JOB SHADOWING ERASMUS + VILLAPUTZU-SARDINIA 5-9 November 2018



Villaputzu is a municipality in the Italian island of Sardinia, located about 45 kilometres northeast of the Sardinian capital Cagliari. With a population of 4000 people, living of agriculture and livestock, the village has a secondary school (secondaria di 1º grado) with 100 students and 10 teachers.



As a small school, it has a familiar atmosphere and closely relationships between teachers and students. My job is to observe the development of Science lessons. There are 3 different science teachers, with various educational methodologies. I'm surprised by an efficient classroom management. Usually, teacher is strong in behavior management. There are a clear discipline code and all the incidents and other aspects about students must be in writing (homework, absences, class notes...). Schedule is from 8.30 to 13.30 h, with a 15 minutes break. Each group has its own classroom, equipped with projector and computer; students also have textbooks, and other support materials. I'm surprised that there is no science lab, and teachers prepare the practices into the classroom.

Here I show some class sessions:





Warm up activity and explaining contents, using a virtual book. In addition, students have got textbook and support materials









Laboratory in the classroom. Chemistry: solutions. Collaborative task: We need all hands on deck



Laboratory in the classroom: pH scale practice







Welcome in Sardinian language. Explaining about my country, culture and educational system

LAST DAY







Some aspects of Italian educational system are different from ours:

- Strong centralized system, poor regional competences
- Sardinian language not compulsory and marginal
- Schedule 8.30-13.30, from Monday to Saturday
- 18 class hours (teachers), and depending of the district, less remain in the school
- Support teacher all morning, to help in some classrooms
- Volunteer guard hours to earn extra money

In short, job shadowing programs allow the possibility to know more about other educational systems and different kinds of methodologies. In this case, I have learned a lot about how important is the task of the teacher, especially in depressed areas, where the schools have less resources than other regions. Hard work and effort, collaborative tasks, creativity and a great connection with students and parents are the keys for a good education.

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