

Country: The Netherlands

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1. What is the aim of geography in primary education in your country?
Enhancing to develop a view at the world nearby and far away
2. What is the aim of geography in secondary education in your country?
Enhancing global understanding and citizenship by a study of man-nature relationships nearby and far away
3. What is the average number of hours of geography teaching in primary education in your country?
 10. *years old: one hour every week*
 11. *years old: one hour every week*
 12. *years old: one hour every week**In 90% of the schools geography is a separate subject*
4. What is the average number of hours of geography teaching in secondary education in your country?
 13. *years old: two hours every week*
 14. *years old: two hour every week*
 15. *years old: half an hour every week**In 70% of the schools geography is a separate subject. At vocational schools geography is often part of an integrated civics curriculum*
5. What are the most important themes in primary geography teaching in your country?
 - *topography, maps and atlases*
 - *water*
 - *different place and different life*
 - *world distribution of climate, landscapes, population and culture*
6. What are the most important themes in secondary geography teaching in your country?
 - *water*
 - *climate*
 - *energy*
 - *population and space*
 - *rich and poor*
 - *frontiers and identity*
 - *sustainability*
 - *geographical skills*
7. What is the position of geography in het upper levels of secondary education in your country?
Geography is optional for 75% of the students in the upper levels of secondary education. The number of students with geography in the upper levels of secondary education is decreasing.

8. What is the biggest problem for geography teaching in your country?

- *Since 2007 geography is not compulsory anymore in the upper levels of secondary education.*
- *Media and politics give more attention to history than to geography.*
- *Level of geography of teachers in primary education is too low.*

9. Mention one or more good practices or very successful projects of geography teaching in your country.

- *Leren denken met aardrijkskunde (Dutch version of David Leat's Thinking Through Geography)*
- *EduGIS (www.edugis.nl), a national portal for primary and secondary education (in Dutch only)*
- *Digischool geography, a national digital platform for teachers to exchange geography materials (in Dutch only)*

10. Mention research projects in the field of geography teaching in your country.

- *Tim Favier – a design research project to help to introduce GIS in the upper level of secondary education*
- *Katie Oost – how to organise fieldwork for vocational schools successfully?*
- *Henk Notté – developing an adaptive test for geography*
- *Marian Blankman- improving the quality of geography teacher training courses for primary education*
- *Adwin Bosschaart – how to improve water education and risk perception of secondary school students?*

11. Mention publications or websites with information in English about geography teaching in your country.

- WILDSCHUT, H. & J. VAN DER SCHEE (2007) Searching for Strategies to Help Students to Structure Their Geographical Research Papers in a Domain Specific Way. *International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education* 16 (4), pp. 351-366.
- SCHEE, J. VAN DER & S. LANGIUS (2008) Dutch Children's Understanding of Place, Society, Environment, their World and the Future. In R. Gerber & M. Robertson (eds.) *Children's Lifeworlds: Locating Indigenous*.
- FAVIER, T. & J. VAN DER SCHEE (2009) Learning geography by combining fieldwork with GIS. *International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education* 18 (4) (in press)

12. Mention contact addresses for with information about geography teaching in your country.

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