

## **CERME 11: Thematic Working Group 13** **Early Years Mathematics**

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### **Scope and focus of the Thematic Working Group**

Early Years Mathematics (EYM) concerns the mathematics education of children aged 2-8, spanning pre-school and the early grades of primary school (although with a different transition age in different countries). Researching mathematics education during the early years is very complex and depends on several cultural and institutional constraints. In most European countries, children enter pre-school very early, yet the conception of schooling and mathematics in early years is different across countries. Teachers are usually generalist, i.e., with no specialization in mathematics. The contribution of scholars in neuroscience to the study of learning disorders (e.g. dyscalculia) and the need to diagnose and intervene as early as possible, has added to the responsibility of identifying children at risk in this field, opening up a new strand of research.

### **Call for papers and poster proposals**

We particularly welcome papers that report studies on:

a) the role of signs and tools, such as natural language, play, manipulatives and digital tools (ICT), in EYM; b) the transition between manipulation and different kinds of representations; c) activity and task design for EYM; d) the transition between pre-primary and primary school in EYM; e) becoming a learner at school; f) creativity in EYM; g) EYM and learning disorders (e.g., dyscalculia): early identification and intervention; h) the role of pre-school and primary school teachers (and other responsible adults) in EYM; i) challenges in EYM for professional teacher education and development.

We welcome contributions from across the above spectrum (from practitioners as well as from newcomers to the field) that will deepen our understanding of issues regarding EYM. We expect authors to report systematic studies of EYM, to refer to the context where the studies have been carried out and to relate to the relevant literature in the field.

Papers and poster proposals should use the CERME template, and conform to the guidelines at the [guidelines website](#). CERME 11 uses a [submission website](#). The authors submit the initial version of their paper on the website (uploading it both as a .doc and a .pdf file, and providing the required information, in particular the TWG number).

### **Reviews and decisions**

Each paper will be peer-reviewed by two persons from among those who submit papers to this TWG. Please expect to be asked to review up to two papers yourself. The group leaders will decide about the acceptance of posters.

### **Important dates**

- **15<sup>th</sup> July 2018:** Early bird submission (please refer to the [early bird website](#))
- **15<sup>th</sup> September 2018:** Initial submission by authors in the submission system.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> November 2018:** Initial decisions on papers and posters sent.
- **24<sup>th</sup> November 2018:** The authors submit a revised version if needed.
- **5<sup>th</sup> December 2018:** Final decisions sent.
- **12<sup>th</sup> December 2018:** Final version uploaded.
- **13<sup>th</sup> January 2019:** Papers available on CERME 11 website.