

8 - Scientific Literacy and Socio-scientific Issues | Empirical

SP - (15842) - EFFECTS OF DOING HOME EXPERIMENTS WITHIN A CHEMISTRY CITIZEN SCIENCE PROJECT

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Short Abstract

Citizen science has become more and more popular in many areas of research, especially in biodiversity, ecological and environmental science. Besides its scientific potential, many citizen science projects aim to promote citizens' education and sensitivity to environmental issues. In an ongoing chemistry citizen science project in Northern Germany, in which citizens monitor nitrate values in local waters, educational aspects are supposed to be fostered by doing home experiments on this topic. In an accompanying study, effects like interest in science and nature, self-efficacy for environmental action concerning the nitrogen problem, and skills of science inquiry are assessed. First results show slightly positive effects regardless of gender or age. To gain deeper insights in the potential of home experiments in connection with citizen science projects, qualitative interviews based on first findings presented in this study will be conducted.