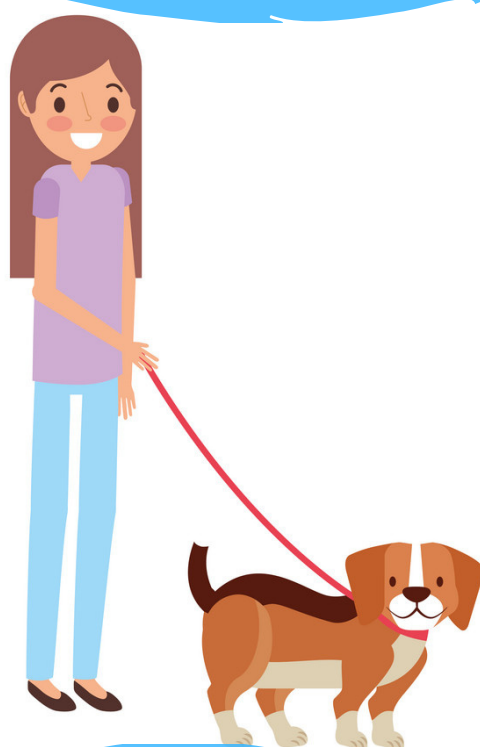


# BEAGLE EXPLORES THE UNITY OF NATURE



EDUCATIONAL PICTURE BOOK  
ERASMUS+ PROJECT BEAGLE



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



*Page intentionally left blank*

# BEAGLE educational picture book

## Beagle explores the unity of nature

### Authors

Nikos Vasilakos & Myrto Papaioannou

### Art

©Pixabay/Pexels/UIHere

©Canva

### Copyright

Materials can be used according to the:  
Creative Commons License – Non Commercial Share Alike.



### Disclaimer

*This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author(s), and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.*



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



AGENCY FOR  
MOBILITY AND  
EU PROGRAMMES



**beagle**

Bioethical Education  
and Attitude Guidance  
for Living Environment

# Contents



- Foreword\_\_\_\_\_3
- Additional remark\_\_\_\_\_4
- Fun facts to start\_\_\_\_\_6
- Main story\_\_\_\_\_7
- Beagle and Agape on the unity of nature\_\_\_\_19



# Foreword

In your hands you're holding the result of the second intellectual output of the project BEAGLE – Bioethical Education and Attitude Guidance for Living Environment. Project gathers partners from Croatia, Slovenia, Italy, and Greece, under the umbrella of Erasmus+ platform, with a common goal of promoting bioethical education, developing critical thinking, and overall changing of attitude towards better understanding of our environment.

First thing one might notice opening this picture book, is that there are very little pictures! Our intention was to create a unique tool for the classroom – one that can serve both students and teachers alike. Thus, this book is not only a didactic tool with educational stories and accompanying questions for discussion, it's also a creative one! It's a canvas on which students can express themselves freely, and engage directly into creating a story.

That being said, there are few distinctive parts of this book, which require further explaining. **On the left pages**, you will find main story of the book with information relevant to the theme. Each short chapter is accompanied by series of bioethical questions, problems or tasks that can be used to lead a discussion. Questions can be used together in one class, or separately, in few sessions, depending on preferences and resources of the teacher.

As the left pages are dedicated to reading and listening, **right pages** are designed for verbal expression, critical thinking, collective discussion but also, more importantly, for artistic expression and creative tasks. Right pages are there to remind the students that they are important part of our environmental story! It is their task, if they wish, to accompany the main story with the illustrations, or complete the creative assignments of their choosing.

At the end of the book, in separate there is the story of Beagle and Agape, teachers can use this story to explain to pupils how the interaction of a human and a dog can share something: emotions.

# Additional remark

Educational picture book "Beagle explores the unity of nature" is designed as an interactive multipurpose didactical tool. The book is published online, easily downloadable in PDF formatting, and free for use.

Keeping in mind the environmental message we try to convey, it is worth mentioning that the complete book **does not have to be printed in order to be adequately used in the classroom!**

Stories and questions, for example, can be implemented with the help of the computer or projector. Creative tasks and assignments on the right pages, which were constructed to follow the main story, and strengthen the message behind it, can mainly be drawn, painted, or in other creative ways performed **on a plain scratch paper.**

**For more info about the BEAGLE project and other open educational resources, visit:**

**[www.beagleproject.eu](http://www.beagleproject.eu)**



*Page intentionally left blank*

## Fun facts to start... ...did you know?

...Acacia trees can warn each other of danger by increasing tannin production when an antelope eats start to gobble up its leaves?



