

3Rs project: Call for Pilot Teacher

June 2019 – February 2020

AIM

European Schoolnet is looking for 12 secondary school Life Science (Biology) teachers to join the 3Rs project (June 2019 – February 2020). The teachers will:

- Support the project by leading the development of Learning Scenarios on the topics of animal welfare in research, Sustainable science and critical thinking.
- Participate in two face-to-face workshops in the Future Classroom Lab in Brussels, one to take place early in summer (17-18 Jun, 5-6 Jul or 10-11 Jul) and one to be held 13th-14th Sep.
- Test these learning scenarios by implementing them in the classroom and support the measurement of the impact of the implementation.
- Support the creation of an online massive course to help other teachers address animal welfare, sustainable science and critical thinking in their classes.
- Promote the adoption of these learning scenarios at the national level.
- Help disseminate the project through delivering webinars, promoting in social media, and producing content for newsletters.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The 3Rs project aims to build learning activities to teach secondary school students about the welfare of laboratory animals and the 3 R's legislation (Replacement, Reduction and Refinement) for laboratory animal experimentation. 3 R's is a framework to achieve humane experimentation that can be summarized as follows: wherever possible, (1) replace animals with e.g. tissue or computer models (replacement); (2) test with the fewest animal numbers possible (reduction); and (3) use less sentient animals and make testing procedures as humane as possible by reducing discomfort and increasing welfare wherever possible (refinement). The project aims to implement these learning activities in the secondary school curriculum. Through these learning activities, the project will help students become compassionate for animals, become interested in ethics in science, and develop their critical thinking and science literacy skills. After the development of the learning activities, teachers will test them in their classroom and conduct an evaluation to investigate the impact of these learning activities on students. The learning activities will also culminate in a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), hosted at European Schoolnet Academy's online course platform. The 3Rs project is coordinated by European Schoolnet in collaboration with SYRCLE (Systematic Review Center for Laboratory Animal Experimentation), and ECORYS (international company providing research, consultancy and management services).

Tasks to be carried out by the 3Rs Pilot teachers

1. Participate in two face-to-face workshops in the Future Classroom Lab at EUN.
 - a. (17-18 Jun, 5-6 Jul or 10-11 Jul) The first workshop will be held late June/early July 2019 and will gather the 12 3Rs Pilot Teachers who will be introduced to the project topics and will start the creation of the learning scenarios.
 - b. (13-14 Sep) The second workshop will see the Pilot Teachers gather once again at the FCL to finalize the development of their learning scenarios.
2. In collaboration with another Pilot teacher from the same country but a different school, co-create one learning scenario to teach about one of the three project topics: (1) animal welfare; (2) sustainable science; (3) critical thinking.
3. Test the learning scenario developed by themselves and test a learning scenario developed by another of the paired 3Rs Pilot teachers, by implementing them in the classroom between Oct and Dec 2019.
4. Carry out the evaluation of the learning scenario they implemented, by using the measurement tools developed by the project (surveys, interviews). If possible, collect data from students through a self-evaluation survey (10 – 15 answers from class expected) between Oct and Dec 2019.
5. Identify a teacher from another school ready to test two learning scenarios in their classes and provide feedback through the measurement tools developed, between Oct and Dec 2019.
6. Help the production of content for a MOOC aimed for teachers and animate the online course. Content will include text, as well as videos of self-interviews (including classroom footage, if possible). The MOOC will be launched in Jan 2020.
7. Disseminate the project through delivering webinars, promoting in social media, and producing content for newsletters.

