

READING NESTS

OPPORTUNITY FOR LIBRARIES AND SOCIETY

5th Baltic Sea Conference on Literacy, Motivating for Literacy,
Latvia, Riga, 23. – 24. July 2023

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World
Europe
Slovenia



SLOVENIA



The total population • Ljubljana inhabitants • Total area in square kilometer • The highest peak at Mount Triglav

SLOVENIA BY NUMBERS

The length of the longest river • The total kilometers of coastline to the Adriatic Sea • Total number of islands

1.998.079

265.881

20.273

2.864

211

46

1





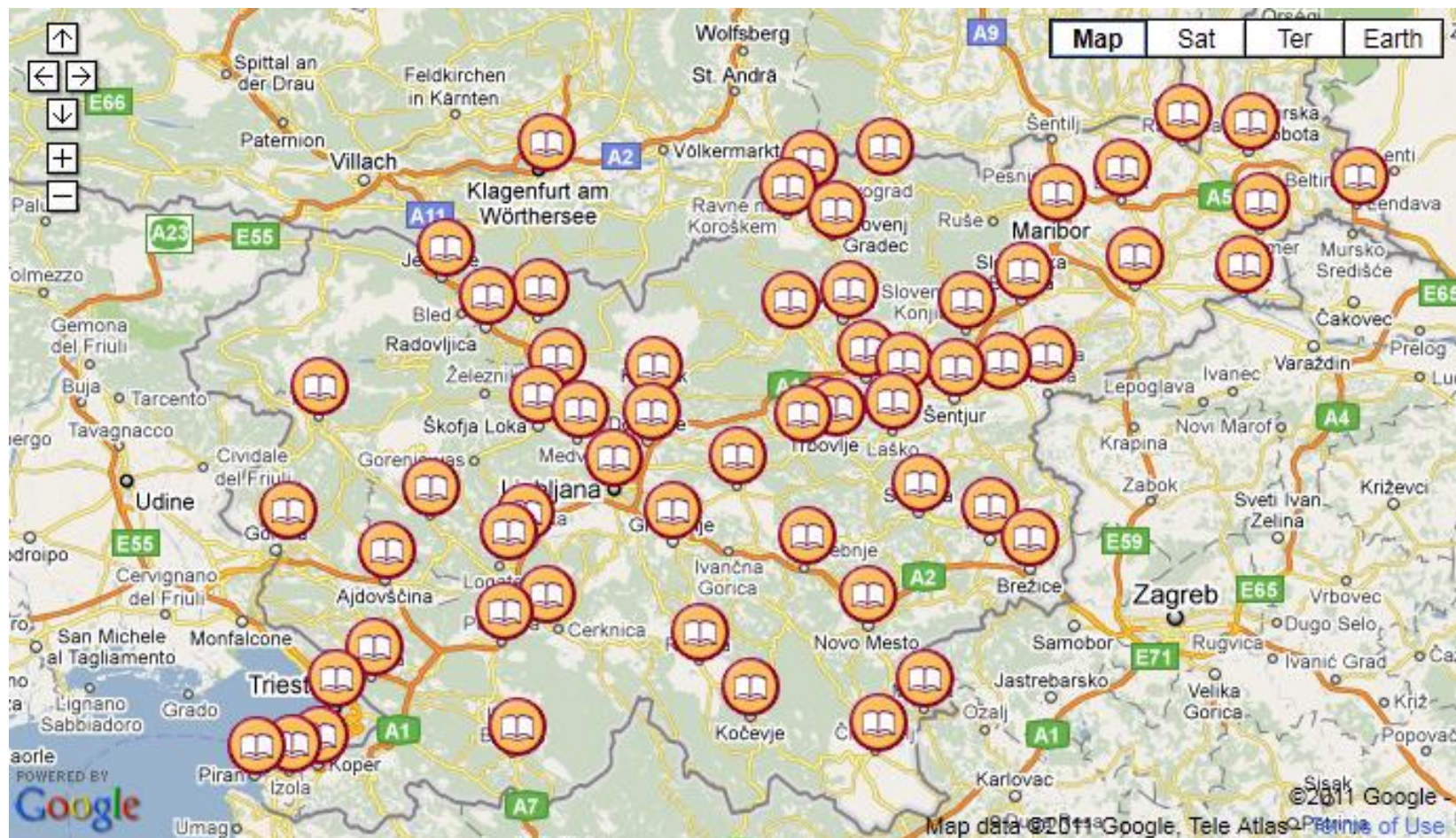
ISLE OF BLED





**ZDRUŽENJE SPLOŠNIH
K N J I Ž N I C**





PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

FAIRY-TALE RUCKSACKS

FAIRY TALES AND STORIES

COOPERATION WITH
KINDERGARTENS



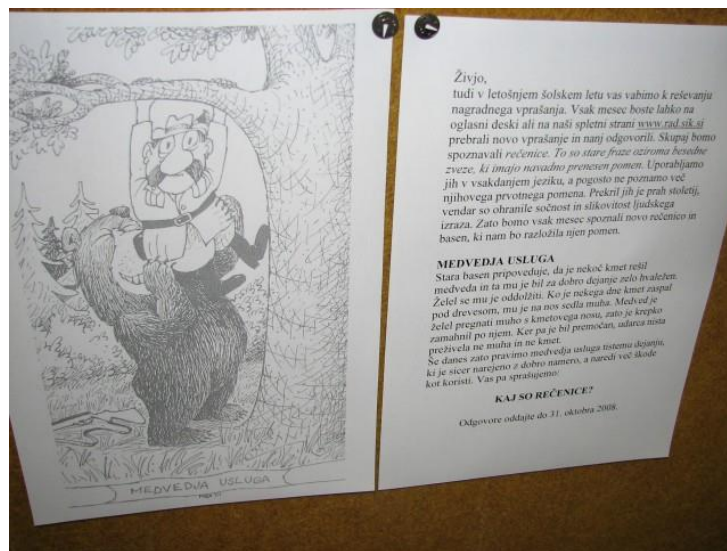
PUPILS

AWARD-WINNING QUIZZES

*LIBRARY - A UNIVERSE OF
TREASURES*

GROWING UP READING BOOKS