...Baby giraffes use their butts as pillows?

...One inch of rain equals 10 to 15 inches of snow?

...Our brains are shrinking over the last 10,000 years?

... Our galaxy is set to collide with the Andromeda galaxy?

...We will grow nearly 965 km of hair in our lifetime?

...Armadillos are bulletproof?

...More than 200 viruses can result in a cold?

...Caffeine is a natural pesticide?

...Your femur is stronger than concrete?

...Hurricanes release the energy of 10,000 nuclear bombs?

...The ocean produces up to 85 percent of the Earth's oxygen?

...Diamonds and pencils are made of the same material?





# What is the unity of nature?

## The idea that simple elements united form nature...

The search of unity and for simplicity is perhaps the most basic theme of all science.

At the atomic level, individual particles follow relatively simple physical laws and make complex constructions.

The basic laws of movement described by Galileo and Newton are very simple: gravity and weight.

Nature is composed from and decomposed to simple elements



# Questions for class:

In your everyday life, you use pencils to write, fruits to mix and prepare juice, water for washing yourself with soap, colors and water for drawing a picture using watercolors, etc.

Can you think of other ways different elements are used and mixed altogether?

**There are many more uses than you would imagine!**

**Write them below:**

**Household mixes:** soaps and water, colors and water, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Communities:** cooking together, different hobbies based upon mixing ingredients like pottery, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Farming:** mixing ingredients for plants, using different recipes in plant growing,  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Recreation:** hobbies, different uses of cold and hot water, thermal baths consisting of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Industry:** production of beverages, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# How do human break the unity of nature?

A lot of human activities can be dangerous for nature.

Humans interact and interfere to animal life.

You can prevent interference at home in several ways:

- do not destruct or kill insects and small animals, a hedgehog kills venomous mediterranean serpents and snakes, a spider kills mosquitoes
- also, never throw chemical products into the toilet or sink or in animals' nests!



# Questions for class:

- How do human activities break the unity of nature?
- Why do people interfere with nature?
- How does human interference affects nature?
- Where do toxic materials go?
- When air is polluted, is rain falling to the Earth polluted too?
- Do children (or small Beagles) break the unity of nature?
- Do you pollute nature? How?
- Do you remember if you have seen any interference to natural life?
- Are buildings interfering with animals?
- Are lights disturbing nocturnal animals?
- Why do we put obstacles in nature?
- How did Covid-19 affected city life?
- How did Covid-19 affected rural life
- Did plants grow differently during human quarantine period?
- Did animals increase or decrease during human quarantine period?
- How often do you notice an insect or animal close to you and what to you do?
- Are ants lethal?

# Why taking care of the unity of nature is important?

Our world is full of animals that live in groups and they do it for a few different reasons.

For one, living in groups helps some animals avoid getting eaten by predators. Some even join forces to take down prey bigger than them with less risk and effort.

Working together can also help them find more food.


About 8 billions of people all over the world wake up every morning and do a daily routine:

1. Wake up
2. Go to the toilet
3. Wash teeth
4. Half of them shave
5. Take a bath
6. Eat a breakfast
7. Go to school or office
8. Return to home
9. Eat
10. Sleep

**Life on earth is impossible without nature!**  
**Humans, animals and plants depend on nature,**  
**including you and our dear beagle!**

# Questions for class:

- How does air, water, soil pollution affect animals and plants?
  - How does nature pollution spoil the production of food?
  - Our little friend Beagle is a very curious dog, so he likes exploring remote places and he covers long distances ... in doing so he meets new friends!!! :)
  - Can our friend Beagle live without nature?
  - Do other animals have the same choice?
  - When our Beagle has no nest, can he sleep and be safe?
  - Do humans harm animals?
  - Do humans harm plants?
  - How long can you live without clean air, healthy food or clean water?
- 
- **If you were nature, what would be your main message to humans?**



**Can you imagine a future with no  
animals and no nature unity of  
animals, plants and humans living  
together?  
How would it be?**

*In these two blank pages, draw a picture of the future you  
imagine!*







# How can people protect the unity of nature?

Some people believe destruction of plants and animal life, as well as pollution is an inevitable result of human activities and human interference with nature.

