

CERME 12: Thematic Working Group 13 **EARLY YEARS MATHEMATICS**

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Scope and focus of the 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 a complex endeavour 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 varies across different countries. The findings of relevant research reveal young children's potential to develop important mathematical meanings with appropriate mathematical learning experiences. However, a number of learning disabilities and disorders related to mathematics (e.g. dyscalculia), reinforce the need to diagnose and intervene as early as possible with children at risk and, at the same time, open 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, gestures, manipulatives and digital tools (ICT), in EYM; b) game based learning and its different manifestations in EYM; c) the transition between manipulation and different kinds of representations; d) activity and task design for EYM; e) the transition between pre-primary and primary school in EYM; f) becoming a learner at school; g) creativity in EYM; h) EYM and learning disorders (e.g., dyscalculia): early identification and intervention; i) the role of pre-school and primary school teachers (and other responsible adults) in EYM; j) challenges in EYM for teacher education and professional 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. Contributions referring to the specific situation of the pandemic and/or to distance learning (both for young children and for preparing their teachers) are highly welcome as well. 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 www.cerme12.it CERME 12 uses an electronic submission system www.conftool.pro/cerme12 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. The group leaders will decide about the acceptance of posters.

Important dates

- **15th July 2021:** Deadline for [Early Bird Procedure](#)
- **15th September 2021:** Deadline for submission of papers and posters.
- **4th November 2021:** Preliminary decisions on papers.
- **12th November 2021:** Preliminary decisions on posters.
- **2nd - 6th February 2022:** CERME 12 takes place.
- See www.cerme12.it/deadlines/ for other important dates