

Guidelines on: The “European Story Suitcase”

An educational project from and about the European Union

There are two ways of using this project:

1. You can obtain the European Story Suitcase from any of the addresses listed on this site. The suitcase is often on loan to the entire region and it is also possible to get hold of it even if it is not in your local area. In some cases the suitcase can also be delivered to your school.

- What is in the suitcase?
- What do the objects refer to?
- What are the stories about?
- What does all of this have to do with the European Union?

In the suitcase there is a USB stick which will enable you to show the project on a digital blackboard.

2. If you do not have the suitcase, you can use the online version at www.eu.nl -> onderwijs.

You may use the digital version on the USB stick or web site to listen to the spoken stories in the classroom and answer the digital questions. However, you can also download the stories in pdf-format and use the work sheets.

Introduction using the suitcase

You start the project with an introduction by the suitcase itself, talking about all the places it has been to in the European Union and what it has seen and heard.

Group options

You then go to the ‘Group options’ screen and choose the group with which you want to discover the contents of the suitcase.

The range of options is determined by the level that the pupils are at and the learning materials and methods used in these groups.

Once you have selected your group, you come to the page with the stories and/or creative exercises. If you have the suitcase in the classroom, you can open it and talk to your pupils about the object and the topic you wish to work on in class. You then click on the object to hear the accompanying story.

Groups 1 to 4

There are no stories for groups 1 to 4, but instead a number of creative exercises on the topic of: ‘Travelling’.

- In groups 1 and 2 you can make a suitcase.
- In groups 3 and 4 you can make a passport.

Produced by



This story is part of
the European Story Suitcase.

More information?
www.eu.nl ► onderwijs

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Groups 5 and 6

There are eight stories for these groups:

- 1 Coal on: 'No more war'
- 2 Baseball cap on: 'Open borders'
- 3 Euro on: 'The euro'
- 4 Clog on: 'Agriculture'
- 5 Flower on: 'The environment'
- 6 Net on: 'Fisheries'
- 7 SIM card on: 'Mobile telephone calls'
- 8 Candle on: 'Energy'

Groups 7 and 8

There are ten stories for these groups:

- 1 Gavel on: 'The governance of the European Union'
- 2 Map on: 'The Member States'
- 3 Coal on: 'No more war'
- 4 Baseball cap on: 'Internal and external borders'
- 5 Euro on: 'The euro'
- 6 Clog on: 'Agriculture'
- 7 Flower on: 'The environment'
- 8 Net on: 'Fisheries'
- 9 SIM card on: 'Mobile telephone calls'
- 10 Candle on: 'Energy'

The subjects 'The governance of the European Union' and 'The Member States' have not been included for groups 5 and 6 given the degree of difficulty and the absence of these topics in the teaching methods for these groups.

The stories for groups 7 and 8 mention more of the EU Member States than the stories for groups 5 and 6, because Europe is a topic for group 7.

The objects in the suitcase are the storytellers.

Actors have given a voice to the objects so that each has its own character.

In this way your pupils can become familiar with:

- a friendly older man;
- a chatty, slightly mischievous girl;
- a streetwise boy, etc.

Drawings and photos will appear on the digital blackboard to illustrate the stories while they are being told.

Digital questions

A class discussion may take place once the stories have been told, but the digital questions can also be answered in the conventional way, in groups or individually.

The digital questions, including topography, are self-correcting in that they emit a correct/wrong sound. Correct answers are given a positive response!

We hope you enjoy the project.