



EnvKids

EnvKIDS: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY TRAINING FOR CHILDREN THROUGH ON-LINE SIMULATION, EXPLORATION AND COLLABORATION

1.12.2009 – 30.11.2011

Connecting technology and people

AIMS

EnvKids aims to raise awareness on environmental sustainability and climate change mitigation activities among elementary school children. The project deploys explorative and collaborative learning pedagogy taking advantage of children's natural curiosity to develop critical thinking towards environmentally friendly behavior.

METHOD

The pedagogical method combines game-based, storytelling, and project-based approaches, taking advantage of virtual experimentation. In the resulting learning environment children can learn from each other in the context of a European school network. The learning tools are developed on national environmental policies and scientific data. The tools focus on impact by hiding underlying computational complexity through graphical interfaces. Immediate feedback puts an emphasis on impact of actions.

RESULTS

An explorative and collaborative didactical framework for environmental primary education that takes advantage of virtual experimentation to enhance existing instructional practices.

Proof-of-concept on-line educational tools for children covering wide environmental education topics:

- Natural resources management pilot
- Energy production methods pilot
- Everyday practices towards pollution control pilot

Supporting material for teachers:

- Explorative and collaborative learning activities that deploy the EnvKids digital tools in wider blended learning scenarios
- Good practice guidelines for teachers in the form of a video gallery
- Application manuals
- Learning activity work sheets

CONTRACTOR

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