LIBRARY TOURS

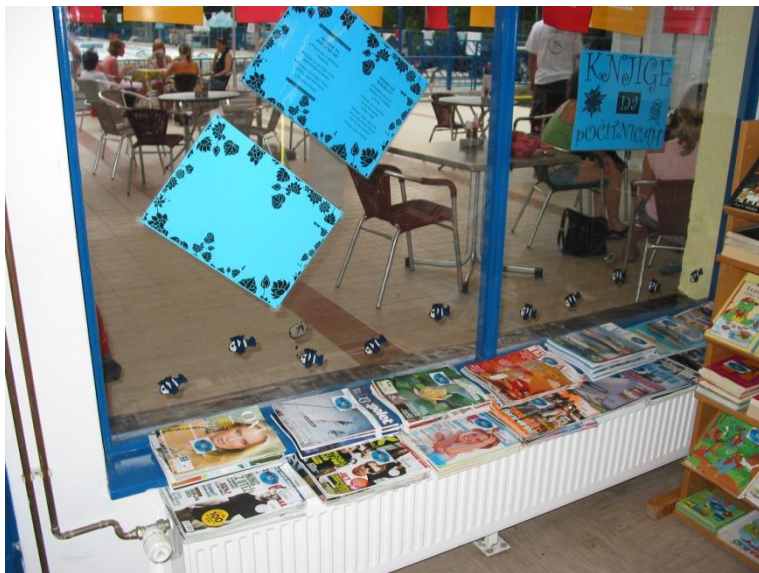


EVENTS FOR ADULTS



RADOVLJICA SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX

- STARTED IN 2005
- BOOKS AND MAGAZINES
- INTERESTING SELECTION OF BOOKS
- ALSO IN NON-SLOVENE LANGUAGES
- SUMMER POOL



THE AIM OF THE LIBRARY IS TO OPEN THE DOOR OF
OUR LIBRARY TO ANY NUMBER OF VISITORS FROM ALL
WALKS OF LIFE



- During the epidemic:
- the libraries were:
 - closed
 - partly closed
 - contactless borrowing of materials or borrowing via the post
 - offered only limited access:
 - the visitors were not allowed to browse books
 - open on specific conditions:
 - wearing masks
 - using hand sanitizer
 - keeping distance
 - the RVT rule



- the access to computer and reading rooms was limited or forbidden
- events were cancelled or took place via the Internet, reading encouragement events were adjusted to fit the epidemiological situation



