Carol,

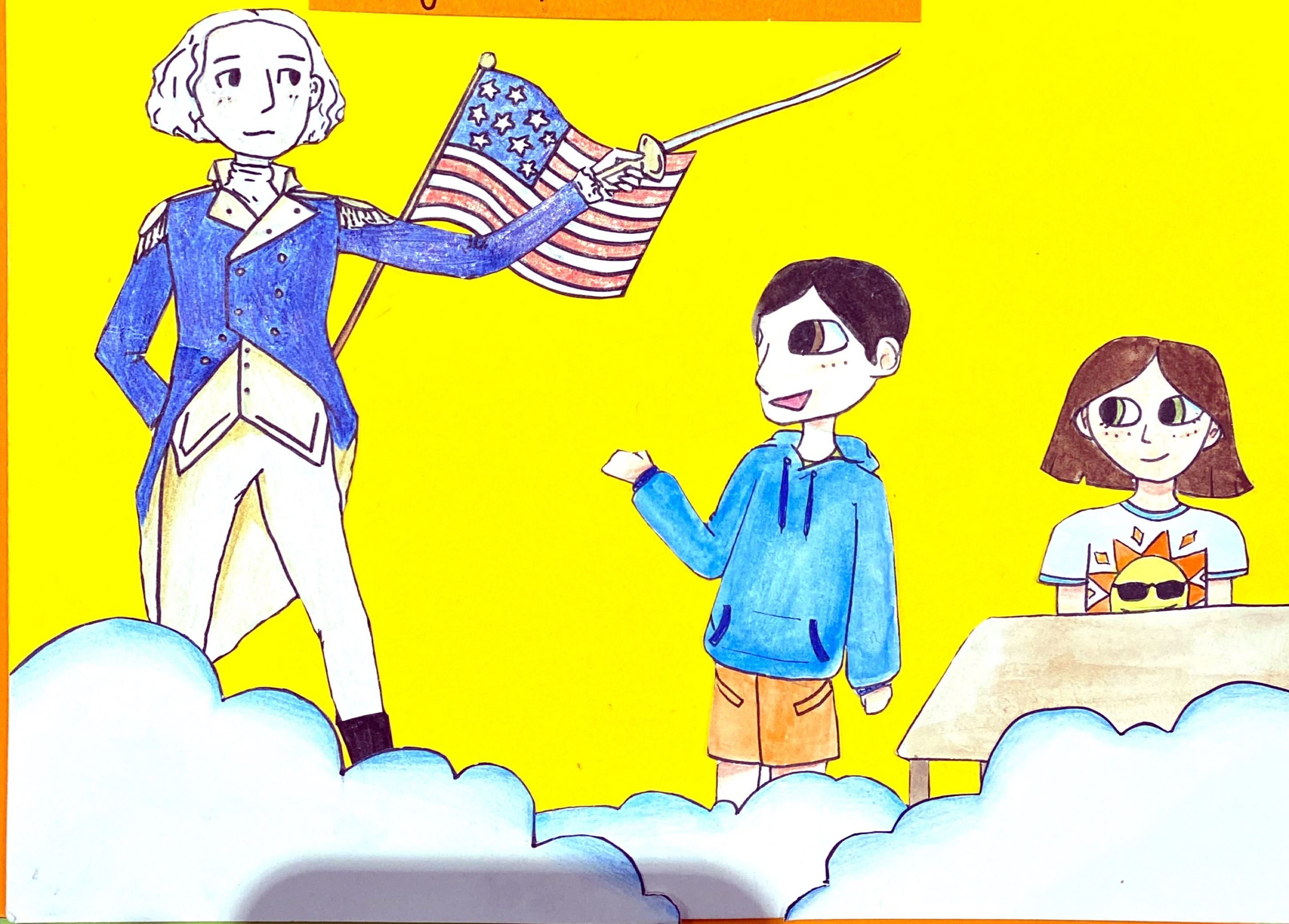
I hope our competition entry reaches you safe and sound. Regardless of the outcome of the competition, we would really appreciate if we could get the scrapbook back when all complete on your side. We want to keep it as a momento in school and to show future classes - hence why we have duplicated everything as Gaeilge.

I am more than happy to return to collect.

Go raibh míle maith agat, Aoif

Start progect 2022

Rang 5A Gaelscoil Dara :)



Réamhrá

Dia dhaoibh! Is muidne Rang a 5A i nGaelscoil Dara, An Rinn Mhór, Co. na Gaillimhe. Is rang fiosrach, fuinniúil muid agus is aoibhinn linn a bheith ag tabhairt faoi dhúshláin suimiúla i gcuideachta Múinteoir Aoife. D'fhoghlaim muid an t-uafás agus d'fhorbair muid réimse leathan scileanna le linn ár dtrialach don chomórtas START agus tá súil againn go dtaitníonn an méid atá déanta againn libh.

We are Rang a 5A from Gaelscoil Dara, Renmore, Co. Galway. We are a curious, energetic class and we love to take on new and exciting challenges with our teacher, Múinteoir Aoife. We have learned so much and developed so many skills while completing our project for the START competition and we hope you enjoy reading about our work.

Le meas,

JdP RNíR ÉÓD TNíA ANíM

CÓC GMacS ENíC LmacGS

SNíL JmacT Cníc Sóc NMACA

ENíT HNíT JNíB KmacA GNíD

ANíC ANíG CÓG EÓD BÓD

LNíG JÓC & Múinteoir Aoife.

