

Project «Water and Environment»: Improving educational practices in the aquatic environment.

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Project abstract

The project "Water and Environment" for the improvement of educational practices in the aquatic environment, is a research project led by four members of the Research Group of Physical Education at the University of Vic (GREF) experts in water activities.

The aim is to train the technicians who teach swimming during school hours. The training is based on improving water treatment practices and competence to face a **contradictory scene** where clubs develop educational content and where schools transfer to clubs part of its educational activity to contribute significantly and positively to water activities fitting the educational curriculum.

Objectives

- Promote the presence of tasks focused on the **process and the exploration** of the own potential and environment.
- Incorporate **multilevel groups** that favor the inclusion of the different capacities of the students.
- Increase the presence of **cooperative activities** that place the child at the center of the process, as well as support for other children.

Methodology / Materials

To develop this work we used a **qualitative research approach**, as in any process of counseling, is given a type of educational relationships and learning that can only be understood in its depth from the **interpretative analysis** of the data. **Counseling** is a process that involves generating and sharing meanings (Boluda, 2009) that can only be analyzed from the interpretative methodology.

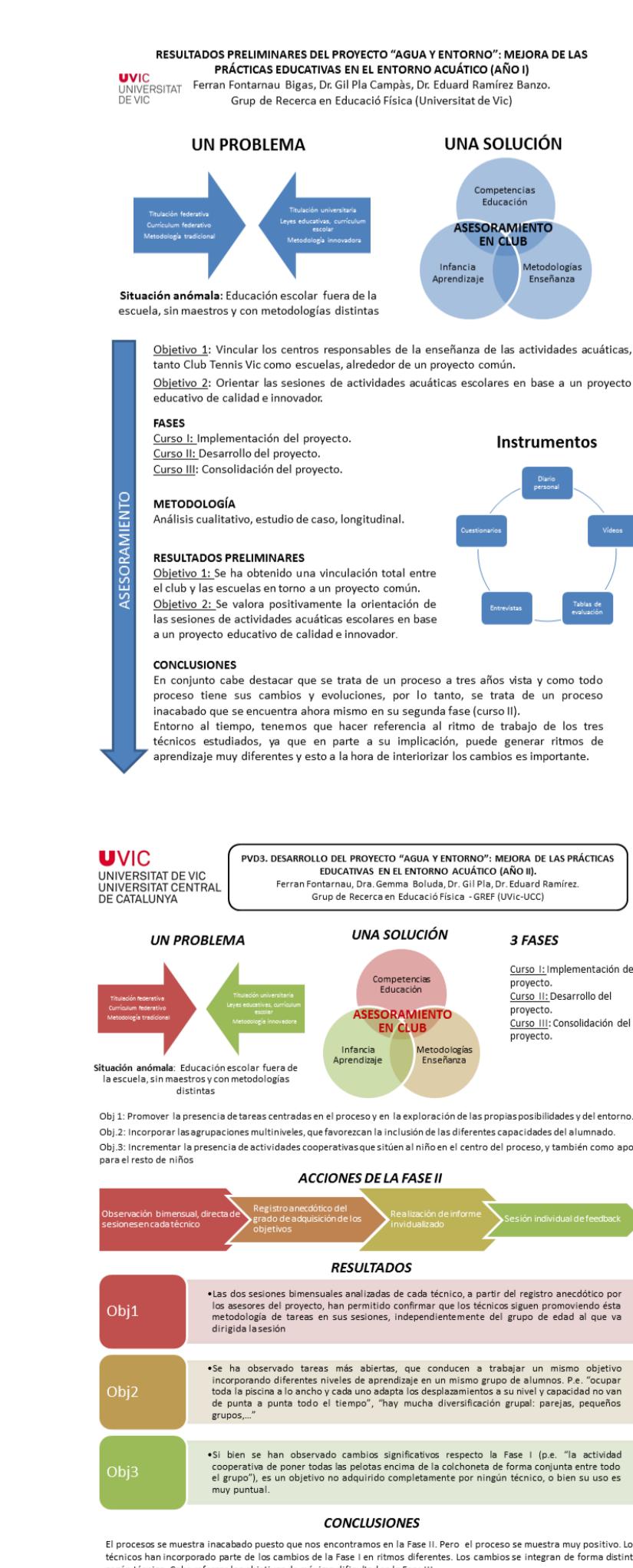
The **case study** is "the study of complexity and particularity of a specific case to get to understand their activity in important circumstances. [...] The strategy for decision making, ability to generate hypotheses, flexibility and applicability to natural situations "(Stake, 1999: 11). This methodology is the best to answer questions of the research carried out on the advice of the technicians in water sports club, thanks to the observation we make of educational practices carried out by technicians.



Findings / Research update

It's important to emphasize that this is a **three year process** and as every process has its changes and developments, therefore, it is an unfinished process. About **timings**, we have to mention that time spend by the three technicians studied, as part of its involvement, can generate very different learning rhythms and this is important to interiorize the changes. To present the poster, we will use incomplete data so far and therefore still has to be analyzed through triangulation of all information obtained from all research tools.

Learning outcomes of the **technicians** have already reversed the territory throughout of good practices. The main beneficiaries are the schools that hire services of swimming learning to the club. Therefore, to validate the project it will be needed to assess the degree of achievement of objectives based on an **observational methodology** in order to draw the necessary conclusions from the analysis of the situation throughout the academic year.



Conclusions

- The **rows** are no longer the hub of the organization of the work.
- Children's practice time** is maximum.
- The **learning environment** is fundamentally ludic.
- The idea of dynamic levels are incorporated into the work, always tending to the idea of "**all levels work together.**"
- The activities are not uniform and are **flexible** depending on the age of the children and the different development levels.
- Autonomy** of the child in the learning process is favored.

Bibliography

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