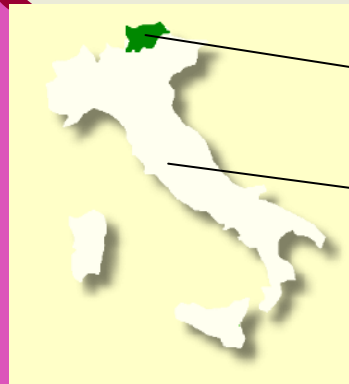


Where are we?



South Tyrol

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COOPERATION

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SCIENCE BOX

FORCE
MOVEMENT
ENERGY



The Concept

The new approach of “science box: force-movement-energy” **connects** the two educational areas of **language** and **natural science** involving the **parents** in education. The target group are especially children in kindergarten age, including also parents and skilled personnel in education.

The project aims to describe **physical phenomena** occurring in nature in our every day life such as force, movement and energy. We usually do not notice these phenomena although they are continuously connected to one another. Starting from stories, non fiction and picture books, these phenomena are explained to the kids. In order to motivate the children to talk, to ask questions and to explain **two handpuppets “Marie and Albert”** are involved in the experiments.

The handpuppets tell the children stories related to natural science phenomena. At the end of the stories there is a question and the handpuppets need the children’s help to resolve the problem. So they can think about the phenomenon together, ask further questions, look for answers in the books or carry out experiments.

In addition the kids are encouraged to take their favourite experiment or storybook home, in order to show their expertise and explain what they have learned and seen to the family or their friends.

The “science box” includes not only the **tools to carry out the experiments**, but also the related stories, the pictures and non fiction books, the handpuppets “Marie” and “Albert”, the experiment-bag, in which the kids can put their favourite experiments to take home and also precise teaching methods and scientific information for the skilled educational personnel and the parents.

Main Targets

Children:

- to awaken openness and joy for scientific exploration
- to support the holistic development of the children
- to promote independent activity
- to encourage children in scientific thinking with all the senses
- to provide child-friendly tools for the scientific exploration

Skilled personnel in education:

- to assist in implementation of scientific topics at the kindergarten
- to expand and deepen the knowledge in natural science
- to combine the two educational areas: language and natural science
- to provide ideas for the design of materials and for the arrangement of the learning environment

Parents/family:

- to promote co-operation and exchange between kindergarten and parents
- to create awareness for basic natural science phenomena in every day life
- to sensitize parents for scientific questions posed by their children
- to offer assistance in the discussion about science themes
- to extend the competence of parents

Implementation

Lending out the Science Box by the educational library to kindergarten for 8 weeks.

Introduction to the materials and experiments:

- advanced training for skilled personnel in education
- experimental days in the kindergarten for children and parents
- free offers of science exploration during the children’s free play time
- parents evenings
- invitation in the kindergarten of parents, who are experts

Evaluation of the project:

- questionnaires to get feedback from skilled personnel in education