RÉAMHOBAIR

Dhírigh Múinteoir Aoife ár n-aird ar an gComórtas START don chéad uair i mí Feabhra. Mar rang, is aoibhinn linn Eolaíocht agus comórtais. Mar sin, bheartaigh muid d'aon ghuth cuir isteach air.

I dtús báire, bhí orainn foghlaim faoi céard is ea 'Triail Randamach Chóimheastóra' ann. An sainmhíniú a fuair muid ó UNICEF ná:

> ***"A randomized controlled trial (RCT) is an experimental form of impact evaluation in which the population receiving the programme or policy intervention is chosen at random from the eligible population, and a control group is also chosen at random from the same eligible population. It tests the extent to which specific, planned impacts are being achieved."***

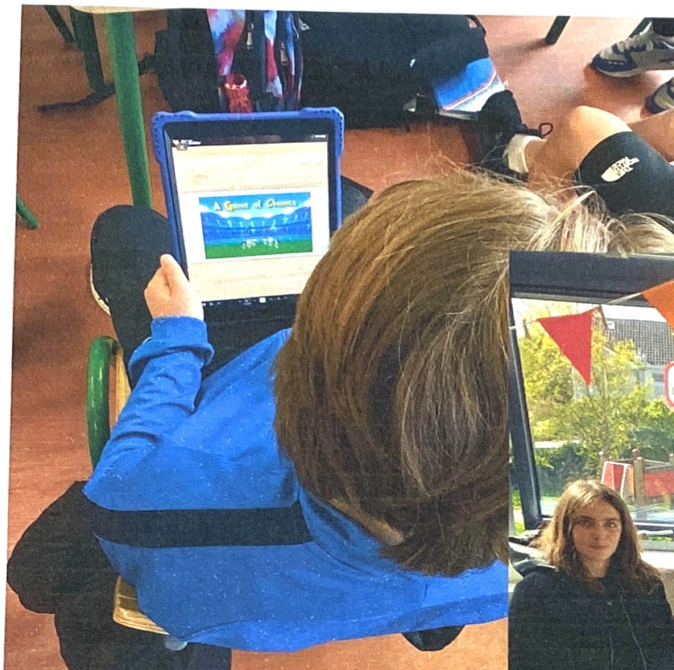
Chomh maith, d'imir muid an cluiche idirghníomhach ar shuíomh an chomórtais. Chuir sé sin muid ar an eolas faoin méid a bhí le déanamh againn agus na gnéithe tábhachtach, go háirithe go mbeadh na grúpaí socraithe go randamach.

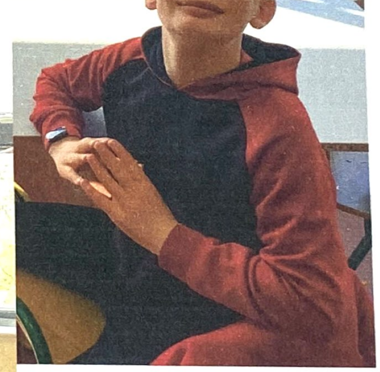
***

Our teacher brought START to our attention for the first time in February. As a class, we love Science and competitions so entering was a no-brainer!

Firstly, we had to learn about Randomised Control Trials and found the above definition from UNICEF very useful. We also played the interactive game on the competition website. This helped us to understand exactly what was required. In particular, we learned about the importance of randomly assigning our experimental and control groups.

RÉAMHOBAIR





CÉIM 1

Ceist A Phiocadh // Choosing Our Trial Question

An chéad chéim ná tubsmaoineamh a dhéanamh le ceisteanna go mbeadh suim againn a fhiosrú. Chruthaigh muid 'Jamboard' lenár gcuid smaointe a chur le chéile. I ndiaidh sin, d'eagraigh muid ár smaointe le cód dathanna:

Glas - iad sin go dtiocfadh leo a bheith go maith.

Buí - iad sin a bhí suimiúil ach nach raibh muid cinnte fúthu; b'fhéidir go mbeadh fadhbanna leo.

Bándearg - iad sin go raibh orainn scaoileadh leo dá bharr coinníollacha ama agus srianta Covid a bhí i bhfeidhm ag an am.

Uaireanta, bhí díomá orainn scaoileadh le smaointe suimiúla ach sa deireadh bhí muid fágtha le go leor smaointe a bhí go hiontach ☺

***

Our first step was to brainstorm questions that we would be interested in investigating. We created a Jamboard to put all our ideas in one place. Next, we organised our ideas using colour codes:

Green ideas were those we thought could work well.

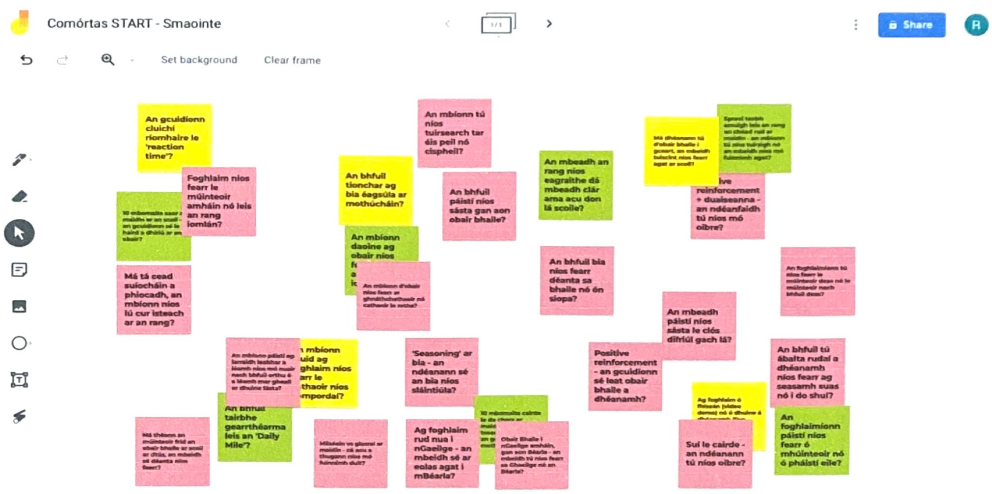
Yellow ideas were interesting but we weren't so sure about; we might run into some problems.

