### Finnish Craft Education



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# Craft Education in Finland

- "Crafts" as a school subject: compulsory in years 1-7, obligatory in years 8-9
- the first two school years all pupils: elementary crafts (app. 1-2 hours/week)
- from the third school year: textile work and technical work (app. 2 hours/week)
- choosing craft area nowadays after year four some schools arrange "common craft" education
- almost all the boys choose technical work and most girls choose textile work



- Develop the pupils 'skills with crafts
- Self-esteem grows, joy and satisfaction of work
- Increase sense of responsibility for the work and use of material
- Learn to appreciate quality
- Take a critical, evaluative stance towards choices and products



## The instruction:

- Through projects and subject areas corresponding to pupil's stage of development
- Through experimentation, investigation and invention
- Guide the pupil in systematic, sustained, independent work



# The targets of instruction

- Develop creativity, problem-solving skills, understanding of technological phenomena
- Develop aesthetic, technical and psychomotor skills
- Introduce to the cultural traditions of crafts among the Finns and other peoples

# Key stages of crafts (FNBE 2004)

#### ■ Grades 1–4

"The instruction is implemented with the same content for all pupils, and encompasses technical and textile work."

- Objectives
- Core contents
- Description of good performance at the end of the fourth grade

# FNBE 2004

http://www.oph.fi/ops/english/POPS\_ne t\_new\_4.pdf

See also: http://www.oph.fi/english/frontpage.as p?path=447



## Key stages of crafts (FNBE 2004)

#### ■ Grades 5–9

"The instruction encompasses core technical- and textile-work contents."

In addition, pupils may be given the chance, in their crafts studies, to emphasize either technical or textile work according to their interests and

inclinations."



#### Grades 5-9 cont.

#### Objectives

 The objectives from the first through fourth grades will be dealt with greater depth. In addition....

#### Core contents

- General contents of crafts instruction...
- Contents: technical work
- Contents: textile work
- Final assesment criteria for a grade of 8
  - Visual design and technical planning
  - Production
  - Self-evaluation and considering of the process



# Techniques and materials:

- Themes of technical work: basic skills in various techniques with wood, metal, plastic, electronics, - elements of technology education, technical building, design
- Themes of textile work: basic skills in various techniques with fibre, yarn and clothe - aesthetic and technical design



- Technology education:
  - From making by hand to technical skills
  - technical reading competence, understanding on technical things/phenomenons, creative thinking, PBL
- Didactics:
  - From model learning and copying to working with drawings/models/measures
  - own design in selected themes, PBL

# Teacher education:

- Primary school teacher training: part of multidisciplinary studies 6 ECTS (all 60)
  - includes techniques with different materials as wood, metal, textiles, technology
  - how to teach crafts: pedagogy
- Possibility to take crafts as
  - minor studies 25 ECTS or
  - major studies 60 ECTS (subject teacher)

# Secondary school Craft teacher education

- Subject teacher education: secondary school & upper levels of teaching
- major subject (about 70-80 ECTS):
  - -craft science
  - -craft education
  - -educational sciences
  - + minor subject in related or other field
- Savonlinna, Helsinki, Rauma, Åbo

## Further information

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