Aarhus 2015 CONFERENCE

LibreItalia: growing up on bread and FreeSoftware

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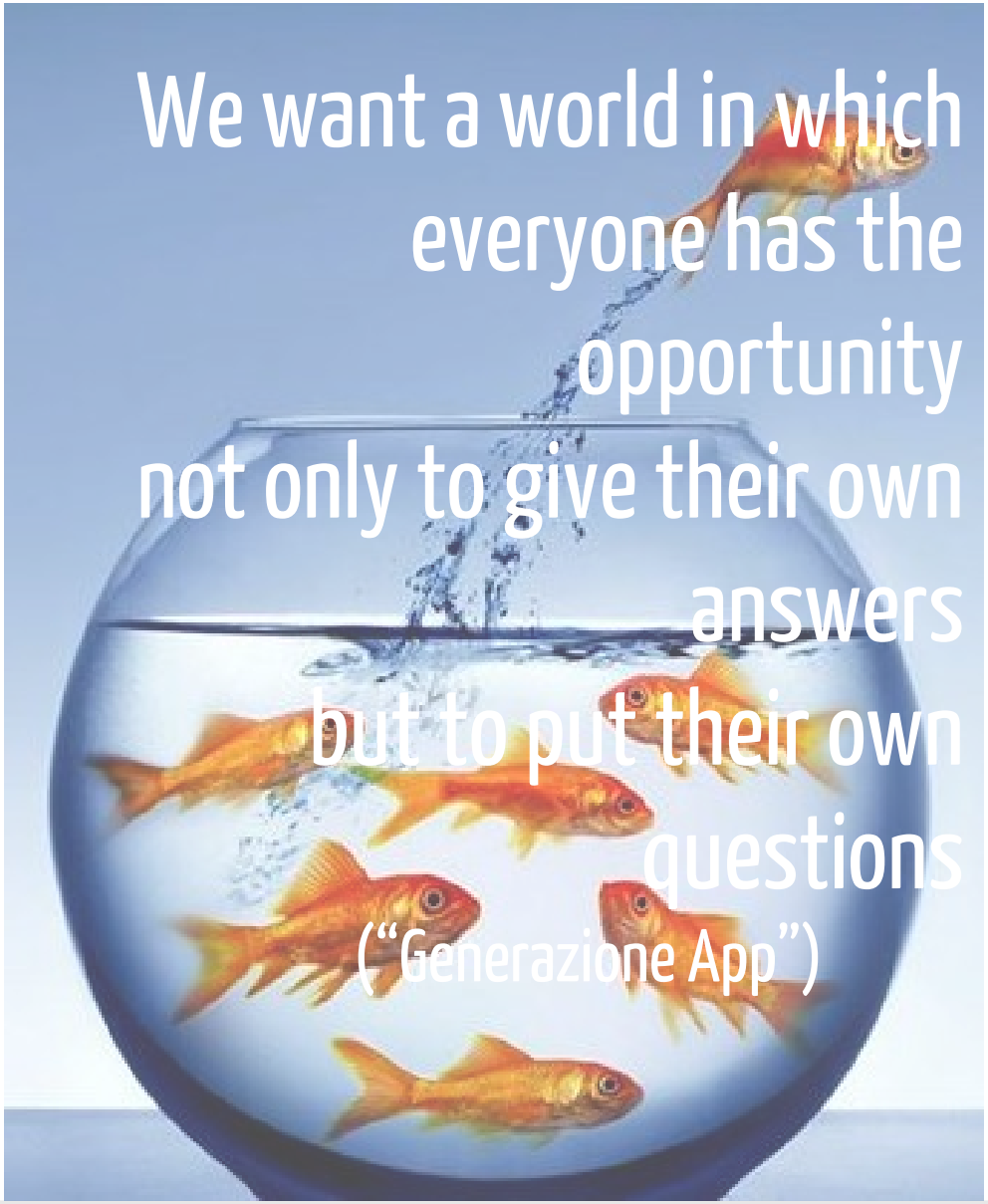
LibreItalia