Pink were ideas that we had to rule out due to time restraints or due to Covid restrictions that were in place at the time.

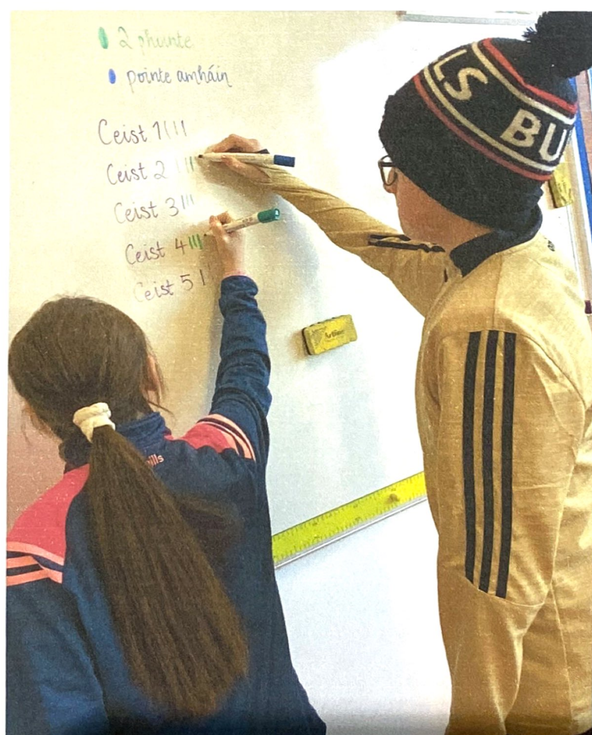
At times it was disappointing having to move some of our great ideas to pink but we were still left with lots of amazing questions.

CÉIM 1

Ceist A Phiocadh // Choosing Our Trial Question



Tubsmaoineamh ar Jamboard



Ag comhaireamh na vótaí

CÉIM 1

Ceist A Phiocadh // Choosing Our Trial Question

Shocraigh muid ar ghearrliosta le cúig cheist go mbeadh muid sásta a fhiosrú. Rinne muid vóta leis an gceist deiridh a phiocadh:

- An n-oibríonn páistí níos fearr le ciúnas/beagán fuaime/go leor fuaime?
- An bhfuil tairbhe gearrthéarma le fáil ón Míle Órga?
- An bhfoghlaimíonn páistí níos fearr ó chéile ná ó mhúinteoir?
- An mbeadh rang níos eagraithe dá mbeadh clár ama acu don lá?
- Má tá 10 noiméad am saor/am le cairde/am sa gclós ag páistí ar maidin, an mbíonn siad ag mothú agus ag obair níos fearr i rith an lae?

Chuir gach duine a gcéad agus dara rogha ar phíosa paipéir agus rinne muid na vótaí a chomhaireamh. Fuair gach céad rogha dhá phointe agus fuair gach dara rogha pointe amháin. An cheist a fuair an líon is mó pointí ná...

An bhfoghlaimíonn páistí níos fearr ó chéile ná ó mhúinteoir?

***

We settled on 5 questions that we would be happy to investigate and then did a class vote to decide on the final question:

- Do children work better in silence/with a little noise/a lot of noise?
- Are there short-term benefits to the Daily Mile?
- Do children learn better from one another or from a teacher?
- Would a class be more organised if they had a timetable for the day?
- If children are given 10 minutes of free time/time with friends/time in yard in the morning, do they feel better and work better for the rest of the day?

Everyone gave a first and second preference on a piece of paper and we counted the votes. Two points were given for first preferences and one point for second preferences. In the end, the question with the most points was...

Do children learn better from one another or from a teacher?

CÉIM 2

Ár dTriail A Chlárú // Registering Our Trial

Chuir muid ár gcuid sonraí ar fad chuig lucht an chomórtais chun tabhairt le fios dóibh an cheist a bhí ar intinn againn.

Ní raibh aon fhadhb againn ach amháin nár éirigh linn uimhir ghutháin an mhúinteora a bhreacadh síos in am! ☹

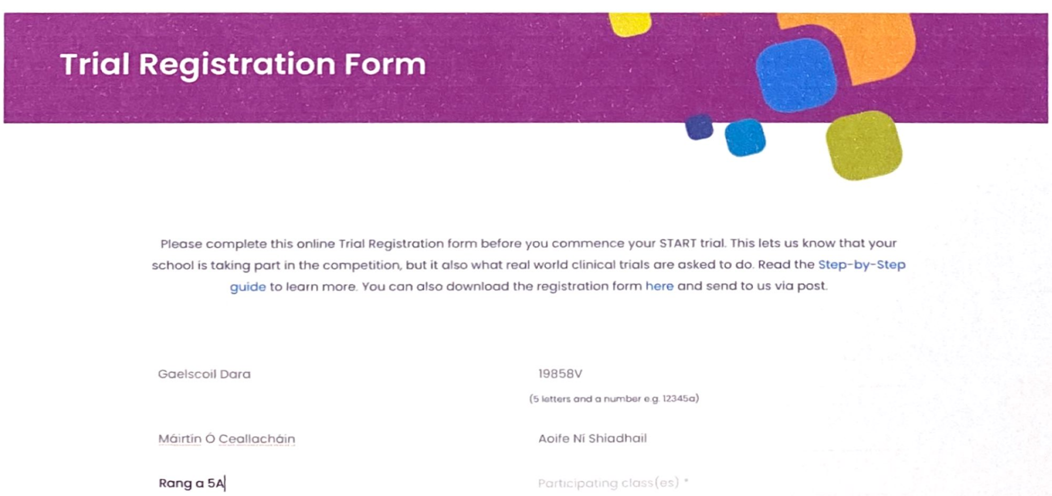
Anois, bhí sé in am don obair chrua - bhí muid ar bís!!