ABOUT EUROPEAN SCHOOLNET:

European Schoolnet (www.eun.org) is the network of 34 European Ministries of Education, based in Brussels. As a not-for-profit organisation, we aim to bring innovation in teaching and learning to our key stakeholders: Ministries of Education, schools, teachers, researchers, and industry partners. Since its founding in 1997, European Schoolnet has used its links with education ministries to help schools make effective use of educational technologies, equipping both teachers and pupils with the skills to achieve in the knowledge society. In particular, we:

- Support schools in achieving effective use of ICT in teaching and learning
- Improve and raise the quality of education in Europe
- Promote the European dimension in education

Benefits for teachers

- Pilot teachers completing tasks will be remunerated for up to 12 days of work (1,200 EUR).
- Travel and accommodation costs of teachers covered to participate in the 2 workshops (these days are not remunerated).
- Opportunity to be part of the selected network of this European project.
- Training provided in the Future Classroom Lab
- Certificate of work done at the end of the project.

Selection criteria of 3Rs Pilot teachers

Teacher in Life Sciences (Biology): with basic knowledge or interest in experimental methodology and laboratory animal experimentation in a range of disciplines, from Medicine to Neuroscience and Psychology.

Actively teaching in secondary school (age 12 – 21): teachers will implement learning scenarios in their own practice; therefore they should be active teachers during Sep 2019 to Mar 2020.

Eager for video production: the online courses will include some videos featuring teachers. Therefore, teachers should be comfortable speaking on a video about their learning scenario implementation as well as eager to film their own classroom (if the getting approval from the students' parents is possible).

Experience in producing learning/training resources: teachers will be required to have proven experience in developing pedagogical material for students.

Proficient knowledge of English (understanding, writing, reading and listening): teachers should feel comfortable to communicate in English in order to attend the workshops, and be able to facilitate the development of additional Learning Scenarios, and collaborate online with the teachers from the other countries.

Availability to participate in two face-to-face workshops: in order to fulfil their tasks, teachers need to attend both workshops.

- The applicant should be available to attend the 2nd workshop planned for the 13th – 14th of September.
- The applicant should also be available to attend the first workshop. The exact dates will be determined based on the availability of selected pilot teachers (teachers applying that are available in 2 or more of the workshops will have more chances of being selected). Possible dates for the 1st workshop:
 - 17th – 18th of June;
 - 5th – 6th of July;
 - 10th – 11th July.

Interest in, and compassion for animals: teachers will be asked to learn about the principles of the 3R's (Replacement Reduction Refinement), and should be motivated to teach their pupils about animal welfare and ethical, sound science.

Interest in the topics of sound science, animal testing and animal welfare: teachers will be asked through an application form to express their interest in research conducted through animal testing, how it can be included in the school curriculum and what kind of skills and experience they wish to acquire during their involvement in the 3Rs.

Interest in learning and sharing experiences and good practices: teachers will also be asked to demonstrate their interest in collaborative activities and learning as well as an ability to disseminate the 3Rs among their peers.

Very good community organisational skills: teachers should have previous experience in facilitating (online) communities.

Very good authoring/digital skills: teachers should have experience in using a range of digital tools for content creation and feel comfortable with maintaining and updating web sites, blogging, photography, videography, online commentary, the maintenance of social media accounts, and editing and distribution of digital media.

Good internet connection at home both in terms of stability and available bandwidth as well as frequent access to technical infrastructure (i.e., PC's) since teachers need to be able to regularly connect online for their work.

Availability for 9-month project: in order to carry out their tasks, teachers will have to be able to participate in the project for its entire duration.

How to apply

- Teachers are invited to apply to be a 3Rs Pilot teacher by filling in this [application form](#) by **31st May 2019**. Due to time constraints, applications might be reviewed as they are received.
- The selected teachers will be officially informed by email on their selection by **10th June 2019, latest**.

More information

The final selection of teachers will be validated by the Ministries of Education in the corresponding countries. EUN will not enter into detailed discussions or exchanges with any applicant as to why their application was not successful. **We expect to select 2 teachers per country, from a total of 6 countries.**

In order to carry out the activities between June 2019 and February 2020, the selected teachers will be requested to sign an agreement with EUN by the first workshop.

Any doubts? Please contact

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