

Job shadowing, Kazlu Ruda. Lithuania

Participant:

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Bilingual technology teacher. Chemistry degree. PE teacher. , B2 English level

Situation:

Dates: May 2016, from 9th to 13th.



[2 Kazlu Ruda Basic School, Lithuania: \(click here\)](#)

Our school IES-CARLOS-III participates in an Erasmus+ project Our Forests – Our Future. Thanks to the project we can go job shadowing in our partner schools. I had the opportunity to do job shadowing in a Lithuanian secondary school. The school offers monolingual education. Kazlu Ruda Basic School is located in Kazlu Ruda, Southern Lithuania.

There were about 460 students and 40 teachers in the school. The six grades correspond to grades 5 and 6 in primary school and 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th of secondary school in Spain. There were 20 students in each class. The students came from the village. The school area was opened and the sport track was shared with the upper and vocational school (gymnasium)

I followed PE, Technology and Chemistry lessons. The school started at 8:00 am and the lessons last 45 minutes with 10' breaks in between. Although the students sat in groups it didn't cause any distraction or disorder in the class. The students had a very good behaviour and paid high attention.

The language of instruction was Lithuanian. I noticed that the teaching methods did not differ from ours but the classes looked like different from ours

because of the students ratio. In Spain, we have too many students per classroom. They use beamers and blackboards. There are no interactive whiteboards, laptops, WIFI, etc. The students had textbooks and notebooks.



4 wood workshop



1: Wood tools and machinery



3: chemistry tools



5: Chemistry lesson

The job shadowing was included in the Erasmus+ meeting, and I had common activities with the Erasmus+ participants, such as visits, trips, performances and sports (7). In the chart below the specific monitoring of the job shadowing is described.

Daily Schedule:

DAY	LESSON	LEVEL	RATIO	ACTIVITIES	OBSERVATIONS
Monday				I toured the facilities.	Old building refurbished with some new areas. A specific classroom for each subject.
Tuesday	Chemistry (5)	8th (13-14 y.o.)	20 students	Work in groups: OXIGEN. Theoretical lesson. Very good level and knowledges of valences.	The classroom had beamer, blackboard and some laboratory tools (3). Very energetic and disciplined teacher. Short explanations followed by short activities in groups of 3-4 pupils.
Wednesday	Physical Education (8)	6th (11-12 y.o.)	20 students	Reaction speed workout. Athletics track. Groups of 5.	Very good facilities for sports both indoors and outdoors. The last 10' of the lesson are devoted to free ball games. Basket is number one. Girls just like volley-ball.
Wednesday	Technology (home economics) (6,9)	7th (12-13 y.o.)	8 students (half group)	Practical lesson: preparing salads, setting the table, folding napkins, etc.	They have two types of technology. Home economics (food, cooking, textiles, houseworking, etc) and wood workshop (1,4). The group is divided into two workshops. They use textbooks for theoretical lessons. The lesson lasts 90' (2 time slots).



Personal Observations:

Firstly, I would like to highlight the ratio in Lithuanian school. It is a very positive point to raise a high level of education and the Spanish authorities should work to improve the number of students in each classroom.



6: Technology lesson

Secondly, having a specific classroom for each subject is extremely necessary in our school in order to maintain in good working conditions the interactive whiteboards, laptops, etc. I envy the Kazlu Ruda School for those reasons, even more for the big spaces and the green opened surroundings.



7: Forest sports

Moreover, the good atmosphere between teachers and students is very positive and it helps to achieve satisfactory results and to develop good skills. Sometimes, I miss it in our school.

Finally, I would like to say that monitoring teaching in another country is a very enriching experience. It is interesting and enriching to job shadow a colleague in another country and have a closer look on their culture and everyday life.

The arrangements were excellent and we were very warmly welcomed. Thank you our Lithuanian colleagues!



8: running track and gym



9: Techology (home economics)