Results:

- the number of visitors declined sharply
- especially children
- the number of borrowed materials decreased
- instead of children, their mothers came to the library alone and selected the books for their children



Kindergartens and schools:

- kindergartens and schools were closed in 2020 and partly also in 2021
- schoolchildren were schooled from home
- teachers and pupils had their hands full with the new way of teaching
- the encouragement of reading was pushed to the side – the only reading done was of the books in the school curriculum
- all this meant that only the already formed readers read, while others who need support and encouragement read much less or not at all



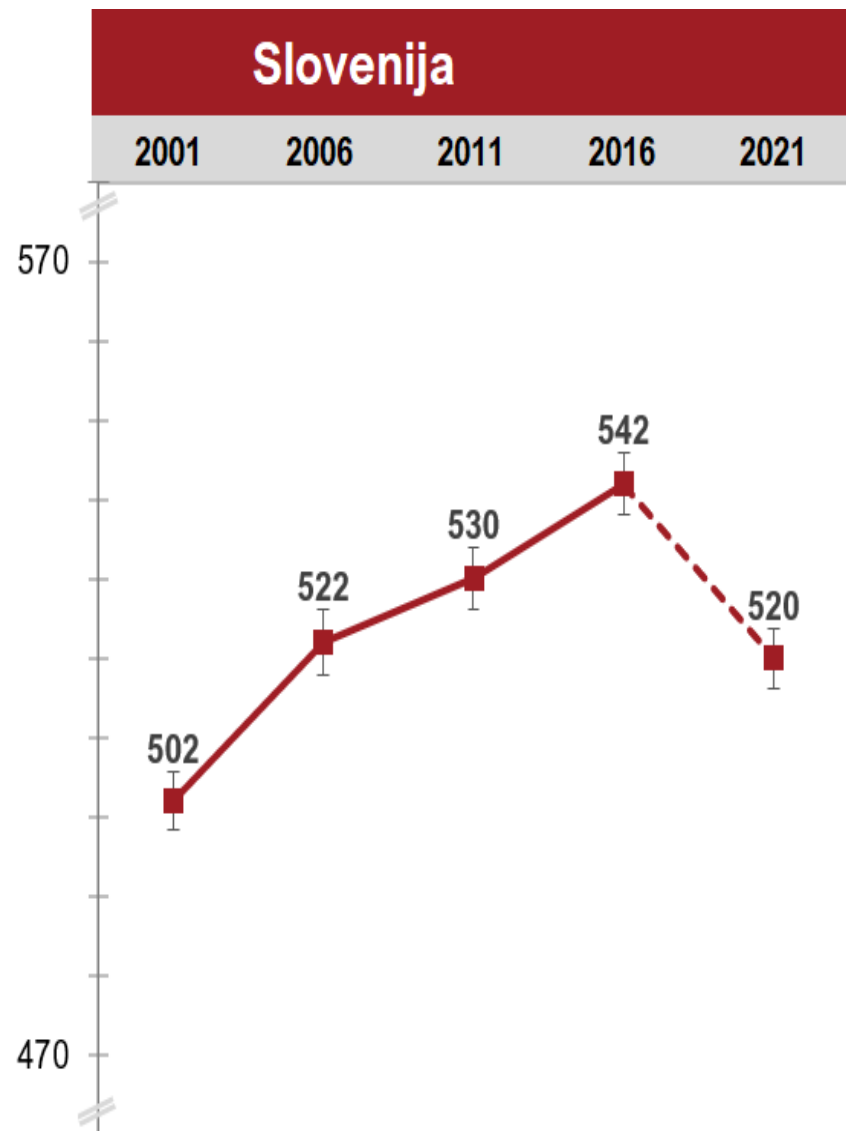
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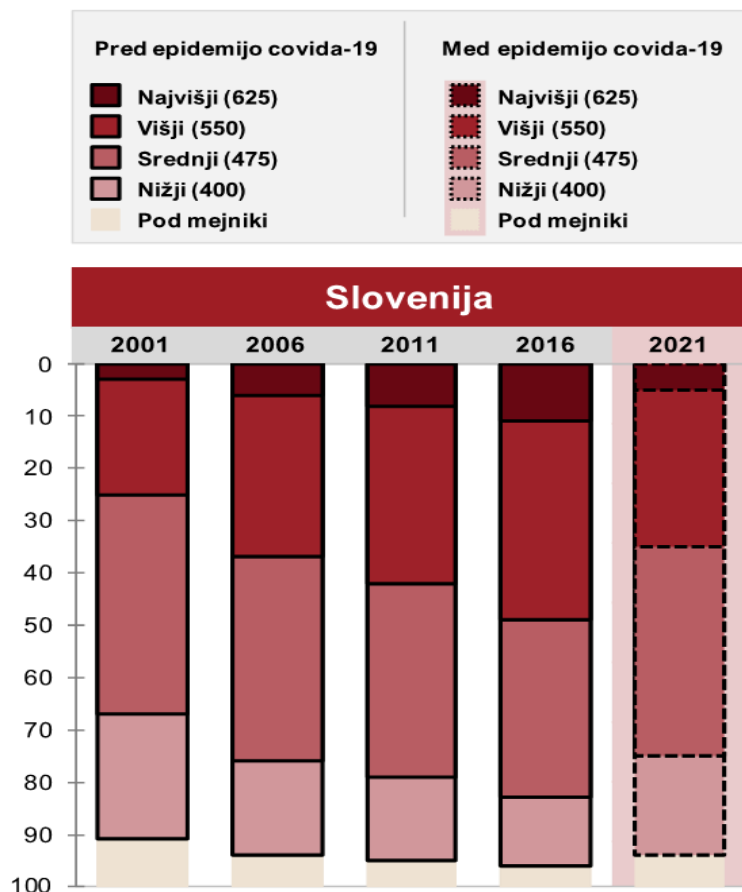


