

Learning to talk with autistic people

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

The European Project Erasmus Plus has represented for me the opportunity to see the role of people with autism within a working group, including and above all in the design phase. For so long, I have always thought about how to build a serene environment for these people, strongly inclusive and particularly focused on responding significantly to their special needs. Cooperative Learning has always been for me a resource used in this direction, but I have always seen it as a methodological paper that could be activated by seeing people with autism as recipients and almost never as peoples. The active presence of Damian Milton and the autistic panel in Birmingham made me look to the need to change the perspective of inclusion

WHAT YOU EXPERIENCE?

I have been so aware of the importance of talking about people with autism, as Damian Milton says, with people with autism and not just about them. That's why for me it was enlightening to have involved an autistic adult in this adventure. Along with the individual with autism, it was possible to revisit the training tools of the TAE program strictly and with a particular point of view involved, as well as I greatly appreciated its contribution within the expert group for the review of quality indicators

WHAT YOU GET OUT OF IT

Collaboration with the autistic adult has opened the door to reflection on the need to rethink inclusion not as a one-sided experience, but as a mutual condition, based on appreciation and valorization of our different ways of being and working on ' Inside a group. I also think that talking about autism by asking people with autism to include us better in their world is a significant added value

WHAT YOU DO WITH IT

In fact, all this has given me the strength to think about how to get people with autism into play, to which contexts and institutional paths they can be involved in the first since the very beginning. I think that future formations could be rethought in this perspective, especially as

workshops that see the participation of people with autism as well as conductors of the labs themselves. I also think in particular about the exhibition organizing autism every year and how one might think of a room designed and built by people with autism.

THE RESULT

This reflection leads to something that is still a work in progress, but I think already declining the reflection in possible concrete billboards is in itself a result.

I think it's useful to involve autistic adults in the future.

Roberta Sala: CeDisMa Team Member, Italy