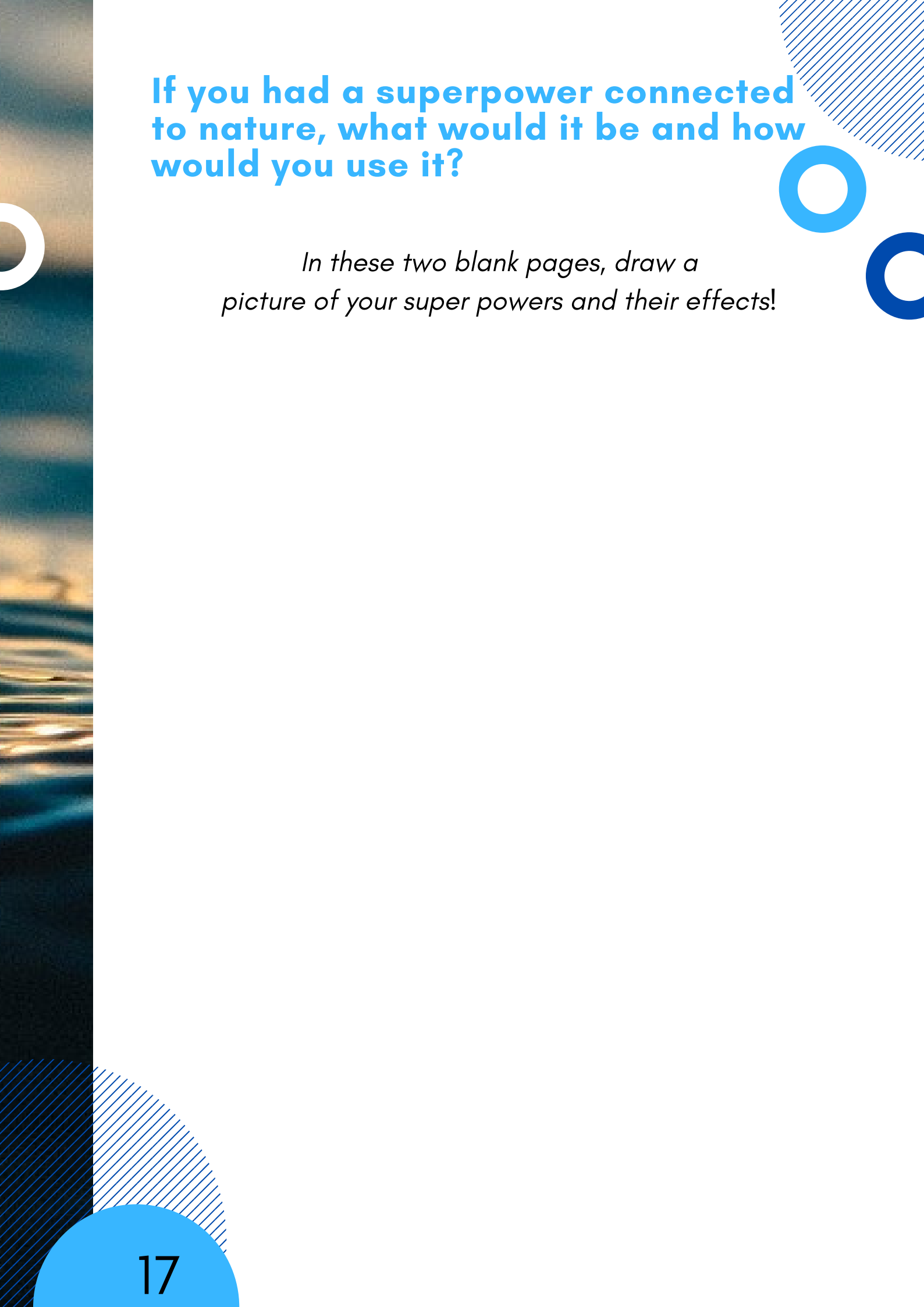
If we want to live in cities, have cars, trains, ships, oil, food to eat, services and goods of various kind, some degree of pollution is certain to result.

Animals and plants are deprived of their living space by human interference in their own respected lives.