Introduction

- Growing on bread and FreeSoftware is a LibreItalia program devoted to disseminate the Open Source and Open Data concepts on **young generations**
- LibreOffice is the friend we chose to reach the goal and to show how simply are such concepts
- Security, awareness, communication are other keywords well exploited in the project



LibreOffice at the elementary school

Who? 37 children 10 years old and 3 teachers

When? From December to April 2015

Where? In a little town, Todi, in Umbria

What? Production of a newspaper with LibreOffice Draw

Why? To migrate to LibreOffice **37** families **in a day!**

The story in a video

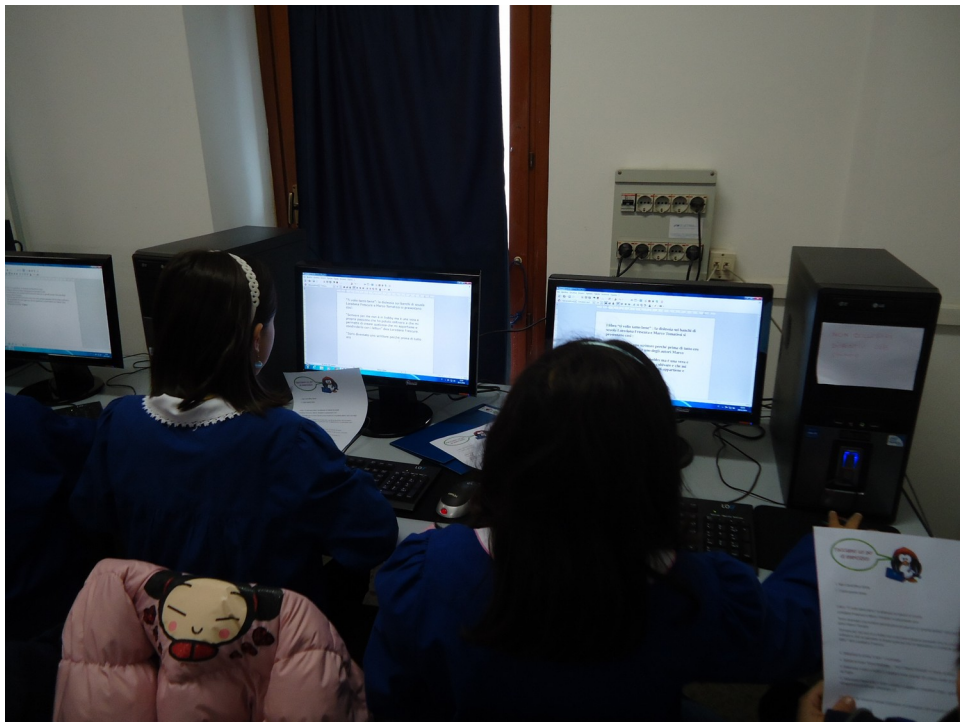
The message is LibreOffice is your friend!

But … how to make LibreOffice “sexy”?

Foto di Jeff Trexler, Flickr

LibreOffice is irresistible if ...

- You adopt a simple language
- Children use a PC
- You provide many examples
- You identify a cool “product” to be produced



Internet safer day

Don't forget the certificate!

LibreOffice for the trainers

Who? 50 trainers & 8 high school students

When? From December to June 2015

Where? High school: Gubbio and Perugia

What? A course to become **LibreOffice trainers**

Why? To manage courses for students tough by parents

Seminars and training sessions

LibreOffice in a secondary school

- 20 students of the Liceo Scientifico – Artistico – Sportivo “G. Marconi” Foligno attended a course on LibreOffice exploring the most attractive feature
- An unconventional course, to attract the attention of the young generations
- All components explored
- Made possible by the cooperative work of 4-5 LibreItalia members, living in the are
- Final attendance certificates issued