***

We sent all details of our trial to the competition organisers ahead of time to let them know what we were planning.

We had no problems other than struggling to copy down our teacher's phone number in time when the form was displayed on the big screen! ☹

Next it was time for the hard work to begin - we were buzzing!!



Trial Registration Form

Please complete this online Trial Registration form before you commence your START trial. This lets us know that your school is taking part in the competition, but it also what real world clinical trials are asked to do. Read the Step-by-Step guide to learn more. You can also download the registration form here and send to us via post.

Gaelscoil Dara	19858V (5 letters and a number e.g. 12345a)
Máirtín Ó Ceallacháin	Aoife Ní Shiadhail
Rang a 5A	Participating class(es) *

CÉIM 3 & 4

Fothorthaí A Phiocadh // Selecting Our Outcomes

Rannpháirtithe A Phiocadh // Selecting Our Sample

Bhí orainn socrú ar an gcaoi is fearr chun ár gceist a fhreagairt. Freisin, bhí orainn oibriú amach cén chaoi go mbeadh a fhios againn an raibh aon éifeacht shuimiúil.

An plean a chur muid le chéile ná go mbeadh 'múinteoirí' ó ár rang chun leath den Rang a 5 eile (ár gcairde i Rang a 5B) a mhúineadh. B'iad seo an **Grúpa Trialach**. Ansin, bheadh Múinteoir Caoimhín (múinteoir ranga Rang a 5B) ag múineadh an leath eile. B'iad seo an **Grúpa Cóimheasa**.

***

We had to decide how we wanted to answer our question and to figure out how we would know whether there was any interesting effect.

The masterplan we put together was that 'teachers' from our class would teach one half of the other 5th Class (Rang a 5B). This would be our **Experimental Group**. Meanwhile, the other half would be taught by their own teacher, Múinteoir Caoimhín. This would be our **Control Group**.

CÉIM 3 & 4

Fothorthaí A Phiocadh // Selecting Our Outcomes

Rannpháirtithe A Phiocadh // Selecting Our Sample

Bhí muid tar éis tús a chur le foghlaim faoi Réabhlóid Mheiriceá sa Stair agus, mar gheall nach raibh sé seo déanta ag an rang eile fós, cheap muid gur topaic mhaith é sin chun múineadh dóibh.

Faoi dheireadh, bheartaigh muid scrúdú a chruthú faoi Réabhlóid Mheiriceá le cuir ar gach duine i Rang a 5B. Le sin bheadh muid in ann scóranna a chur i gcomparáid agus fiosrú cén ghrúpa a d'fhoghlaim is mó!

***

We had recently begun learning about the American Revolution in History and as we knew Rang a 5B hadn't learned anything about this topic yet, we thought it might be a good one to teach them.

Finally, we decided to create a test about the American Revolution to give to everyone in Rang a 5B afterwards. This would allow us to compare scores and to see which group had learned the most!

CÉIM 4 & 6

Rannpháirtithe A Phiocadh // Selecting Our Sample

Ag Déanamh Rúnda É! // Making It Secret!

Bhí muid ag iarraidh cuid dár dtriail a choinneáil rúnda ón Rang a 5 eile mar gheall go dtiocfadh leo a bheith ag pleidhcíocht lenár dtorthaí - sin an rud is fearr faoi chairde!

Rinne muid go plean go n-inseodh muid dóibh go raibh cuid de na múinteoirí ag déanamh trialach le fiosrú cén chaoi a fhoghlaimíonn páistí is fearr ar scoil. Mar chuid de seo, bheadh seans ag daltaí ón dá Rang a 5 a bheith mar mhúinteoir do cheacht amháin. Chun cur leis an mbarántúlacht, chuir muid ceist ar an Leas-Phríomhoide, Múinteoir Treasa, an deis seo a fhógairt don rang.

***

We wanted to try to keep some elements of our trial secret from Rang a 5B, mostly because, being our friends, they might try to mess around with our results for a laugh!

We orchestrated a plan to tell them that some of the teaches were doing a bit of an experiment to explore how children learn best in school. As part of this, students from both 5th Classes would get to take on the role of múinteoir for a lesson. To add to the authenticity, we asked our Leas-Phríomhoide, Múinteoir Treasa, to announce this opportunity to the class.

CÉIM 4 & 6

Rannpháirtithe A Phiocadh // Selecting Our Sample

Ag Déanamh Rúnda É! // Making It Secret!

Mhínigh Múinteoir Aoife do Rang a 5B arís go raibh triail ar siúl agus an rud go díreach a bhí le déanamh acu. Bhí sí cúramach gan rá go sonrach gurb iad na torthaí ónár gcuid múinteoirí ag múineadh i gcomparáid le Múinteoir Caoimhín ag múineadh go raibh suim againn ann. Fuair muid toiliú scríofa ó gach duine i Rang a 5B. Níor thug aon duine dóibh faoi deara go raibh an deis múinte a bhí a fháil acu mar chuid de bheartaíocht seachráin s'againne!.