The results of the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study – PIRLS) for the year 2021 (4th grade pupils, 10 years of age on average):

- growth:
 - the level of reading literacy grew steadily between 2001 and 2016
- decline:
 - a sharp decline of 23 points in 2021,
 - back to 2006 levels



An alarming fact is a lower percentage of pupils who achieved advanced reading achievement, and a higher percentage of pupils below low reading achievement



PIRLS achievement scale:	2016 (v %)	2021 (v %)
advanced	11	5
high	49	35
intermediate	83	75
low	96	94
unattainable	4	6



The consequences for children and society:

- a child with limited reading and comprehensive skills is bound to encounter learning difficulties as early as in the second triad of the primary school, and the older they get, the more issues they will have
- the community loses the potential to become a highly developed society of innovation



What to do?



Setting up reading nests!



Reading nests are:

- special spots where children can take their books (swing chairs, hammocks; little houses; tunnels (big pipes); chairs (“thrones”) under mushroom-shaped sunshades) and leaf through or read them
- comfortable, possibly furnished with waterproof cushions
- offering some kind of shelter from rain or flying objects
- the books are stationed in a ‘little free library’ large enough to be able to house a wide array of books (fiction (stories, poems, riddles, etc.) as well as non-fiction (nature, science, etc.)), or in the little house itself
- the books are provided from the libraries’ weeded books



Where?

- next to libraries
- in children's playgrounds
- in public green spaces, when applicable
- next to sporting facilities
- outside children's playgrounds, where possible and allowed: in a clearing, next to a walking trail, in the middle of the forest, etc.



Why?

Reading nests:

- encourage reading for pleasure
- offer the solution to encouraging reading outside of established institutions (e.g. kindergartens or schools) and without the active support of parents and society
- acquaint children with books and reading as early as possible



This is a pilot project of installing reading nests to places where children (and their parents) spend their free time and is a form of indirect encouraging of reading.

The installation of reading nests is not expensive and can be implemented gradually.





The first reading nest will be situated at the bottom of the Straža ski slope

- in Bled:
 - walking path
 - ski lift:
 - skiing in winter
 - tobogganing in summer
 - away from the road
 - surrounded by trees and greenery





In Gorje municipality, three hayracks have been erected which are planned to house reading nests:

- next to primary school
- between the villages of Zgornje Gorje and Spodnje Gorje
- next to pumptrack and playground





Temporary arrangement as part
of a one-day event Forest and
Family Day





Reading nest in the library:

- in the children's section
- a big fairy-tale chair
- lots of cushions
- books everywhere
- very popular with children



The fairy-tale chair was constructed by Andreja Srna for her MA thesis at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design Ljubljana.





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