

# Meet My Soft Toy



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## An idea from:

**Romina Copetti - Sillitto Maria Teresa - Veljacà Sara - Paolini Cristiana**, ECEC educators at the Kindergarten "Non ti scordar di me-Grisulute-Avasinis", Alesso di Trasaghis - Italy. **In co-design with Zaffria.**

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**Age:** 3 years

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**Keywords:** #emotions #language #podcast #QRcode #photography

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**Key question:** *Can toys encourage children to talk about themselves?*

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## General objectives:

- learning about and expressing emotions and feelings
  - listening and dialogue skills
  - promote and strengthen language and communication
  - promote the psycho-physical well-being of the child
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**Time:** 4 activities of 30 minutes each, totalling approximately 2h

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## Materials

At school	At Home
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pc</li> <li>● Tablet</li> <li>● Recorder</li> <li>● Projector</li> <li>● Recycled boxes</li> <li>● Wrapping paper</li> <li>● Tempera colour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pc,</li> <li>● tablet/phone/digital camera</li> <li>● A4 sheet of paper</li> <li>● Sharpeners</li> <li>● Pencils</li> <li>● Pastels</li> </ul>

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## Software/ Apps:

Qr code generator	Book Creator	iMovie	Spreaker
<p><b>Objective:</b> creating a QR Code</p> <p><b>Media:</b> Computers, telephone, tablet</p> <p><b>Link:</b> <a href="https://it.qr-code-generator.com/">https://it.qr-code-generator.com/</a></p> <p><b>Alternatives</b> Integrated tool in google chrome, <b>bit.ly</b></p>	<p><b>Objective:</b> Creating digital books</p> <p><b>Media:</b> Computer; smartphone; tablet</p> <p><b>Link:</b> <a href="https://bookcreator.com">https://bookcreator.com</a></p> <p><b>Alternatives</b> Canva</p>	<p><b>Objective:</b> Audio/video editing</p> <p><b>Media:</b> Computer; smartphone; tablet</p> <p><b>Link:</b> <a href="https://www.apple.com/it/imovie/">https://www.apple.com/it/imovie/</a></p> <p><b>Alternatives</b> VN, CapCut, InShot, windows photos tool</p>	<p><b>Objective:</b> Publishing podcasts</p> <p><b>Media:</b> Publishing podcasts</p> <p><b>Link:</b> <a href="https://www.spreaker.com/">https://www.spreaker.com/</a></p> <p><b>Alternatives</b> Spotify</p>

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## Short Presentation

Children's favourite toys become a valuable opportunity to talk about themselves and discover new things about each other. At home children (with the help of a parent) will take a picture of their favourite soft toy. At school, then, with the educators, children will tell what they like and why they chose that toy in various episodes of a podcast. Each photo will be then linked to a Qr code to create an "art" exhibition with the toys and their "stories" in Kindergarten.

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## Step by Step

### Step 1

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At  
home

The educators invite the children through a video message, to choose their favourite soft toy or toy and take a picture of it, with the help of their families, and to send them to the educators. Children are also invited to bring their toy to kindergarten for the next step.



### Step 2

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At  
school

After taking care that every child has a picture of their own toy, the educators project the pictures and facilitate each child's story with open questions like: Why is this your favourite soft toy? What is your favourite thing? Which kind of games do you play together? The other children are invited to also ask questions.

#### **For distance learning**

In a video call, the educators show the pictures one at a time and facilitate each child's storytelling through stimulating questions: why is

	<p>this your favourite soft toy? What is your favourite thing? What games do you play together? The other children are invited to also ask questions.</p>
<p><b>Step 3</b> --- <i>At school</i></p>	<p>Each child records, with the help of the educator, a small audio interview in which they talk about their favourite soft toy. The interview becomes an episode of a podcast.</p>
	<p><b>For distance learning</b> Each child records, with the help of the parent, a small audio in which they talk about their favourite soft toy. The audio will then be sent to the educators.</p>
<p><b>Step 4</b> --- <i>At home</i></p>	<p>With the help of their parents, the children place the soft toy on a large sheet of paper and trace its outline. Starting from the silhouette, the children can represent their soft toy with the technique they prefer (collage, water colours, crayons, etc.). The parents can support the child's movements in tracing the template, but should let the child realise their representations as autonomously as possible. Photos of the children's works will be sent to the educators.</p>

## Conclusion

Presence	Virtual
<p>Using a video editor (iMovie), the educators edit together the images of the toy and its drawing with the child's recording. Each video will be associated with a QR Code</p> <p>An exhibition with all the children's drawings and photos of the soft toys can be organised in the Kindergarten inviting all families. (It could also be proposed to the public library or other associations in the territory).</p>	<p>Using a video editor (iMovie), the educators edit together the images of the toy and its drawing with the child's recording. Each video will be associated with a QR Code</p> <p>Qr codes with videos can be shared by educators with parents and uploaded on the school's website and social media.</p>