# Questions for class:

- Is nature necessary to make progress or can we live as we do without nature, animals and plants?
- Can nature pollution be stopped? How?
- What can you, as an individual, do to prevent breaking the unity of nature?
- How can you help nature wisely, without breaking its unity of animals and plants living together in an harmony?
- How important is recycling plastic materials, to avoid that they get dispersed in nature?



**If you had a superpower connected to nature, what would it be and how would you use it?**

*In these two blank pages, draw a picture of your super powers and their effects!*





# Beagle and Agape exploring the unity of nature

Beagle is our little friend  
It is living in the street of a  
big city  
Talking with people  
And animals with no home too.

Beagle has a lot to explore  
As it is young and it wants to  
know  
Where it comes from  
And where it belongs.

Beagle knows it is different from  
the other world  
It cannot bloom, like plants do  
It cannot fly, like birds do

But Beagle must have something in  
common

With everyone else and it wants  
to find it out!

"I have an idea!"

Beagle is thinking,

"I will ask some other  
animal about its roots and where it belongs  
And I will maybe afterwards know  
the answers for myself!"

So, Beagle asks an ant which  
passing by

"Hello my friend ant, can  
you tell me

Where are you coming from and  
where do you belong?"

"Hi Beagle, I am coming from nature and I  
belong with my family,

With all these ants you can see passing next to you!"





So Beagle wondered:

What is nature?



Nature is the physical and the material world around  
us.

Nature can refer to life in general.

Nature is all the things that are not made  
by humans such as  
Living plants and animals,  
Geological processes,  
Weather,  
And the sun.

When we say nature, we think of the green  
areas

Or the blue sky,  
Beaches, the woods,  
Or wild animals and pets.  
We generally think of the living  
environment  
Along with areas that  
have not been changed  
by humans.



Beagle is happy. Now it knows more about  
its roots.

It is a part of nature, like ants  
and humans.

But Beagle can only see big grey  
walls

No rocks,  
No forests,  
No beaches.

It only wants to go to nature and  
play.

And so Beagle walks now through the  
city to reach its favourite park.

"Where do I belong?"

Beagle is thinking along the way

"If only I have a family too!

Everything would be solved!

I wouldn't search for food in the garbage


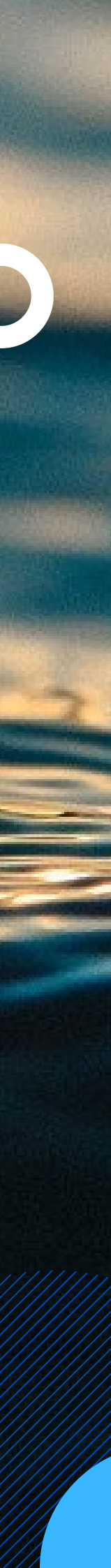
I wouldn't be cold in the winter

And

I could feel and give love..."







After some time, Beagle finds its  
favourite park.

It starts running around,  
Exploring the nature  
When a kid comes running towards it.

She takes it and starts playing with it.  
Beagle feels extremely happy.  
It feels connected with that kid.

"What's your name, my new  
friend?" Beagle asks her.  
"Agape!" she answers  
"Do you maybe want a home to stay, little dog?"

Beagle was full of joy.  
It finally found a family to love  
it!

A family to belong to!

Agape was also full of happiness;  
She has a new friend now!

Agape and Beagle are united!  
They are sharing common emotions!

Both of them feel happy when playing,

Emotions are something that you cannot  
see; Something that you cannot touch or  
listen to But emotions are something that  
you can feel.

When you love,  
When you are angry or in pain,  
When you feel happiness or sadness,  
You are experiencing your emotions.

Emotions are difficult to control  
And cause human beings to act in  
different ways.

○ They are very ancient  
And

○ some emotions can be seen in all  
mammals.

For more info about the BEAGLE project and other open educational resources, visit:

[www.beagleproject.eu](http://www.beagleproject.eu)



**BEAGLE partners:**

Association for supporting of informal education,  
critical thinking and philosophy in practice  
"Petit philosophy"  
(Zadar, Croatia)

STePS  
(Bologna, Italy)

Internet Now!  
(Athens, Greece)

University of Ljubljana - Faculty of Theology  
(Ljubljana, Slovenia)

University of Split - Centre for Integrative Bioethics  
(Split, Croatia)



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



AGENCY FOR  
MOBILITY AND  
EU PROGRAMMES



**beagle**  
Bioethical Education  
and Attitude Guidance  
for Living Environment

