



Newsletter #5
July 2021

SCIENCE 4 FUN PROJECT

The Science4Fun project aims to find an attractive and effective way to teach science. By developing resources that are easy to understand and use, the project partners aim to present natural sciences such as physics, biology, chemistry, geology, environment and astronomy in an interesting way so that students can discover and develop their STEM skills.



The project tries to overcome the reluctance of young people, especially young girls, to follow an educational and professional path in the sciences. The tools developed during the project will equip the teachers with tools that will help them increase student motivation and show them that science can be fun and understandable.

THE PARTNERSHIP:



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

www.science4fun.eu

RESULTS SO FAR:

The project team managed to:

- Make a repository of scientific resources
- Create the eLearning platform with student testing and teacher training
- Test the e-Learning platform
- A guide to implementing the platform (which will be made available on the project website)
- Guidelines for teachers (to be made available on the project website)

EXECUTION OF THE TESTS

In this final phase of the project, various pilot tests have taken place in all partner countries. Primary to secondary schools in Belgium, Bulgaria, Portugal, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Spain, Poland and the Czech Republic are testing the Science4Fun Moodle platform. Nearly 2000 students have participated so far. These pilots already support some 63 teachers in more than 30 organizations.

Testimonial of the pilots in Bulgaria

“The Science4Fun test in Bulgaria was conducted in two phases. Both were held online through the project's Moodle platform. The first phase took place in January 2021 and served as a baseline test to determine the initial level of the students. second test took place at the end of May/beginning of June 2021 with subsequent tests of the respective EQF levels. Three teachers were involved in these two test phases of the project in Bulgaria. The students were divided into 4 groups according to their educational level. A total of 91 students participated in the assessment. The age and number of students per group was as follows: age group 9-10 (25 students) age group 12-14 (43 students - divided into two groups) age group 16-17 (23 students) A total of 178 tests were completed during the two testing phases. The statistics in the Moodle platform show an improvement in the students' grades after the second test.”

Testimonial of the pilots in Spain

“In Spain, several educational institutions have been contacted that have agreed to participate in the pilot of the project. To be precise, four secondary schools and two primary schools have participated in the pilot so far.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic situation, it was not possible to do an in-person session, so the staff of the organization held an online meeting with the participating teachers, to explain to them how to access the platform and to take the associated tests. perform with their students.

In addition, students in primary education and the Early Childhood Education University of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid also participated in the pilot phase. These future teachers in primary and early education completed a number of questionnaires that were created during the project. This pilot at universities will be extended to other Spanish universities, such as the University of Málaga and the University of Granada, as it is useful to have a detailed picture of the knowledge of future teachers in the field of science at the national level and to ensure the sustainability of the project, as some of these future teachers could use the project's resources in their future teaching practice. ”



EXECUTION OF THE TESTS

Testimonial of the pilots in The Netherlands

"In the Netherlands, we have implemented the project from December 2020 in collaboration with a local Education Foundation, which includes many schools, and a youth organization affiliated with the local football association, where many young people come together.

The Christian Radar Education Foundation has 5 schools and the pilot started at the Jan Wouter van den Doel school in groups 7 and 8 under the leadership of director Esther van der Schee. In addition, the idea is also to conduct a pilot via the high IQ/giftedness department of the UNIQ foundation. In the new school year, the intention is that a number of other locations will also participate in the pilot. In the Youth Organization of the Westhoek (called SOOS), young people, led by supervisor Sabina Jansen, did the tests in the weeks that science was on the agenda. These tests were made by them and now they are looking in the final repository for fun assignments that they can do themselves on Fridays in July and August.

A great result from two different organizations that are very happy with the project, in which the subject of science is back on the agenda in a different and fun way"

Testimonial of the pilots in Portugal

In Portugal, the pilot started later due to the constraints of the pandemic and the resulting change in the school calendar. Several schools from the north to the south of the country were invited, but so far only 4 schools have started testing the platform, involving students from primary and secondary schools. However, schools have shown great interest in testing and using this platform as a support tool and will resume use in September at the start of the new school year.

Testimonial of the pilots in Czech Republic

The pilot took place in 4 schools - 2 primary schools, 1 secondary school and 1 education centre, with a total of more than 200 students. The students were between the ages of 13 and 17. We started the pilot in July 2020 and then it continued continuously throughout the school year.

ONLINE PARTNER MEETING, JUNE 23, 2021

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the last project meeting took place online. The partners discussed the status of the project and future activities for the final months of the project.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The project partners will promote a multiplier event in each of the countries, where the activities and results of the project will be presented. More information will be made available soon on the project website

Visit our website for more info!

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