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The Universe as a Physics Laboratory: Assessment of parents' attitudes and their support of astronomy education at primary school

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Astronomy holds a unique position among the sciences for its capacity to inspire curiosity and interdisciplinary learning. Despite its potential, its presence in curricula remains limited, overshadowed by traditional physics topics. In Slovakia, astronomy is only an optional subject in primary schools, with inconsistent implementation across educational institutions. Our study [1] examines parents' attitudes toward astronomy education, emphasizing its role in enhancing STEM engagement. By identifying key factors influencing parental support—such as their educational background, prior exposure to astronomy, and children's interactive learning experiences—the research provides arguments and support mechanisms for teachers to integrate astronomy into their lessons.

Education level

Age 12-15 (Secondary education)

Physics topic

Astronomy and Astrophysics

Research focus

Other

Research method

Mixed method (qualitative & quantitative)

Organizing preference criteria

Author: Ms SCHMÖGNEROVÁ, Karin

Co-authors: KIRES, Marian (Institute of Physics Faculty of Science UPJS in Košice, Slovakia); Mr GÁLIS,

Rudolf

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