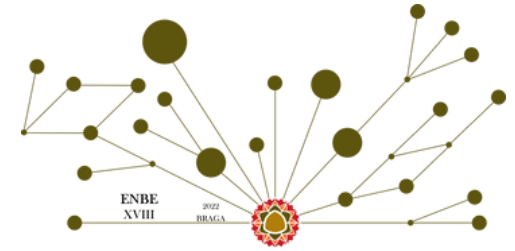


EuroScitizen Working Group 2 | Identifying needs and opportunities to improve the contribution of formal education to public literacy on evolution

Xana Sá Pinto¹, Evangelia Mavrikaki², Giulia Realdon³, Lucía Vázquez Ben⁴, Patrícia Pessoa⁵, Kostas Korfiatis⁶, Andreas Panayides⁷, Duur K. Aanen⁸, Rianne Pinxten⁹, Martin Scheuch¹⁰, Tania Jenkins¹¹, Heloise Dufour¹², Bruno Sousa¹³, Teresa Nogueira^{14,15}, Bento Cavadas¹⁶

¹Centro de Investigação em Didática e Tecnologia na Formação de Formadores, Departamento de Educação e Psicologia, Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal; 2NKUA, Department of Pedagogy and Primary Education, Navarinou 13A, 10680 Athens, Greece
³University of Camerino, Geology Section, UNICAMearth Group, Camerino, Italy; 4 Department of Pedagogy & Didactics, Faculty of Educational Studies, University of A Coruña, Spain; 5Centro de Investigação em Didática e Tecnologia na Formação de Formadores, Departamento de Educação e Psicologia, Universidade de Aveiro e Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Portugal; 6Department of Education, University of Cyprus, P.O. Box 20537, CY-1678 Nicosia, Cyprus; 7Department of Education, University of Cyprus, P.O. Box 20537, CY-1678 Nicosia, Cyprus; 8Department of Plant Sciences, Wageningen University, Netherlands; 9Research group Didactica, Antwerp School of Education, University of Antwerp, Belgium; 10 University College for Agricultural and Environmental Education, Austria; 11University of Geneva, Sciences II, Switzerland; 12 Cercle FSER, France; 13 Alpoente school group, Albufeira, Algarve; 14INIAV—National Institute for Agrarian and Veterinary Research, IP, 2780-157 Oeiras, Portugal; 15cE3c—Center for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes & CHANGE—Global Change and Sustainability Institute, 1749-016 Lisbon, Portugal; 16 Polytechnic Institute of Santarém / Lusófona University, CeIED - Interdisciplinary Research Centre for Education and Development



Abstract



EuroScitizen is a COST Action and involves a research network whose aim is to identify strategies to raise levels of scientific literacy about evolution in Europe. EuroScitizen comprises five working groups (WG) and this poster summarizes the current achievements of WG2 on Formal education.

WG2 aims to identify the needs and opportunities to improve the teaching of evolution since the first school years in distinct countries and enhance the contribution of formal education to European public scientific literacy on this important topic. To achieve these goals, we are studying: *i)* the school curricula and *ii)* textbooks of the participating countries; *iii)* teachers' content knowledge, pedagogical content knowledge, attitudes and beliefs about teaching evolution and effective methodologies and strategies to empower teachers about evolution education; and *iv)* strategies to promote evolution understanding in elementary school students.

This poster presents some of the current achievements of WG2, such as: *i)* publication of a paper about the development and validation of a framework for the assessment of school curricula on the presence of evolutionary concepts (FACE); *ii)* comparison of the content of most adopted textbooks in the schools of 8 countries, from the 1st to the 9th grade, about the presence of evolution Big Ideas; *iii)* identification of teachers' best practices in evolution education and teacher' training actions about evolution education; and *iv)* the publication of a study about the evolutionary concepts that elementary school students most often used after a pedagogical intervention. The next steps of the WG2 are also presented.

