



BRITEC (Bringing Research into the Classroom)

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Bringing Research Into the Classroom

October 2018 – September 2021

Partner countries: BE, PL, EL, ES

Aims:

- To introduce Citizen Science in schools as a way of engaging pupils in research practices
- To build an international community of teachers and researchers with the aim of defining the conditions for international collaboration between school education and research

Three project phases:

Foundational

- Literature review on existing initiatives (in the Scientix Observatory)
- Guidelines for schools and researchers

Piloting

- Implementation in the partner countries
- Citizen Science in Schools Toolkit

Deployment

- Massive Open Online Course
- Recommendations for policy-makers



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What is Citizen Science?

- The term: multiple origins and different concepts
- “Participatory science”, “community-based participatory research”
- *“Citizen Science is a form of research collaboration involving members of the public in scientific research projects to address real-world problems.”* (Wiggins and Crowstone, 2011)
- Areas covered: biology, astronomy, environment, etc.
- Two types of “actors”: the scientists and citizen scientists
- In schools: a way of way of exposing pupils to all the steps of scientific inquiry
- Important: difference between projects addresses to the general public and the ones designed for school education



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Connections with universities and/or research centers

- Why is it important? To increase pupils' interest in STEM studies
- Benefits for pupils: direct engagement in different stages of the scientific research, better understanding on how science can provide answers to issues close to their communities, exposure to real-life science experiences is expected to encourage students to proceed with science careers
- Benefits for teachers: professional development, approaching science teaching beyond the traditional textbook, connection with specialists in their field
- Benefits for researchers: active role in their local and regional environments, contributing directly to developing the skills of their future researchers
- BRITEC will put an emphasis on **co-creation** of Citizen Science initiatives between schools and universities/research institutions

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Individual work (10')

- Open the “Bringing Research into the Classroom – The Citizen Science approach in schools” Scientix Observatory report – Preview!
- URL: <http://www.scientix.eu/observatory>
- QR code 
- Explore best practices in bringing Citizen Science in schools (4 international and 20 projects running in pilot countries) to get a general idea on how does it look in practice (page 13-32)
- Note: **focus on the activities (1 or 2) covering the subjects that you teach and that might be interesting for you!**



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Group work (15')

- Form groups - **make sure the group are as diverse as possible – teachers from different countries covering different subjects**
- Based on the Citizen Science initiatives from the report, try to develop a Citizen Science activity that you would be able to implement in your classroom with your students
- Please write a short description of the activity and include the information about the subjects covered and age of the students



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Presentation and discussion (10')

Choose a
group
spokesperson
to present
your work!



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Thank you!



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