



Learning Scoop

Examples of activating
methods in Finnish basic
education (grades 1-6)

– come and try!

28.4.2016

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Let's get to know
each other!



Discussion topics

1. What is your name and does your name have a story?

Discussion topics

2. What is your hometown?

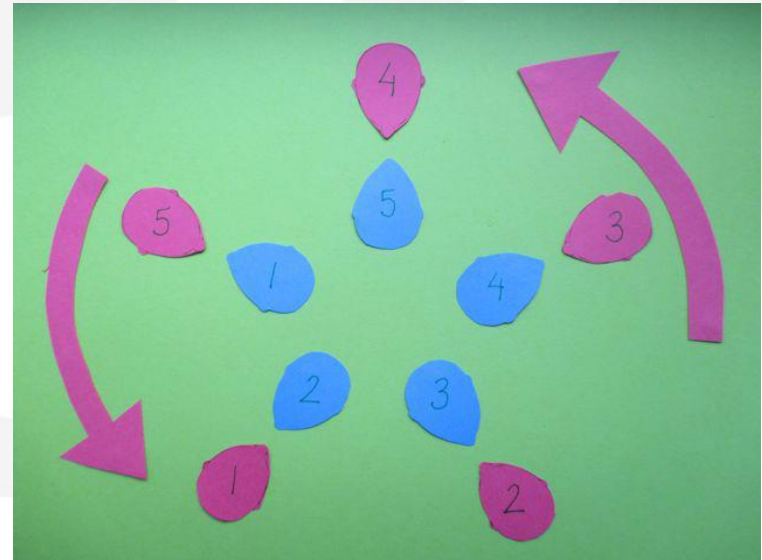
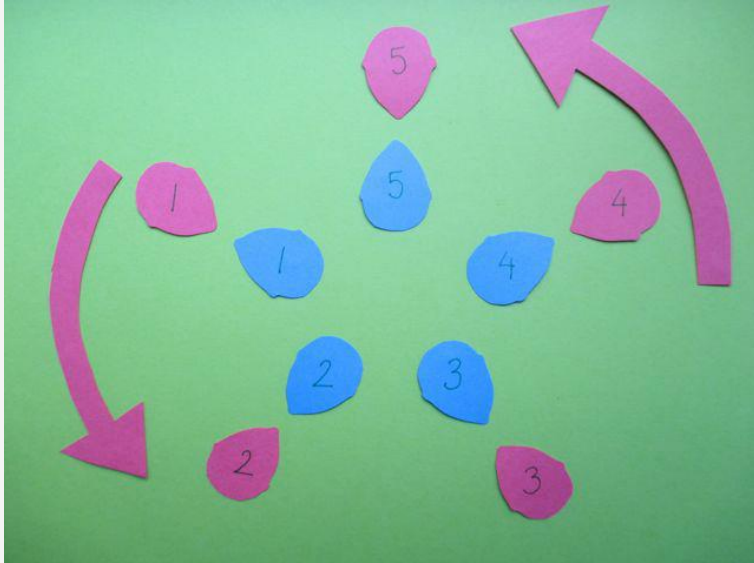
What would you show to a visitor in your own town?

Discussion topics

3. Why did you become a teacher?

Inside – outside circles

- Inside-outside circles are an easy way of multiplying the amount of interaction in class.
- With inside-outside circles, each student gets to participate in interaction that promotes learning.



Inside – outside circles

- Tips for teachers by Learning Scoop:
- <http://learningscoop.fi/en/tips-for-teachers/#main-content>
- <http://learningscoop.fi/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Inside-outside-circles.pdf>

Learning Theory in Finland

- The most important thing in education is learning, not teaching
- Based on international research in the field of education



Learning Theory in Finland

- socio-constructivist learning theory
 - learning always builds upon knowledge that a student already knows
 - learners are actively involved in a process of knowledge construction as opposed to passively receiving information
 - learning is a social process

Teaching and learning methods in Finnish basic education, grades 1-6

- Teachers have an power to decide which methods they use in their lessons
- Usually activating methods are widely used in grades 1-6
- Some of the methods are subject-specific, some can be applied to various subjects
- New national core curriculum (2016) requires teachers to use even more and more versatile activating methods

Teaching and learning methods in grades 1-6

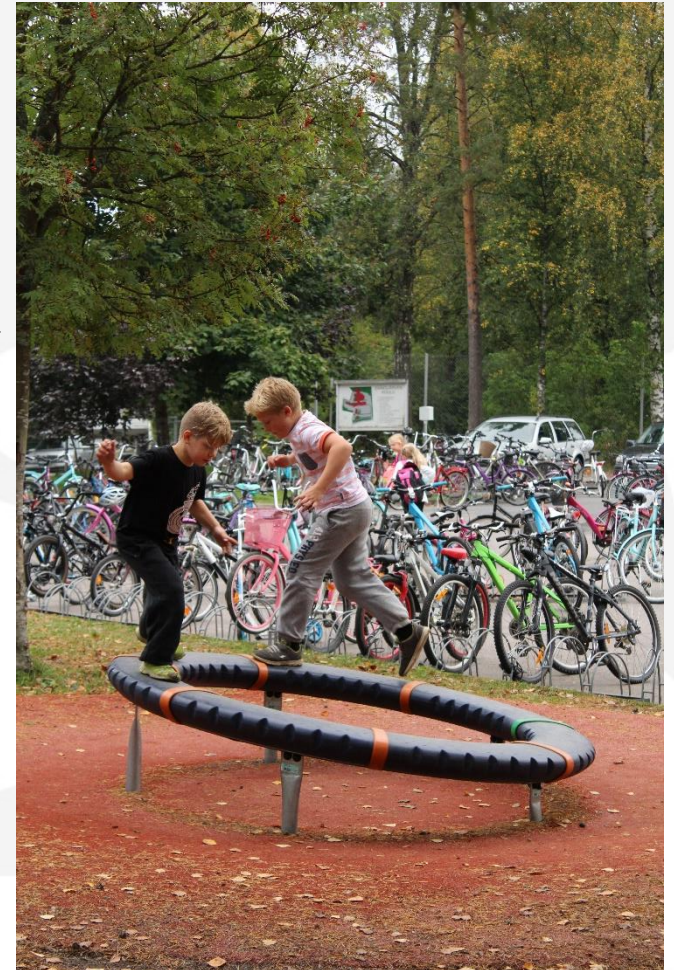
For example:

- Co-operative methods
- Experimentations, learning by doing
- Interactive methods, group and pair discussions
- Field trips: explore the concepts and ideas discussed in class in a real-world context
- Research projects: students research a topic and can present their findings to the class
- Creative methods: drama, art, handicraft etc.



Teaching and learning methods in grades 1-3

- In grades 1-2 teaching is highly integrated, not tightly divided into various subjects
- In grades 1-3 lessons also include a lot of playful elements



Work station method

- Widely used method in various subjects in Finnish schools in grades 1-6
- 5 different work stations
 - Board game "Finland" (mathematics)
 - Paperdolls
 - Rory's story cubed
 - Crisscross
 - Symbol
- **Move together as a team**
- **Do the assignment in the station together as a group**
- **Change the station at your own pace**



Activating school development campaigns in grades 1-6

- Liikkuva koulu (*"Moving school"*: more physical movement to the school days)
- KiVa koulu (*"Nice school"*: anti-bullying program for schools)
- Terve koululainen (*"Healthy pupil"*: to promote physical activity at school and in spare time)
- Vihrea lippu (Green flag: environmental education)



Teachers sharing teaching ideas to each other

- Alakoulun aarreaitta –group in Facebook (”Treasure chest for primary school)
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/507321622693497/?fref=ts>





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