



VÄIKE PÄIKE INTERNATIONAL

Early childhood expertise from Estonia

We run early childhood services, train the people who run them, and build the tools that make every child's development visible.

"Väike Päike" means "Little Sun" · Tallinn & Tartu · October 2026



WHY EARLY CHILDHOOD. WHY NOW.

The world children are growing into is changing faster than ever. The human capabilities they will rely on begin developing in the first years of life.

Curiosity

The drive to explore, ask and find out

Self-regulation

Managing emotions and attention, and bouncing back

Creativity

Imagining and trying new solutions

Relationships

Empathy, cooperation and communication

Learning to learn

Adapting quickly as the world keeps changing

In the age of AI, these human capabilities matter more than ever – and their foundations are laid between birth and age seven.

Official early childhood partner of **Eesti.ai**, Estonia's national AI initiative

175M

pre-primary-age children worldwide are still outside pre-primary education

9.3M

additional pre-primary teachers needed to reach universal access by 2030

6.6%

of domestic education budgets go to pre-primary education

WHO WE ARE

We have been building and operating early childhood services since 2003.

20+

years of early childhood practice,
since 2003

14

kindergartens and childcare centres
in 5 municipalities

~500

children aged 1–7 in daily care and
education

~160

teachers, assistants and specialists

15+

municipalities use our self-regulation
programme

400+

in hobby school; holiday camps up to
age 10

INSIDE OUR CENTRES

What everyday practice looks like



Outdoor learning

Creative play in the outdoor mud kitchen · Tartu



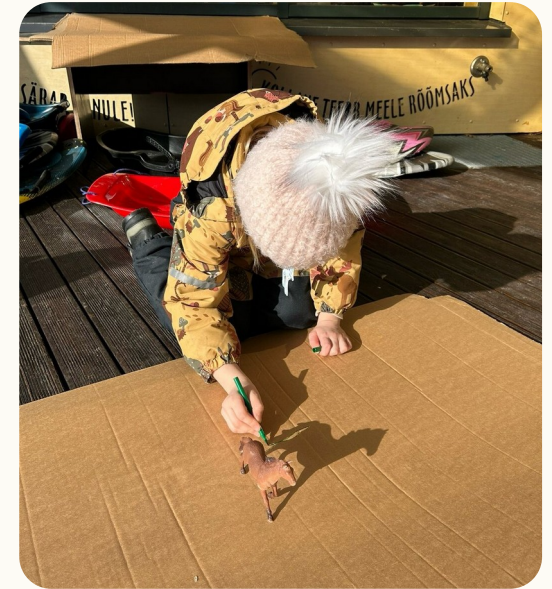
Nature days

Forest hikes and building huts from branches · Viimsi



Digital play

Coding robots and digital shape puzzles · Viimsi



Inquiry and STEAM

Tracing shadows on the terrace · Viimsi

OUR ECOSYSTEM

One ecosystem – every layer built to solve a real problem in our own centres



The child
at the centre

Practice

14 centres where ideas are tested every day

Knowledge

Child development, pedagogy, quality and service economics

Support

Early identification and timely support for child and family

Systems

Two decades of work with municipalities, funding and regulation

People

Teachers, specialists and leaders developed in-house

Training

Our Training Centre turns know-how into programmes

Digital

DigiLa makes development visible to teachers and parents

WHY PARTNERS CHOOSE US

Deep 0–7 expertise. From the child to the system.

Large consultancies bring breadth across sectors and countries. We bring depth in one field: early childhood, in every layer, run every day.



Operations Quality that works within budget: staffing models, cost per child, management data

Digital DigiLa connects child development data across every layer

We complement research and advisory expertise with the practical capability to make solutions work in real early childhood environments.

What Estonia adds to your project

High-performing education

First in Europe in PISA 2025 in science, maths and computational problem solving; second in reading.

For partners: access to the everyday practice behind the results

Digital-by-default society

Digital public services, secure data exchange and trust by design are part of everyday life.

For partners: DigiLa, and our role as official early childhood partner of Eesti.ai

Compact implementation environment

Short distances from policy to practice. Since 2025, one early childhood system and one curriculum for ages 1.5–7.

