



**INTERNATIONAL PRE-SCHOOL AND PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN  
AND TEACHERS' STEAM CREATIVE PROJECT  
“LAI SKAMBA TAIKOS VARPĖLIS! / LET THE PEACE BELL RING!”  
REGULATIONS**

Our planet - Earth - is a value that we must nurture and protect so that future generations can make use of its resources and enjoy it. As responsible users of the Earth's resources, each of us can help her with our small daily actions.

The vernal equinox (March 20) was chosen for Earth Day - the time when the length of day and night becomes the same at all points on the globe. April 22 is the International Mother Earth Day, which symbolically ends Earth Month. On this day, one of the most interesting traditions is to ring the Peace Bell. It is a symbol of solidarity and friendship between nations. Its ringing reminds us of the beauty and fragility of our planet, of the need to nurture and protect it.

The first bell was cast in Japan, with coins donated by many children from various countries and an inscription was made on it: "Long Live Absolute World Peace". For the first time, it sounded in the territory near the United Nations headquarters in 1954.

**I. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

1. The regulations of the international pre-school and pre-primary school-age children and teachers' STEAM creative project "Lai Skamba Taikos Varpelis! / Let the Peace Bell Ring!" regulate the aims, objectives, participants, and the organization procedure of the project.
2. The international STEAM creative project is organized by Kaunas nursery-kindergarten "Gintarėlis" (Baltijos st. 28, LT-48252 Kaunas, Lithuania), director Gintarė Bosienė, tel. +370 37 377575, l.d.gintarelis@gmail.com.
3. The relevance of the international STEM project "Lai Skamba Taikos Varpelis! / Let the Peace Bell Ring!".

This project is organized to present the importance of environmental protection, to promote awareness of the beauty of nature, the fostering of peace and unity on Earth, and to invite educators

and community members of all nations to protect what is most important to all of us: clean air, water, soil, living nature. Our little acts can help save the constantly depleting resources and contribute to the preservation of the planet.

4. The regulations of the project are published in the *Facebook* groups "Auklėtoja auklėtojai (idėjos, darbeliai, pamokėlių planai)", "Užduotis vaikams kuriame patys", "STEAM visus metus" and in the closed Facebook group "Lai Skamba Taikos Varpelis! / Let the Peace Bell Ring!" (group link - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1577742386326303>) and on the website and *Facebook* account of Kaunas nursery-kindergarten "Gintarėlis".

5. Project regulations together with invitations to participate in the project can be sent to educational institutions personally.

## **II. PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

6. Aim: To develop the creativity, generation of ideas, artistic and environmental competences of pre-school and pre-primary school-age children, using STEAM educational methods (science, research, experiments, etc.), innovative and non-traditional methods. To produce, construct and model Peace Bells from secondary raw materials as a symbol of solidarity and friendship between nations.

7. Objectives:

7.1. During activities, conversations and discussions, to try to convey information about what the Earth is, how it and its wealth should be protected.

7.2. Through STEAM activities, to teach students to observe nature, study its changes, experiment, sort garbage and secondary raw materials, draw conclusions.

7.3. To develop teamwork skills, creativity and initiative of students, encourage children's ingenuity and to encourage the expression of emotions while creating the Peace Bell.

7.4. To develop the cooperation between pre-school and pre-primary school education institutions of the world, to share best practices in the application of STEAM methods in the field of education.

## **III. PROJECT PARTICIPANTS**

8. Pupils, teachers, educational support specialists from all kindergartens and pre-school education institutions in Lithuania and the world are invited to participate in the international STEAM creative project "Lai Skamba Taikos Varpelis! / Let the Peace Bell Ring!".

9. The number of participants from one institution is not limited.

#### IV. PROJECT ORGANISATION, ORDER AND DURATION

10. Organizers of the international STEAM creative project "Lai Skamba Taikos Varpelis! / Let the Peace Bell Ring!":

Kaunas nursery-kindergarten "Gintarėlis" teachers: Teacher-Methodologist Rita Pčalinienė, Senior Teacher Kristina Konstantinova, Senior Teacher Irma Zakarevičienė. The coordinator of the international STEAM creative project is Rytis Jezukevičius, deputy director of education at Kaunas nursery-kindergarten "Gintarėlis".

11. If you have any questions, contact by e-mail [taikosvarpelis@gmail.com](mailto:taikosvarpelis@gmail.com) or phone +370 684 03077, +370 37 377575. **Project duration 2024 March 18 - April 26.**

12. Participants who wish to receive a methodological activity certificate, must fill out the online participant form (<https://forms.gle/mEY4MaV7rqVa2TKB6>) from 03/18/2024 to 04/26/2024.

13. Participants, when creating Peace Bells, choose STEAM methods and tools on their own. It is suggested to create, for example: from household waste, secondary raw materials, natural material, etc.

14. Educators participating in the project select the best quality photos or photo collages of Peace Bells and the process of making them and upload them to the closed *Facebook* group "Lai Skamba Taikos Varpelis! / Let the Peace Bell Ring!" link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1577742386326303>

Children's faces must not be visible in the photos.

15. **Photos must be uploaded between March 18, 2024 and April 26, 2024.** The name of the participating country, city, name of the educational institution, name of the author or group of authors, age, name and surname of the teacher must be written next to each photo or photo collage.

**Example:**

Name of participating country:

City:

Name of educational institution:

Name of the author of the work / name of the group:

Age:

Name and surname of the teacher:

16. Entries that meet the requirements of the project regulations will be approved for exhibition by the project's *Facebook* group administrators.

## V. FINAL REGULATIONS

17. For those interested in the international STEAM creative project's "Lai Skamba Taikos Varpelis! / Let the Peace Bell Ring!" methodical activity certificates and a certificate of appreciation, these will be prepared and uploaded to the closed "Let Peace Bell Ring! / Let the Peace Bell Ring!" *Facebook* group.
18. Participants who wish to receive a methodical activity certificate will have to fill out an online participant form (<https://forms.gle/mEY4MaV7rqVa2TKB6>) after posting their submissions.
19. All project participants will receive a certificate of appreciation, which will be uploaded to the closed "Lai Skamba Taikos Varpelis! / Let the Peace Bell Ring!" *Facebook* group.
20. By submitting works, the author becomes a participant in the STEAM creative project and confirms that She/He is the author of the uploaded photos. The person who submitted the photos is responsible for copyright infringements, if any.
21. The organizer acquires the right to use the photos for informational and educational purposes (without the author's consent).
22. The organizer reserves the right to publish the works of the participants at their discretion.
23. Photos must be uploaded to the "Lai Skamba Taikos Varpelis! / Let the Peace Bell Ring!" *Facebook* group only starting from and until the specified end dates. Photos that do not meet the technical requirements and/ or the theme of the project will not be exhibited.
24. Participation in the project is considered as the consent of the authors to these terms and conditions.
25. The project organizer, if necessary, reserves the right to change the rules and conditions of participation.

## COMMENTARY

Education institutions in Lithuania or abroad, engaged in pre-school education and/or early childhood education and interested in exploring potential partnerships for implementing national or international projects, can confidently contact the following:

Contact person:

Rytis Jezukevičius

Email: [rytis.jezukevicius@gmail.com](mailto:rytis.jezukevicius@gmail.com)