

LuPE

Teaching and practice material for preschool teacher training



OBJECTIVE

Professionalizing STEM training for future preschool teachers.



PROJECT PARTNER

German Youth Institute (DJI)



DURATION

2014 – 2019

How can scientific content be communicated in everyday daycare routine whilst taking the children's ages into account? The training of future preschool teachers at professional colleges does not or only insufficiently answer this question. Although the curricula do cater for teaching of STEM subjects, there is a lack of concrete support for teachers at professional colleges when it comes to the implementation of these specifications. However, this support is provided by Deutsche Telekom Stiftung in form of the LuPE project.

Experience has shown that the implementation of curricula becomes easier, the more concrete the organizational and structural tools for teaching are. This is why Telekom Stiftung created LuPE. The abbreviation stands for "Lehr- und Praxismaterial für die Erzieherinnenausbildung" – Teaching and Practice Material for Preschool Teacher Training. In this project, the Deutsche Jugendinstitut e. V. (German Youth Institute, DJI) develops, tests and evaluates qualification and teaching material on scientific and mathematic topics for use in general science classes, which for one serves the support of professional college teachers in their teaching competence. On the other hand, future preschool teachers experience how they can discover scientific learning processes in children, how they proceed and how they can be promoted at a later stage.

Project work is initially concentrated on Bavaria, North Rhine-Westphalia and Thuringia. These states cooperated in the development of the transnational professional college curriculum, which was compiled in the summer of 2012 and initially specifies the communication of mathematical, scientific, and technical contents.



Photo: Thomas Ernst/Stiftung Haus der kleinen Forscher

The project supports professional college teachers in the STEM training of future preschool teachers.

LUPE IS THE FIRST AND ONLY PROJECT OF ITS KIND IN GERMANY.

Further project partners include twelve professional colleges from the three states, which – apart from basic contextual knowledge – communicate to future preschool teachers all subject-related reflection, self, general and action competences. LuPE therefore establishes

a practical model which creates the prerequisites for exploratory learning of children in daycare centers.

Material such as learning videos and tuition sheets, which professional college teachers can apply immediately and which are suitable for nationwide distribution, are available at project expiry.

More information:
<https://www.telekom-stiftung.de/en/lupe>

Project partners

The German Youth Institute (DJI) is one of the largest social science institutes for research and development in Germany, with focus on childhood, adolescence, family and related policy and practice fields. As a non-university facility at the interface between various scientific disciplines, federal levels, participant groups, areas of politics and specialized practices, the DJI offers useful findings from empirical research, timely science based advice to politics and scientific support and motivation to specialist practice. Simultaneously, DJI acts as an intermediary instance between science, politics and specialist practice.



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DEUTSCHE TELEKOM STIFTUNG

Deutsche Telekom Stiftung was established in 2003 to strengthen Germany's position as an education, research and technology leader. It is one of the country's main corporate foundations with an endowment of EUR 150 million. Deutsche Telekom Stiftung's mission is to improve education in the digital world concentrating on the so called STEM subjects science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It focuses on four core areas: Education Drivers, Education Opportunities, Education Innovations and Education Dialog.

In Education Drivers, the foundation supports people who inspire others to study STEM subjects. Education Opportunities involves projects to prepare children and teenagers to succeed in STEM fields and participate fully in our connected world. In Education Innovations, the foundation invests in researchers and teachers who specialize in STEM subjects. Finally, Education Dialog comprises all the projects in which the foundation works with policymakers and civil society to improve education in a digitized world.