

SKILLS AND COMPETENCES OF ADULT EDUCATORS: LEARNING EXPERIENCES WITH SENIOR CITIZENS

What is the importance of learning experience with senior citizens and its contribution for professional development?

ADULT EDUCATION PRACTICES

Intergenerational ICT Workshops

This learning project involves different generations in activities supported by ICT, focusing in different generations, adapting different pedagogical approaches and measures within a non-formal educational context.

The workshops were adapted to adults and seniors' interests and needs. They had part and involvement in their learning process and in the development of their skills and abilities.



ADULT EDUCATORS: PROFESSIONAL (OR VOLUNTEER) DEVELOPMENT

Roles

- Facilitate and motivate adults and seniors for lifelong learning.
- Find ways to reach and engage older adults.
- Teacher, guide, facilitator and trainer.
- Improve the quality of adult education.

Competences

- Obtain the trust and friendship of participants.
- Assess learner's needs and curiosities.
- Perceive individual needs and reactions.
- Adapt oneself permanently to different publics.
- Provide learners with support (in person and online).
- Acquire new content and new techniques.
- Assess the outcomes of learning and learners' achievements.
- Reflect upon and evaluate one's own performance and planning future practice...

FINDINGS

Adult educators need to adapt new realities and new educational challenges.

Adult educators require different abilities and roles.

Professional, personal and social competences and approaches based on experiences and challenges that practitioners face in their everyday work is determinant to improve professional (or volunteer) development.

Educational contents, methods, objectives and strategies need to be flexible and re-designed accordingly to the target group to increase the impact and efficiency of the adult education process.

Adult education, in the context of lifelong and intergenerational learning, can help to ensure adults to improve their literacy proficiency and is the key for anyone who wants to participate in learning.

