

ISI 2015 (Innovation, Science, Integration)

Ulrich Dahl, Dalumskolen, Denmark



INTRODUCTION

ISI 2015 (Innovation, Science, Integration) is a project focusing on multicultural schools in Odense, Denmark. The objective of the project is to improve skills in science and innovation among students in multicultural primary schools thereby motivating them to opt for a natural science, secondary school program and a career in science. ISI 2015 focuses on establishing an innovative educational practice in science subjects in order to make science learning in primary school engaging and relevant for the students.



PRACTICAL SETTING

At one of the participating schools, Dalumskolen, the project is integrated into the mandatory *project assignment (PA)*, as part of the students' final exam. The PA requires students to solve a problem that they themselves are helping to formulate. They must also be able to assess which survey forms they use to illustrate their problem. At the end of the project the students manufacture a product. The PA also requires the use of science to address the issue.

FINDINGS / ASSESSMENT

In the end of the project a major exhibition is held, where students present their problem and their work with the solution. The representatives from the business community along with teachers form a jury which awards the best projects. The project is evaluated with two questionnaires, one targeted teachers and one targeted students. In addition, it establishes interviews with selected students and teachers. Throughout the course, pupils write blogs on which their teachers can comment. The project has provided the students with skills that enable them to use science and innovation for problem solving.



CONCLUSION

Two different quotes from the evaluation report 2014:

"The particular methods that are in ISI promotes differentiation in teaching in general and as such can be beneficial for students who do not usually participate as fully in the daily lessons. The working method appeals to students who need extra help in developing language and science concepts."

"The students have generally been good to work with innovative methods and can work independently with it and they are reflected around it, and can explain their process."



A student produced video from this years exhibition

Scan QR or follow link - <http://youtu.be/BnobQ74wemM>