



THE MAGIC OF PLAY

The Problem Solvers of The Future

When we are faced with new problems as adults, we look at them from every possible angle. We study them, make predictions and pose hypotheses, discuss them with our peers, reflect on them and try all the different approaches we can think of - we *play around* until we hopefully find a solution. This process can take days, months, even years. At the same time, others rely on us, the very people who are supposed to solve these problems, to continue to care, remain interested, and work it out in the end.

Learning by Playing

The beauty of early childhood is that solving problems comes naturally to children. Children are natural-born problem solvers. We have to let them explore their worlds and solve the problems that they are faced with. There is no better way we can prepare them for the future. The best thing we can do to

prepare them for the future is to lend a guiding hand, but to also give them enough freedom to figure things out in their own playful way.

In fact, they learn problem-solving skills as part of their playtime. From building blocks to more elaborate role plays with their friends, it all depends on strategy and is bound by certain rules. The beautiful thing about playing is that children don't realize they're actually learning crucial skills. They learn about measurements, time, distance and their natural environment when they explore a funny shadow, and find out about force, weight, stability and material properties when they build sandcastles. By playing with their friends, they exchange knowledge and skills.

What we as educators need to realize is that playing isn't counteractive to academic learning, it is the very root of it. We need to encourage our students to

play in order to foster their exchanges so they keep sharing the things they've learned. As they grow, their interests will naturally shift, but if they remain curious and playful about the world, they will continue to learn in implicit ways.

Our Philosophy

At Amadeus International School, we understand the importance of playing and are proud to support this philosophy in our methods. For that reason, we are opening our own Early Years Centre for 37 students between 3 and 6 years of age this fall, where we apply the Reggio Emilia approach. We believe that every child is competent and will do our best to support them on their individual academic journey. We are recruiting students for our Early Years Centre now.

To find out more and to enroll visit us at www.amadeus-vienna.com.

AMADEUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL VIENNA

AV Early Years Center

- English Pre School/ Kindergarten
- 3-6 year olds
- IB Curriculum
- Reggio Inspired Approach
- Student Centered Learning
- Freshly Cooked Meals Daily
- School Events
- Beautiful playground
- Music and Arts Academy program
- Optional School Bus Service

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