Sample Program (20 hrs)

Lesson	Argument
1	Introduction to Free Software and Open Data
2	Introduction to LibreOffice – presentation of the components Writer, Calc, Impress, Draw, Base
3	Writer: formatting and Tables
4	Writer: images and shapes. Write a sample letter to be sent to friends to invite them to the birthday
5	Writer: Mail Merge. Send a letter to friends inviting them to the birthday
6	Writer: Summary and execises
7	Image editing: GIMP
8	Calc: formulae and functions
9	Calc: graphics
10	Calc: conditioned formatting
11	Calc: Pivot tables
12	Calc: summary and exercises
13	Preparing a multimedia presentation
14	Impress: create slides
15	Impress: animations
16	Impress: summary and exercises
17	Draw: image manipulation and multimedia files
18	Draw: graphics and text
19	Draw: summary and exercises
20	Summary and conclusion of the course

How to strengthen the activity

- We are organizing the follow-up activities for the new year
- The idea is to extend to the other students the same program and to proceed with a new program with the past year students
- The target for next year is to allow these students to pass the ECDL Certification Program
- We are also planning some activities involving some teachers
- We are signing formal agreements with schools
- Sustainability issues :-)

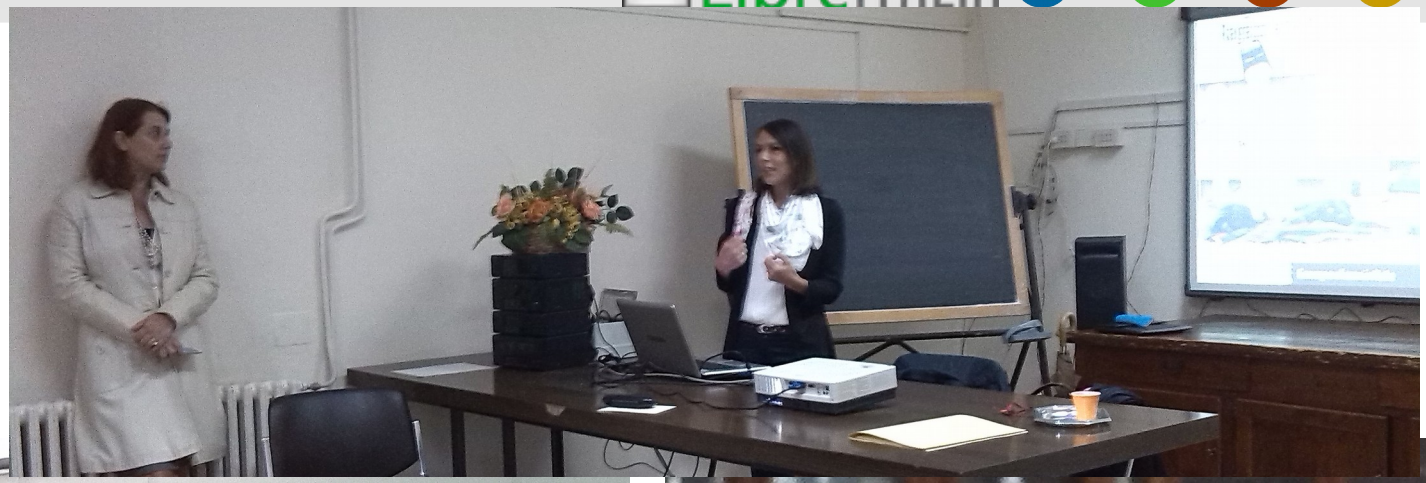
Libre as Freedom!

- LibreOffice gives us the chance to talk about **Freedom**, which has an intrinsic strength
- Freedom to choose Open Source / **Freesoftware**
- Freedom to choose **Open Standards**
- It's nice to push for the **liberation** from proprietary software and formats respect to which we are unsuccessful.

