Ambassadors Stories Svetla Mavrodieva

Cambridge Assessment English, Bulgaria



My Go-Lab story

I found out about the Go-Lab almost 2 years ago, when I attended a Scientix face-to-face workshop at European Schoolnet's (EUN) headquarters in Brussels. I instantly saw the value of the program, however, there was a list of countries and Bulgaria was not included. I asked for my country to be considered and that is how the whole journey started. Hopefully and preferably, it will never end.

My Go-Lab trainings

I have participated in 3 workshops already at EUN's Future Classroom Lab in Brussels. They were all focused specifically on the importance of being a Go-Lab ambassador, our tasks and responsibilities and were extremely useful to clear any doubts I had regarding my stance as an ambassador.

My Go-Lab ILSs

While I am a teacher trainer in Content and Language Integrated Learning Approach (CLIL) to Subject Teachers, the first Inquiry Learning Space was targeting 4th/5th graders at bilingual schools. I learn a lot from my students and while working with the tools I realised it was better to make students ask and formulate scientific questions rather than answering those. Students are more eager to learn when involved in 'the process of preparing the ILS' with their own ideas, based on what they already knew on the topic.

My challenges

In the beginning, the first challenge was related to the amount of content to be included in the Inquiry Learning Space. It is easy to excitedly include as much information as you can, however, after preparing a couple of versions, lots of the textual input was removed. I started using more pictures rather than plain text as it engages students much more and it captures their attention.



• Next-Lab - Next Generation Stakeholders and Next Level Ecosystem for Collaborative Science Education with Online Labs. This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 731685.





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Go-Lab in my classroom

Students' reactions usually are mixed: there is always a need to make a differentiation between the less proficient students and the more diligent students, so I usually prepare 2 types of ILSs. The ILS can be implemented as part of class activities or as homework, depending on the topic and of course on students' schedules.

ILSs in my curriculum

The topics chosen cover an interdisciplinary science course for primary school related to the Bulgarian curriculum. Before implementing an ILS as a whole lesson activity, it is vital to carefully plan the lesson, identify what the input and the output shall be, and planning the assessment of the activity. Remember to carefully assess each lesson and its content so as to decide whether any revision will be needed or to find out what do students already know about the topic of the lesson.

Go-Lab and your students

Interest increased both for less passionate students and for the more meticulous. I firmly believe that when students feel they are part of the process of learning, they always feel content. For instance, for the EduArctic Project, where my students took part, there was an emerging idea to create an app related to the Polarpedia (over 400 items with lots of information re the EduArctic project) where they showed extreme interest in.

My Go-Lab advice to teachers

Embrace Go-Lab and do not fear it. Do not stop at the first issue but ask for support. There is plenty of help coming from not only the Go-Lab support page but also your country's ambassadors. Shape the future of your student's learning and get ready for success!



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