Results

Curricula analysis project

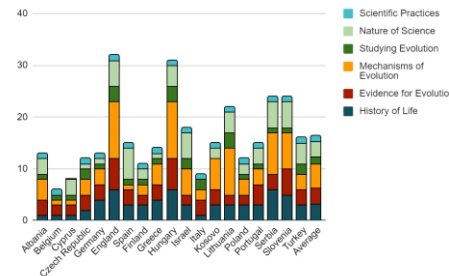
ACHIEVEMENTS

FACE: framework for assessment of school curricula for the presence of evolutionary concepts



Evolution: Education and Outreach

CURRICULUM AND EDUCATION [Open Access](#)
 Development and validation of a framework for the assessment of school curricula on the presence of evolutionary concepts (FACE)



COMING SOON

Publication of the comparative analysis of 18 European countries showing great differences in the coverage of evolution in distinct school curricula and the absence of some evolution key ideas

NEXT STEPS

Contact police makers to discuss these results

JOIN

Contact emavrikaki@primedu.uoa.gr

Elementary school students' project

ACHIEVEMENTS

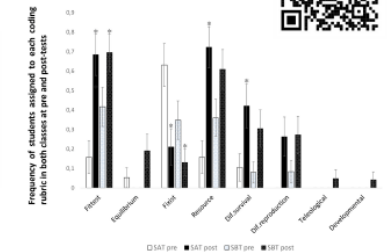
Published study showing that elementary school students can learn evolution by natural selection and struggle more with the concept differential reproduction



Received 24 February 2023 | Accepted 20 May 2023 | Accepted 4 June 2023
 DOI: 10.1002/ece3.7819

ACADEMIC PRACTICE IN ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION *Ecology and Evolution* WILEY

Following Darwin's footsteps: Evaluating the impact of an activity designed for elementary school students to link historically important evolution key concepts on their understanding of natural selection



COMING SOON

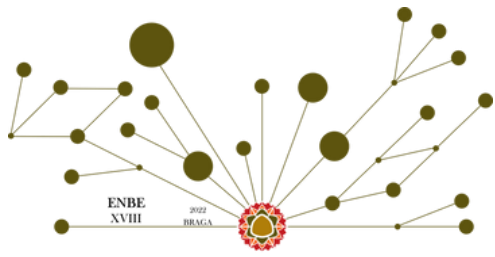
Validation of an instrument to evaluate elementary school understanding of natural selection in 5 languages: English, Greek, Italy, German, Portuguese and Spanish.

NEXT STEPS

Comparative analysis of students' understanding of natural selection between 3rd and 5th graders in 6 countries

JOIN

Contact lucia.vben@udc.es

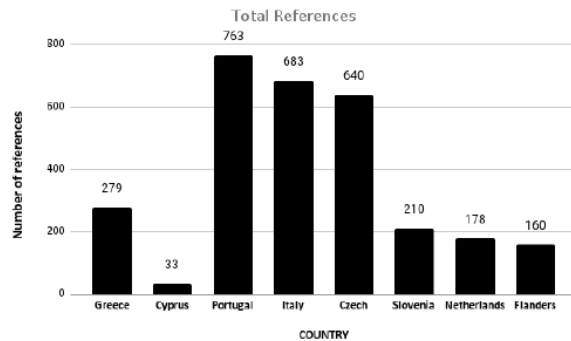


Results

Book analysis project

ACHIEVEMENTS

Comparison of the contents of the best sold textbooks from the 1st to the 9th grade for the presence of evolution big ideas in 8 countries



COMING SOON

Submission of the paper to an international peer reviewed journal.

NEXT STEPS

Comparison of the results of textbooks and curricula analysis

JOIN

Contact korfati@ucy.ac.cy

Teachers' empowerment project

ACHIEVEMENTS

Identification of teachers' best practices on evolution education.
 Teachers training actions about evolution education
 On-line teacher training action on COVID 19 as an SSL.
 International meeting to discuss evolution education.

REUNIÃO INTERNACIONAL SOBRE ENSINO E APRENDIZAGEM EM EVOLUÇÃO
INTERNATIONAL MEETING ABOUT EVOLUTION EDUCATION
11 MARÇO 2022
19H00 - 20H30
 Local: Escola Superior de Educação de Santarém
 Organizadores: Bento Cavadas e Xana Sá Pinto



COMING SOON

Submission of the paper to an international peer reviewed journal analysing the teachers' best practices on evolution education.

NEXT STEPS

Development and evaluation of teacher training actions

JOIN

Contact bento.cavadas@ese.ipsantarem.pt



Join us in:

