

## STIKK\_4 (Germany)

The basic premise for STIKK\_4 is that reading is the central fundamental competence on which almost all learning depends. For this reason, providing daily reading support and offering students various regular, reading friendly, profitable reading-promotion activities is worthwhile, leading students to discover reading for pleasure. STIKK\_4 is a reading-promotion and pleasure-reading project carried out by interdisciplinary school-year teams together with students. The concept is based on the competence level model by PIRLS/IGLU. Promotion takes the form of competence-level orientated text-work (50 %) and the building up of reading motivation and reading interest (50 %). Various promotion methods are repeated at regular intervals. Depending on the level of competence, different aspects are emphasised (e.g. the training of cognitive abilities and strategies, decoding and reading comprehension as well as the strengthening self-concepts, self-efficacy and reading-motivation promotion). The choice of materials is not fixed, but for the most part chosen by the students according to their reading levels and interests. The promotion takes place four hours per week. These hours are regular school hours (e.g. 2x German, 1x another subject, 1x German promotion lessons). Participation in the programme is compulsory for all students.

The project was developed and evaluated at a German technical college within the framework of the trial-model “Focus secondary-School”. FOKUS schools are schools taking part in offering and developing special measures for supporting individual students, helping them to graduation from school and preparing them for professional life. The project has been carried out in six Bavarian secondary schools since the new school-year 2004. The aim is to give all Bavarian secondary-schools access to STIKK\_4, with the goal of enabling them to reach the PISA competence level II. The education agreement for Bavaria supports the project with hours (initially 10, now 8) and subsidies. The project is carried out in cooperation with the Bavarian State Education and Culture Ministry. The municipalities support the schools with 1,000 € over two or three years, in the shape of reading-promotion materials and the provision of library books (reference books, classroom reading, lexicons, magazines etc.).

The project was developed for students of grade five and six, although in some schools years seven and eight are also involved. The students are divided into five different competence groups according to the Salzburg reading-screening results and the Munich reading-monitoring form.

1. Basic support level, for students who do not reach Level I,
2. Level I: recognising and repeating explicitly requested/given information,
3. Level II: deducing simple conclusions,

4. Level III: giving reasons for complex deductions and interpreting what was read,
5. Level IV: checking and evaluating content and language.

The promotion/support mainly takes place across classes and is so organised, ideally in groups of six to ten students who can thus be given individual support. The lower the student's competence level, the smaller the group should be, in which they can then be optimally supported.