***

Múinteoir Aoife then reiterated to Rang a 5B that we were doing an experiment and explained carefully what was required of them. She was careful not to state that it was specifically the test results from OUR múinteoirí teaching them vs Múinteoir Caoimhín teaching them that we were interested in. We obtained written consent from each participant in Rang a 5B. None of them realised that giving them the chance to teach our class was simply a distraction tactic!

Gaelscoil Dara

Foirm Thoilithe

Tá triail ar siúl maidir leis an gcaoi go bhfoghlaimíonn páistí ar scoil. Ba mhaith linn cuireadh a thabhairt duit a bheith páirteach ann.

Séard atá i gceist leis ná é seo a leanas:

CÉIM 5

Na Rannpháirtithe A Roinnt // Dividing the Participants

Tar éis é sin, chuir muid ceist ar an Múinteoir Aoife eile atá sa scoil (nach bhfuil bainteach leis an triail in aon chóir!) ainmneacha a phiocadh as hata leis an nGrúpa Trialach agus an Grúpa Cóimheasa a chruthú go randamach.

***

We then asked the other Múinteoir Aoife in our school (who is not part of our project team!) to draw names from a hat so we could randomly assign the participants to the Experimental or Control Groups.

Ag Ullmhú

Bhí go leor ullmhúcháin le déanamh againn roimh an triail é féin.

An chéad rud ná go raibh orainn na 'múinteoirí' a phiocadh. Chomh maith, bhí orainn dianstaidéar a dhéanamh ar Réabhlóid Mheiriceá sa gcaoi go mbeadh muid in ann an topaic a mhúineadh don rang eile. A fhad is a bhí sé seo ar siúl bhí Múinteoir Aoife ag cuartú na daltaí a bhí spreagtha agus tiomanta le linn na foghlama. Bhí cinneadh deacair aici ar ndóigh ach sa deireadh piocadh John, Éanna, Laoise agus Josephine.

***

We had lots of preparation to do before we could begin the trial itself.

Firstly, we had to choose our 'múinteoirí'. Bhí also had to learn more about the American Revolution so that we would be comfortable and confident enough to teach it to the other class. While we were learning and studying, Múinteoir Aoife was looking out for those who were enthusiastic and focused on the task. She had a very difficult decision to make but in the end John, Éanna, Laoise and Josephine were chosen.

Na múinteoirí!

Ag Ullmhú

Nuair a bhí na múinteoirí piocaithe, bhí orainn iad a ullmhú chun bheith ag múineadh. Labhair muid mar rang faoi straitéisí múinte agus modhanna éagsúla chun cabhrú le foghlaim. Bhí muid ag iarraidh ceacht shuimiúil, spraoiúil a chur le chéile.

Shocraigh muid ar amlíne déanta as daoine a chruthú le scéal na Réabhlóide a insint. Mar shampla, bheadh na múinteoirí in ann daltaí ón rang a phiocadh chun feidhmiú mar na heachtraí móra, mar shampla an 'Boston Tea Party' agus Cath Yorktown. Cheap muid go mbeadh tuiscint níos fearr acu más rud é go raibh siad páirteach sa scéal. Bhí póstaeir againn freisin agus luaschartaí leis na dátaí tábhachtacha.

***

When we had chosen our múinteoirí, we need to prep them to be able to stand up in front of the other class and teach. As a class, we spoke about teaching strategies and different things we could do to help with learning. We wanted the lesson to be fun and interesting.

We decided to create a human timeline to tell the story of the Revolution. For example, our múinteoirí could pick out different students from the class to stand in as different big events or moments in the story, such as the Boston Tea Party and the Battle of Yorktown. We thought they might understand and remember better if they were part of the story themselves. We also had posters and flashcards with the important dates.

Ag Ullmhú

Rud mór a bhí le múineadh againn ná Neamhspleáchas - sé sin an rud a bhí na coilíneachtaí ag troid ar seo. Ar ndóigh, is focal mór, casta é sin. ACH bhí straitéis chliste againn - d'úsáid muid Nutella le'n é sin a chur in iúl. An Nutella/Neamhspleáchas - sin é an duais, an rud a bhí gach duine ag iarraidh. Bhí súil againn go mbeadh cuimhne níos fearr ag na daltaí air mar gheall ar an nasc le rud álainn cosúil le Nutella! Bhí sé go maith gur thosaigh an dá fhocal le N freisin ☺

***

A big thing we had to teach the class was Neamhspleáchas (Independence) - that is, what the colonies were fighting for. Of course, this is a big, difficult word, especially as Gaeilge. BUT we had a clever strategy - we used Nutella as a sort of symbol. The Nutella/Neamhspleáchas was the prize, the thing that everyone wanted at the time. We hoped that the students would remember the word better when there was a link with something as yummy as Nutella! It also helped that both words start with N ☺

Ag Ullmhú

Leis na cinnithe móra déanta agus plean curtha le chéile, thosaigh muid ag cleachtadh go crua! Ag an bpointe sin bheartaigh muid ar chúntóir ranga a chur leis an bhfoireann múinteoirí chun cabhair a thabhairt leis an bhfearas ar fad a bhí againn. Phioc na múinteoirí iad féin Brendan mar gheall go mbíonn sé eagraithe i gcónaí.