“The degree of Freedom of a man is measured by the intensity of his dreams”

Ada Merini

LibreOffice facilitates the dialogue with the families

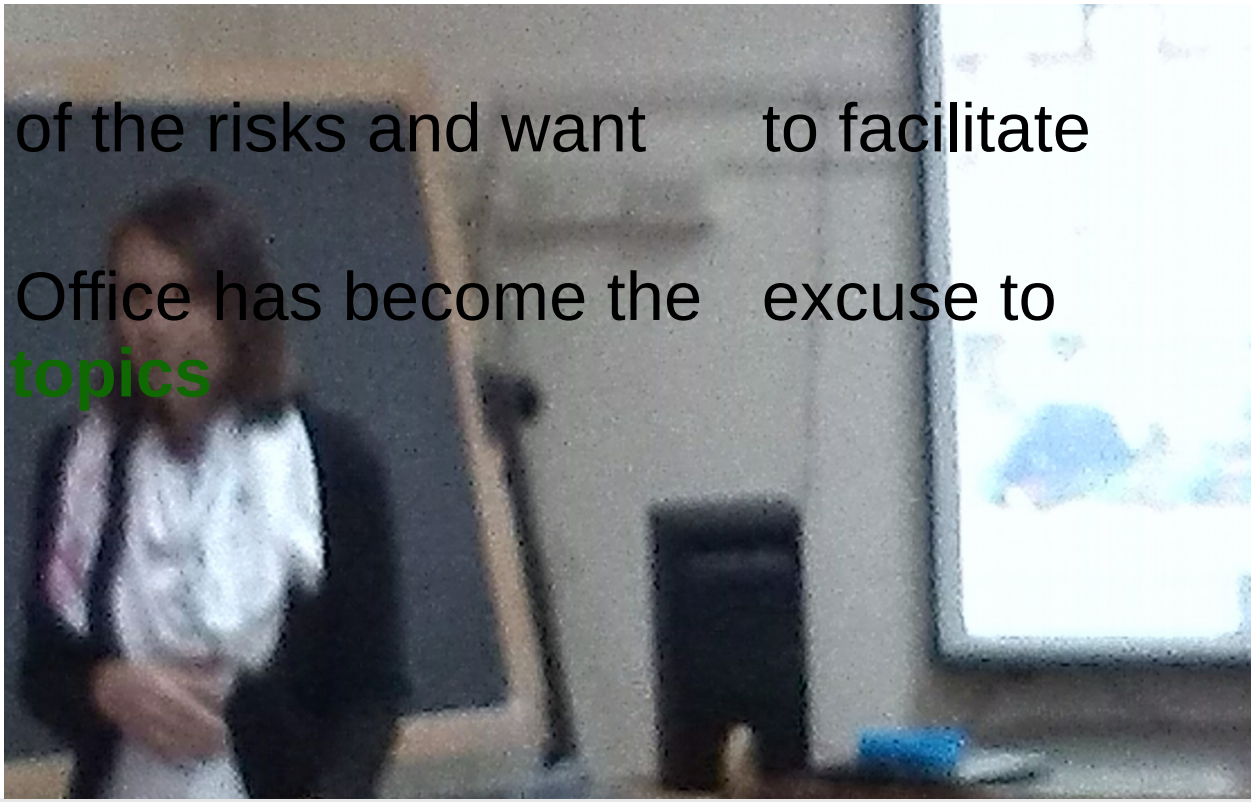


LibreOffice courses as a support activity for the school manager

- The School Manager could not wait to talk to the students, in a **creative way**, about digital freedom, innovation, social media
- Also **the family involvement** in all themes related to the digital culture, the innovation and Open Source were a driving need
- LibreOffice allowed all this!

