



Nine-year-old International Students Present in the Town Hall Square

3D exhibition "Get to know Vilnius from the Ice Age to the present day"

What did the terrain of Vilnius look like during the Ice Age? And the Stone Age? How has the city changed after building the Gediminas tower and after redirecting the Neris riverbed? In which buildings in Vilnius today can we find millennia old fossils? What does the modern relief of Vilnius look like, and what will it be like after 700 years?

You will find unexpected answers to these questions in the 3D models and posters, which school children have created. They have delved into the history, geology and geography of Vilnius. On November 17 from 2-3 p.m., the American International School in Vilnius (AISV) will present their findings on the Town Hall Square.

It is unique that the creators and experts of this 3D exhibition, "Get to know Vilnius from the Ice Age to the present day" are just 9-10 years olds. These children are AISV fourth graders from a variety of countries: the Czech Republic, Israel, USA, Japan, Netherlands, Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania, etc.

"This Vilnius 3D model project combines history, geology, geography, smart 3D technology, music and arts, so it will be interesting for passers-by who are interested in various things. The intercultural aspect also provides intrigue: the international community is interested in delving deeper into Vilnius terrain, history, and for Lithuanians - to see the land you live in through the eyes of foreigners and native students alike," says AISV teacher Emily Igarashi. She, along with her fourth-grade team of Sydney Robinett from the USA and Nataliia Hlobina from Ukraine, have organized this event.

3D models were born when children were immersed in the changing lives of people and animals in Vilnius, by asking students the question "What is geography and how does it affect society?"

"We educate global citizens, teach children to get to know the world more deeply. Designing learning outside of the classroom is ideal for this and is interesting for the children themselves. By the way, this strengthens students' communication, cooperation and public speaking skills, and the project "Get to know Vilnius from the Ice Age to the present day" covers a lot of geology, geography, history, elements of learning literacy, writing and public speaking," says E. Igarashi. According to the AISV teacher, students have been working on this project since the beginning of the school year, during lessons in all subjects at school.

"The children examined the rocks used throughout the city of Vilnius, such as limestone on the floor of the local shopping center, smooth cobblestones on the roads, granite blocks on Gediminas Avenue. The students were especially interested in the laser system that monitors the Gediminas Tower which allows it to detect movement in a changing landscape. In science lessons, the children learned about rocks, minerals, the rock cycle, various landforms and their formation. In social studies class, they learned the skills of creating a map and using a map key and compass rose for directions. A guest lecturer

introduced the schoolchildren to important events in the geological history of Lithuania and the changes determined by them,” the preparation phase is very serious, as narrated by Emily Igarashi.

AISV, the oldest international school in Vilnius, has children from more than 30 countries and project-based learning is an important element of international inclusive education.

For more information: **Emily Igarashi**, Grade 4 teacher at the American International School of Vilnius, an organizer of the grade 4 project at the Town Hall; +370 672 10 021, el.p. office@aisv.lt