Chomh maith, bhí orainn scrúdú a chruthú le cuir ar an rang eile tar éis na ceachtanna. D'obair muid i ngrúpaí ag iarraidh teacht aníos le ceisteanna. Sa deireadh shocraigh muid ar 8 gceist ilrogha. Bhí muid sásta go mbeadh na múinteoirí in ann iad a chlúdach le linn an ama a bhí acu. Bhí muid sásta feisin gur iad sin na rudaí is tábhachtaí chun díriú orthu. Is féidir an scrúdú a fheiceáil thall.

***

Once the big decisions had been made and the plan was finalised, we started practising! At that point we decided to add an Assistant to the team of teachers to help with all our props. The múinteoirí themselves chose Brendan because he's always very organised.

We also had to create the test to give to both the Experimental and Control Groups after the lessons to see how much they had learned. We worked in groups to come up with suitable questions. In the end we settled on 8 multiple choice questions. We were happy that the múinteoirí would be well able to cover these points during the time they had to teach. We were also satisfied that these were the most important points to focus on. The test can be seen on the next page.

Réabhlóid Mheiriceá

1) Cé mhéad cóilíneacht a rinne an Bhreatain i Meiriceá?

- ☐ 11
- ☐ 12
- ☐ 13
- ☐ 14

2) Chuir an Bhreatain cáin ar Mheiriceá chun íoc ar son...

- ☐ Cogadh na Seacht mBliana
- ☐ Réabhlóid Mheiriceá
- ☐ An Dara Chogadh Domhanda
- ☐ An Chéad Chogadh Domhanda

3) Cén t-ainm a bhí ar an agóid cháiliúil a rinne na cóilíní i gcoinne cáin na Breataine?

- ☐ Neamhspleáchas
- ☐ Forógra na Saoirse
- ☐ Boston Tea Party
- ☐ Cath Yorktown

4) Cad a bhí na cóilíní ag troid ar son?

- ☐ Nutella
- ☐ Rí na Breataine
- ☐ Cáin ar thae
- ☐ Neamhspleáchas ón mBreatain

5) Céard é 'neamhspleáchas'?

- ☐ Saoirse aon tae gur mhaith leat a fháil
- ☐ Saoirse do rialtas féin a bheith agat
- ☐ Saoirse a bheith ag troid le aon tír eile
- ☐ Saoirse dul go aon tír eile

6) Céard é 'daonlathas'?

- ☐ Go mbeadh Uachtarán piocaithe ag na daoine
- ☐ Go mbeadh Rí piocaithe ag na daoine
- ☐ Go mbeadh an Bhreatain imithe ón tír
- ☐ Go mbeadh George Washington mar Rí

7) Cén t-ainm a bhí ar chéad Uachtarán Mheiriceá?

- ☐ George Bush
- ☐ George Washington
- ☐ Abraham Lincoln
- ☐ Thomas Jefferson

8) I rith cén tréimhse a tharla Réabhlóid Mheiriceá?

- ☐ 1500idí
- ☐ 1600idí
- ☐ 1700idí
- ☐ 1800idí

CÉIM 7

An Triail Ar Siúl // Conducting Our Study

Rinne muid ár dtriail ar an Mháirt, 15ú Márta. Phioc muid Gemma chun bheith mar rúnaí ar an lá chun gach rud a choinneáil in eagar agus déanamh cinnte go raibh muid ag leanstan an clár ama i gceart.

Bhí an clár ama thall ullmhaithe againn roimh ré.

***

We conducted the trial itself on Tuesday 15th March. We assigned Gemma to be the secretary on the day so she could keep everyone right and help us to stick to the timetable.

The timetable we prepared can be seen on the next page.

CÉIM 7

An Triail Ar Siúl // Conducting Our Study

An Mháirt 15ú Márta 2022
1:15 - 1.30in
Experimental group in R5A classroom with R5A múinteoirí teaching them about the American Revolution - Múinteoir Aoife present. Control group staying in R5B classroom - Múinteoir Caoimhín teaching them about the American Revolution. Remainder of R5A with Bríona in the playground.
1:30 - 1:40in
Buffer time for swapping over and in case of any delays.
1:40 - 1:55in
Group 1 from R5A in R5B classroom learning about the Second World War from R5B múinteoirí - Múinteoir Caoimhín present. Group 2 from R5A in R5A classroom learning about the second World War from Múinteoir Aoife. Remainder of R5B with Bríona in the playground.
1:55 - 2:05in
Everyone returns to their own classroom - tests are handed out and completed. Múinteoir Aoife with R5B who are tested on the American Revolution and Múinteoir Caoimhín with R5A who are tested on the Second World War.

CÉIM 7

An Triail Ar Siúl // Conducting Our Study

Some of our participants - ready to learn!

CÉIM 8

Na Torthaí // The Findings

Nuair a bhí an triail déanta agus na sonraí ar fad bailithe, bhí sé in am dúinn cuid anailíse a dhéanamh.

Ar dtús, rinne muid gach scrúdú a cheartú. Bhain Múinteoir Aoife gach ainm de na scrúdaithe sa gcaoi nach mbeadh a fhios againn cé a rinne an scrúdú a bhí muid ag ceartú - cheap muid go raibh sé sin cothrom ar ár gcairde. Chuir an múinteoir ainm ar gach scrúdú agus bhí a fhios againn go raibh uimhir 1-12 sa nGrúpa Trialach agus 13-24 sa nGrúpa Cóimheasa.

Chruthaigh muid táblaí leis na sonraí ar fad - tá sé le feiceáil thall. Thug muid pointe amháin do gach freagra ceart, mar sin bhí scór as 8 ag gach rannpháirteach.

***

Once the trial was complete and all data collected, we had to begin data analysis.

