

'We read books'

A grade 7 student's answer to a question on what they typically would do in a biology class

Public education in Greenland

- 1700s – formalized education in Greenland
- 1845 – training of teachers in Greenland
- 1979 – Home Rule; responsibility of schooling
- 2002 – ‘The good school’ act
- 2015 – evaluation of ‘The good school’

How does Greenland create opportunities for forming science interest?

National [science] curriculum

- Year 1 to 7 : science
- Year 8 til 10 : biology, physical geography, physics/chemistry
- IBSE inspired curriculum
- Final test
 - Oral (20 min / 2 hours)
 - Written (multiple choice)

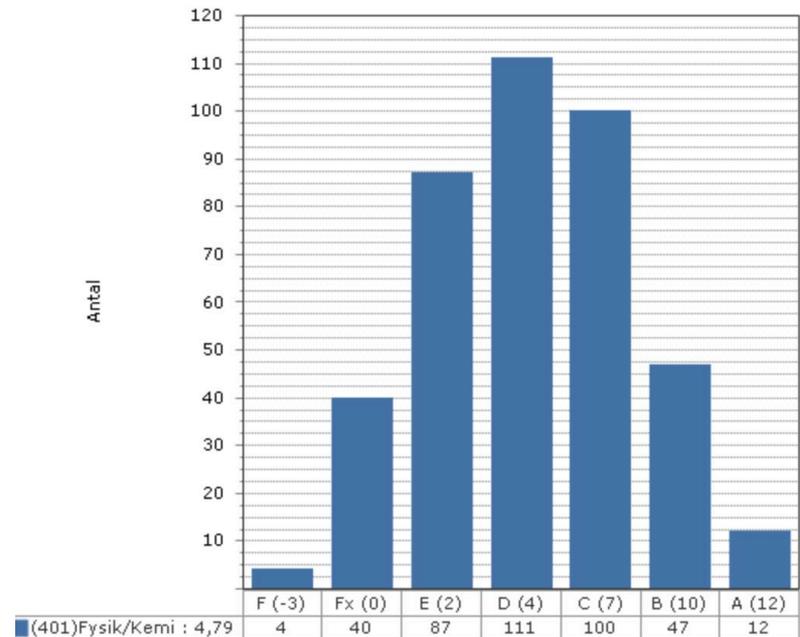


Rough numbers

The final tests

- Multiple choice – combined test of three subjects
 - Biology
 - Physical geography
 - Physics/chemistry
- Oral tests

Karakterfordeling - Ar: 2018
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What we know

Students' ideas on good science teaching

- Collecting plant samples
- Examining biotopes
- Being outside

Trained teachers' ideas of good science teaching

- Science teaching as experience, practical and experiments
- Science teaching to enhance student motivation



What we also know

Student experience of everyday science teaching

- Outside, surveying
- Inside reading books
- Answering questions
- Writing on a computer

Words from students; age 13-16

- 'Physics is fun'
- Describe a typical biology class:
'I don't think we have biology'
- 'I think we should learn more'
- 'we learn a little'



Science teaching in the making

Trained science teacher experience of conditions for their teaching

- Too little real teaching time to do real science
- Too little support from management
- Lack of equipment for field science



Untrained science teachers often try to do their best...

School leadership >< Science teaching

[Non] - Support of science teaching

- Science teachers not teaching science
- Unqualified science teachers [year 1-3]
- Time allocated for science is often not enough

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“Class, I’ve got a lot of material to cover, so to save time I won’t be using vowels today. Nw lts bgn, pls trn t pg 122.”

Changes...new ideas

- Student science teachers in the JSEP program
- Extra science focus in a few schools
- Need responsibility at every level

