION
IN MOOMIN LANGUAGE SCHOOL**

- From 3 years onwards
- Daily learning with the application
- Language is not explicitly explained but experienced
- Themes are close to children's lives and interests
- Focus on communication

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- Engage and motivate
- Instant feedback
 - enhances learning and supports confidence in using the language
- Detailed progress monitoring
- An easy and safe way to learn ICT skills
- Enables input by native speakers
 - pronunciation
- Offers a stress-free environment that allows experimentation and making mistakes
 - this is specifically significant with young learners

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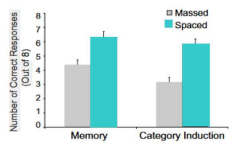
- Gamified learning with the learning application
 - Weekly language lab for pronunciation practice
- Instant feedback & progress reports
- Audio by native speakers of English
- A supportive and stress-free practice environment
 - According to teachers, even the shyest students have gained the courage to speak in English with Moomin Language School

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- We forget new information within days or weeks if the information is not reviewed
- The spacing effect: it's more efficient to learn a little but often (revision) than learn a lot at once (no revision)




Task	Massed (Out of 8)	Spaced (Out of 8)
Memory	~4.5	~6.5
Category Induction	~3.5	~6.0

Haley, A. V., Sandhofer, C. M., & Kornell, N., 2008. The spacing effect in children's memory and category induction. *Cognition*, 109, pp. 163-167.

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SPACED LEARNING
IN MOOMIN LANGUAGE SCHOOL




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- Playtime in the application
 - 5-15min/day
- Optimal amount of language training every day while maintaining children's interest
- Children are able to fully concentrate and make the most of learning

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FEATURES OF MOOMIN LANGUAGE SCHOOL
AND THE LEARNING THEORIES BEHIND THEM



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- Focus on verbal communication, not literacy
 - Communicative language teaching
- Short amount of daily study
 - Herman Ebbinghaus: forgetting curve and the spacing effect
- Learning via play, active participation and interaction
 - Lev Vygotsky: zone of proximal development, scaffolding, learning as a social process
 - John Dewey: learning by doing
- Encouraging and stress-free learning
 - Stephen Krashen: affective filter

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT



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1. How is Finnish early education similar or different to your own teaching?
2. Have you heard of language immersion before?
3. Have you used digital tools in teaching? In what way?
4. What do you think of spaced learning?

See you in the next video!

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