Cyber-bullism, secure net-surfing, social media

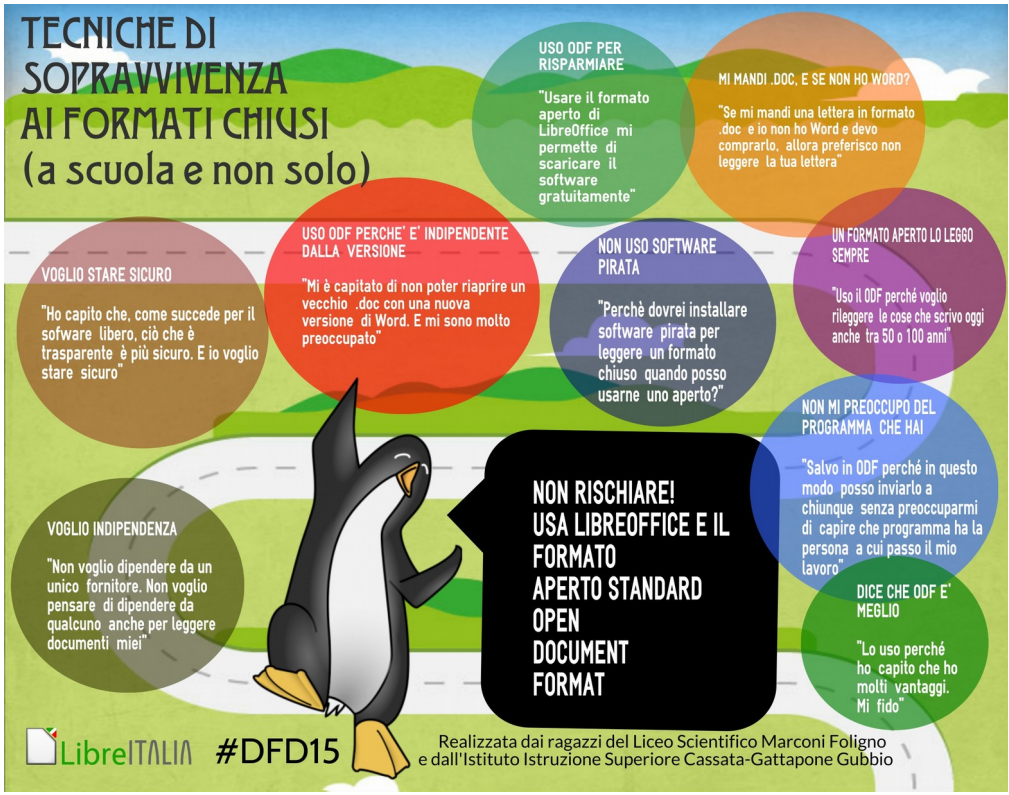
- Young generations need to be informed about the risks connected to the use of social networks: too often the children are unaware of the risks they run using smartphones
- Families are often unable to communicate about the technological aspects
- Teachers are aware of the risks and want to facilitate the dialog
- The **course** on Libre-Office has become the excuse to discuss such **delicate topics**



Ragazzi e tecnologia: sì, con consapevolezza

The Document Freedom Day

- On March 25, 2015 LibreItalia organized in collaboration with the Perugia University, and the Mozzecane municipality, a distributed event for promoting Open Data and Open Documents
- The students involved in the project “Growing up with bread and Free software” participated in Perugia to the event
- An Info-graphic picture have been produced by the students using LibreOffice Draw



5 benefits in our work

- The Free Software and Open Data concepts told to students facilitate their tranformation into “digitally active” persons
- Illustrate to the students as a Community of developers may deploy a robust and efficient software, based on International standards, interoperability and collaboration may help their cultural grouth.
- Providing them a test case where they can provide their energies for free, simply because they believe and trust a so important project, LibreOffice, is fundamental for their growth
- Educate about open formats facilitate the growth of a generation open-minded who see in the collaboration and in the sharing a source of development and richness
- A product localized in more that 100 cultures is a tremendous example of cultural respect, knowledge dissemination, ethnic and disadvantaged cultures preservation

Involving other areas: Fermo

Our experiences on the national scale narrated in a e-book

Thank you!

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