Firstly, we corrected each test. Múinteoir Aoife took all names off the tests so we wouldn't know whose test we were corrected - we thought this was fairer on our friends. Our múinteoir then put a number on each test and we knew that numbers 1-12 were the Experimental Group and 13-24 were the Control Group.

We created a table with all the raw data - it can be seen on the next page. We gave one point for each correct answer so every participant ended up with a score out of 8.

ID	Grúpa	Ceist 1	Ceist 2	Ceist 3	Ceist 4	Ceist 5	Ceist 6	Ceist 7	Ceist 8	Iomlán
1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1		6
2	1	1		1	1		1	1		5
3	1	1		1	1	1		1	1	6
4	1		1			1	1	1		4
5	1			1				1		2
6	1	1		1	1			1	1	5
7	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	7
8	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	7
9	1	1		1		1		1		4
10	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	6
11	1	1	1		1	1		1	1	6
12	1				1	1	1	1	1	5
13	2			1				1		2
14	2	1	1	1			1	1	1	6
15	2	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	7
16	2	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	7
17	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
18	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
19	2	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	7
20	2	1	1	1		1		1		5
21	2							1	1	2
22	2	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	7
23	2			1				1		2
24	2	1		1		1	1	1	1	6

CÉIM 8

Na Torthaí // The Findings

Tar éis é sin, rinne muid an meán a ríomh, sé sin a meánscór a bhí ag an dá ghrúpa.

Grúpa Trialach - 5.25/8

Grúpa Cóimheasa - 5.58/8

Chonaic muid go raibh an meánscór píosa níos airde sa nGrúpa Cóimheasa, sé sin an grúpa a d'fhoghlaim faoi Réabhlóid Mheiriceá ó Mhúinteoir Caoimhín.

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After that, we began calculating the averages, that is the average score for each of the two groups.

Experimental Group - 5.25/8

Control Group - 5.58/8

Therefore, we found that the average score was a little higher for the Control Group, who had learned about the American Revolution from Múinteoir Caoimhín.

CÉIM 8

Na Torthaí // The Findings

É sin ráite, bhí muid ag iarraidh níos mó anailíse a dhéanamh ar na torthaí. Chuir muid grúpa le chéile le dianscrúdú a dhéanamh ar na scrúdaithe le feiceáil an raibh aon phatrúin ná aon toradh suimiúil os cionn an meáin.

Tharraing an grúpa ár n-aird ar chúpla rud suimiúil:

- Chonaic siad go raibh níos mó rannpháirtithe sa nGrúpa Trialach a fuair scór de 4 phointe ná níos ar an scrúdú (Graf 1 thall).
- Chonaic siad go bhfuair níos mó rannpháirtithe sa nGrúpa Trialach Ceist 4 agus Ceist 5 ceart ná mar a fuair rannpháirtithe sa nGrúpa Cóimheasa (Graf 2 thall).

***

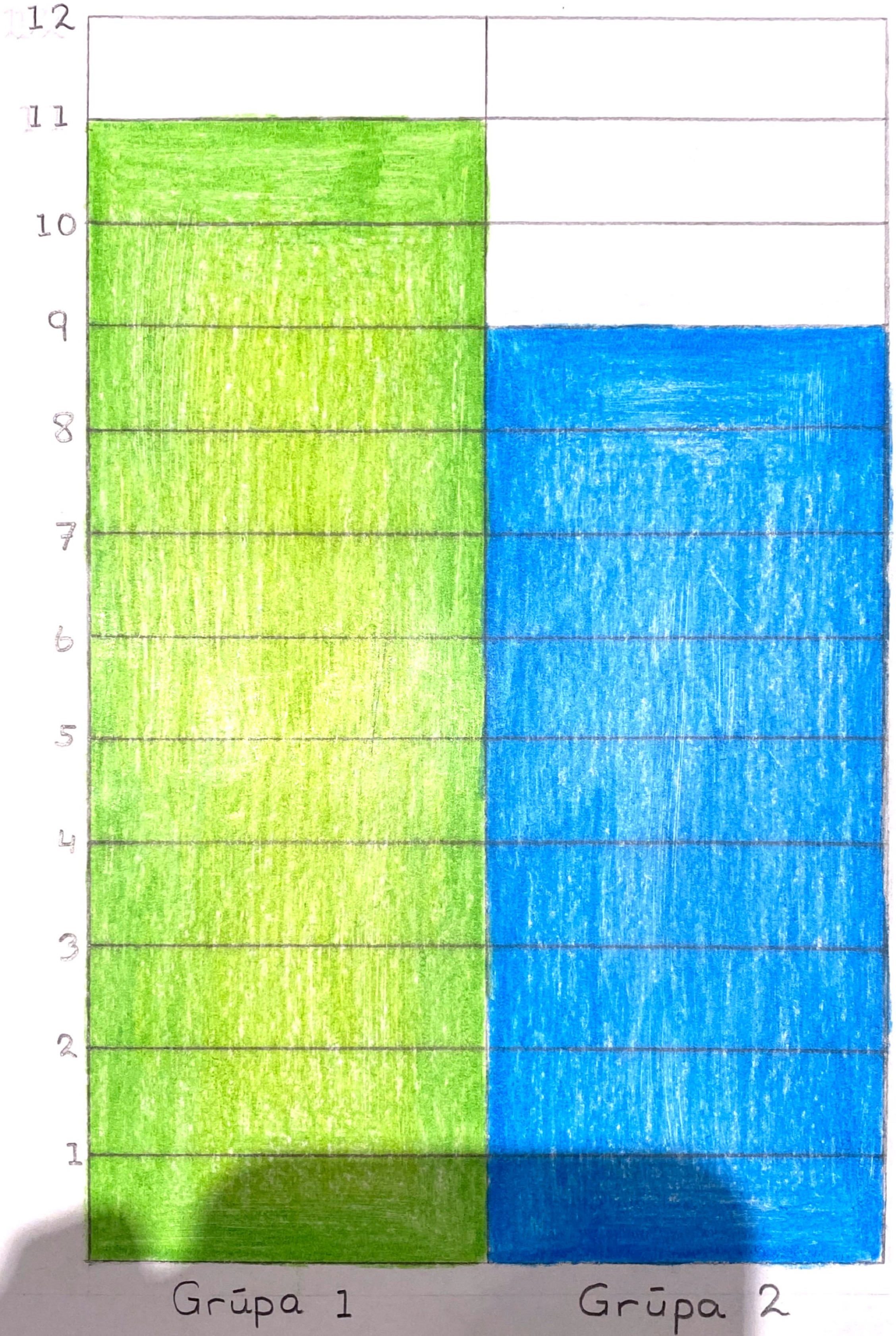
Having taken the average score into account, we still want to do some more analysis. We put together a Data Analysis group who analysed each test in detail to see if they could spot any patterns or interesting results that may not have been apparent from the averages.

