A Multidisciplinary Approach to Teaching Metals as Part of the Elementary School Curriculum in Serbia

Abstract

The multidisciplinary approach to the study of metals which we are proposing includes the modernization of the curricular content and its connection with everyday life. The use of additional teaching material in elementary schools in rural and urban areas in the wider region of the city of Niš has contributed to increased interest and activities on the part of the schoolchildren, which has in turn led to a significant quantitative improvement in their knowledge of chemistry in general, but also of metals in particular. All of the schoolchildren achieved a satisfactory level of knowledge (>50%) following the implementation of the expanded curriculum.

Keywords: teaching metals, elementary school

Introduction

Chemistry is a part of our everyday life. Knowledge of chemistry enables us to understand and explain the world around us, including both the occurrences and changes that take place in it. It offers explanations of many things from everyday life, ranging from water and food, via various products we use, to means of preserving our environment.

Educating schoolchildren about chemistry enables them to choose a job in the chemical industry and other related fields. Knowledge of chemistry is necessary for work in almost all other sciences, including biology, medicine, pharmacy, technology, environmental sciences, archaeology, geology, etc.