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How to motivate students to learn chemistry?

Eva Trnova

Masaryk University, Czech Republic

Current chemistry is developing rapidly and strongly affects human everyday lives. For this reason, chemistry is considered to be an important part of education for the current and future population. There is also expert consensus that science education (including chemistry) should be a compulsory part of the education of all children. But according to research findings (for example PISA), chemistry belongs to the least favorite school subjects. Because the socio-economic success of Europe 2020 depends on education of new generation, new ways of chemistry teaching/learning which should prepare today's children for adult roles as citizens, employees, managers, entrepreneurs, and parents, are sought. So, a very important question arises how to motivate students to learn chemistry. In the presentation, the most important factors influencing student interest in chemistry and ways how to support student engagement in learning chemistry will be presented. Big attention will be paid to the innovative teaching methods of chemistry. Because the quality of teachers is one of the most important factors influencing the quality and effectiveness of chemistry education and student performance innovative ways of teacher education will be discussed.

Biography

Eva Trnova works as Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Education MU in the Czech Republic. She has completed her PhD in Chemistry Education. She has extensive experience with innovative methods of teaching Chemistry. She has been engaged in Chemistry Education for a long time and she has published more than 20 papers in journals and has been serving as an Editorial Board Member of a journal dealt with education. She is a Member of International Advisory Board in several conferences. She has been involved in many international projects dealing with the development of science education (e.g. PROFILES Project of SFP).

eva.trnova@email.cz

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