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Goerudio models or how to motivate students to love science

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The article is a study of the main outputs created within the Goerudio project (543223-LLP-1-2013-1-LV-KA4- KA4MP), which has been implemented in seven European countries, as part of a European funded project in the framework of the Lifelong Learning Programme – Transversal Programme – Key Activity 4 Multilateral Project. The article focuses on the Goerudio educational models, which have been developed through the joint efforts of the learning community of science teachers and students set up during the project lifetime. The Goerudio educational models are metaphors, associations or analogies students are guided to make between complex scientific concepts and common everyday issues. They connect students' familiar and concrete experience with the unknown and abstract information provided by scientific subjects. The models are supported by drawings, pictures or films, which make them even more memorable and accessible. The study examines the steps and activities leading to the creation of the models, as as well their role in enhancing students' motivation to learn science. Suggestions as to how to create and use the Goerudio models are also given through the presentation of the best Goerudio models devised. The article concludes with teachers' feedback: the Goerudio educational models are tools which not only enable learners to get a better understanding of the scientific subjects but also stimulate their interest in science.

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