For partners: first-hand insight into how reform reaches practice – we implemented it in all our centres

A 2026 study for ESTDEV, Estonia's development cooperation agency, names strong early childhood education among Estonia's exportable strengths.

WHAT WE BRING

Four offers, one method – and we stay through implementation



Early Childhood Systems Development

Service mapping, funding models (money follows the child, PPP), network planning, quality frameworks, centre operating models

Training Centre

Train-the-trainer programmes, on-site training, study visits and Erasmus+ courses in Estonia

Digital Early Childhood (DigiLa)

Child development tracking, teacher tools, family engagement and management data

Pilot & Demonstration Environment

Our centres as pilot sites, demonstration sites and study-visit destinations

HOW WE PARTNER

Six ways to work with us – we fit where early childhood expertise is decisive

WHERE WE USUALLY START

Specialist partner

Key experts for 0–7 components:
pedagogy, quality, workforce, monitoring

WHERE WE USUALLY START

Implementation partner

Turning strategy, policy or research into
services that work

Training partner

Developing teachers, leaders and trainers;
study visits in Estonia

Digital partner

DigiLa for child development, teacher
workflow and data

Pilot partner

Testing new models in our centres before
they scale

Lead partner

Selected projects at the core of our
expertise

Available as consortium member, subcontractor, key expert or roster partner. We usually start as **specialist or implementation partner** alongside a lead organisation.

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

20+ years of building, testing and implementing early childhood solutions

2025–26 · Social Insurance Board

Triple P Baby national pilot

ESF-funded: 20 trainers trained, parents reached in four counties

Since 2025 · Tallinn Teachers' House

STEAM methodology for Ukraine

Methodology and 50 activity cards for Ukrainian early childhood educators

Since 2020 · 15+ municipalities

Self-regulation programme

Materials and teacher training for children's self-regulation across Estonia

2015–25 · Ministry of Education

Early childhood law working group

A decade of practitioner input to Estonia's new early childhood law

2025–26 · Ministry; Qualifications Authority

Curriculum guidance and standards

National curriculum guidance for childcare; childminder professional standard

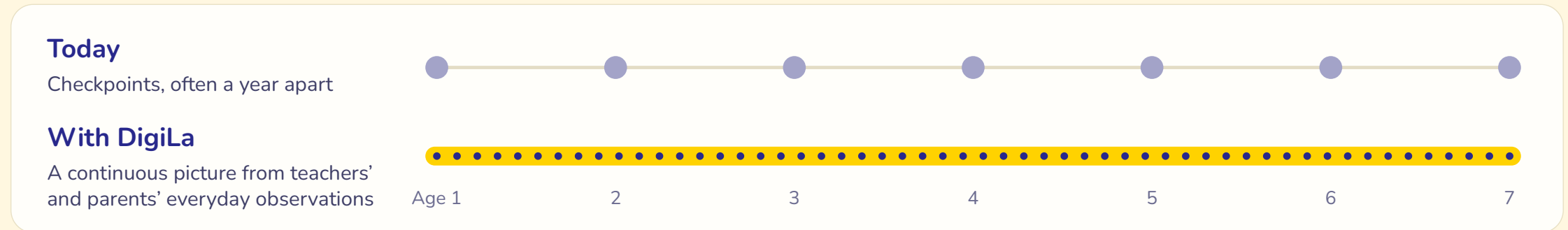
Since 2026 · Government Office

Eesti.ai national AI training

Official early childhood partner in Estonia's national AI training programme

THE DIGITAL LAYER

Development is usually recorded in snapshots. DigiLa shows the whole journey.



Teachers

Structured observations with less paperwork

Leaders

Group- and centre-level view of development and quality

Parents

See their child's progress; PisiDigiLa from age one

Systems

Aggregated data for planning and quality assurance

In daily use across all Väike Päike centres. Next-generation platform in development. Seeking international pilot partners for 2027. Built in the EU, privacy by design.

LET'S TALK

Where we can create value together

Joint bids and consortia

Specialist or implementation partner for 0–7 components in EU, development cooperation and public tenders

Early childhood implementation and pilots

Turning strategies and programmes into working services, with our centres as pilot and demonstration sites

Training and digital partnerships

Train-the-trainer programmes, study visits in Estonia and DigiLa for child development data

If your project includes children aged 0–7, let's talk.

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