

Thesis

TITLE: The Psárský forest in the district of Prague - West as a location of school science excursion

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ABSTRACT

The aim of the thesis is to examine the Psárský forest locality in the Prague-West region as regards its suitability for a school science excursion. The principal objective of the thesis was to prepare and take a comprehensive science excursion to Psárský forest and verify its educational efficiency for pupils of lower secondary school grades by means of pedagogical research. The research was carried out through didactical tests comparing the initial knowledge before the excursion (pretest) and acquired knowledge after the excursion (posttest). The didactical concept of the science excursion to Psárský forest was elaborated in accordance with the key aspects of the field biology didactics and based on complex evaluation of the fields of interest for the excursion planned to become a basis for the excursion contents and selection of suitable places for excursion activities. In addition to this, subsequent research via the attitude questionnaire to identify the excursions benefits within natural science education from the pupils' perspective was implemented within this thesis. The research results confirm that excursions are perceived as effective and, at the same time, well-liked educational form through which the efficiency of natural science teaching at lower secondary school grades may be increased.

KEYWORDS

Pupil, teaching, excursion, biology, Psárský forest, pretest, posttest, questionnaire, Prague