They drew our attention to a few interesting findings:

- They found that more participants in the Experimental Group got a score of 4 or more on the test (Graph 1).
- They found that more participants in the Experimental Group got questions 4 and 5 correct than did participants in the Control Group (Graph 2).

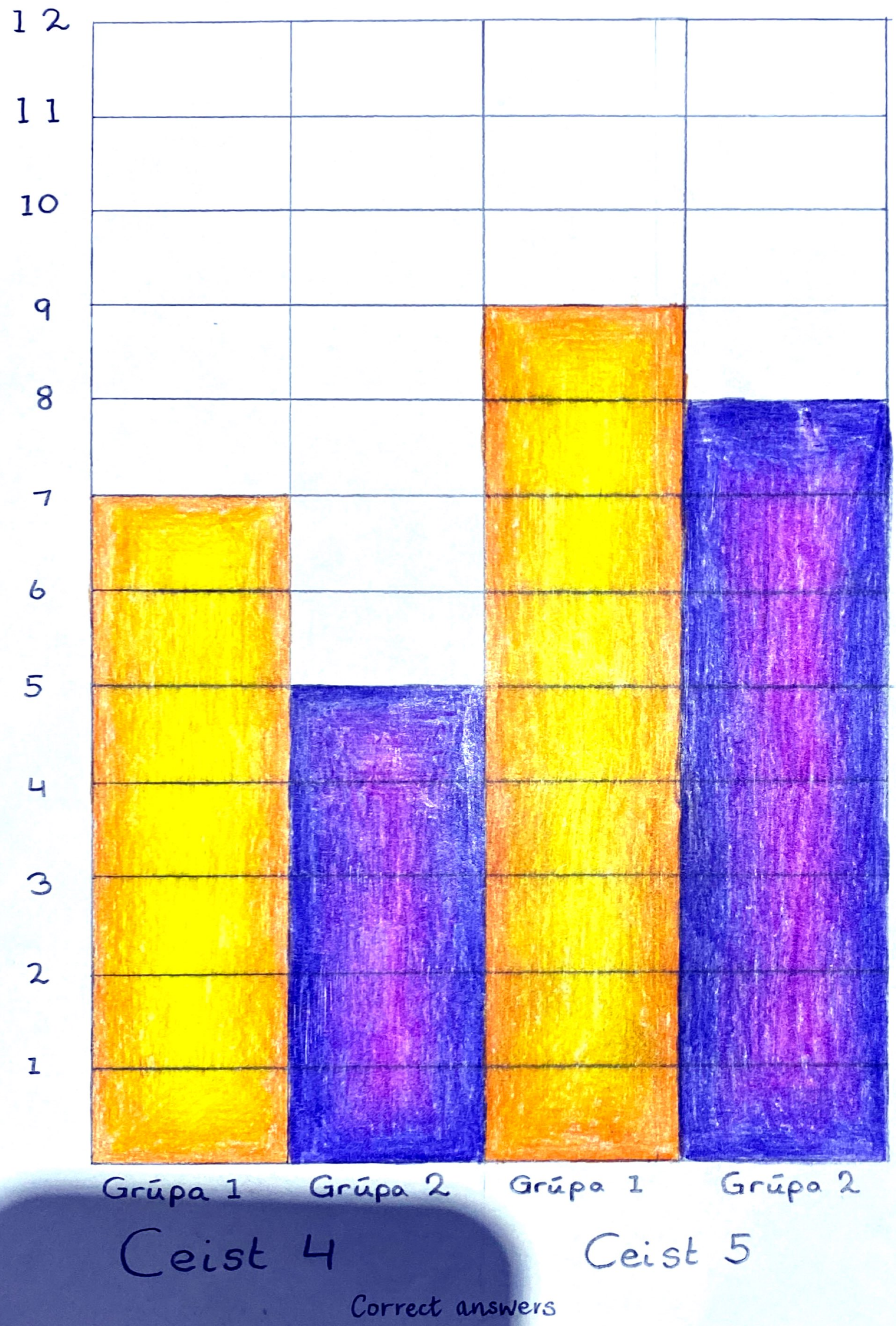
GRAPH 1

4 phointe +



Participants who scored 4+ on the test

GRAPH 2


12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
Grúpa 1
Grúpa 2
Grúpa 1
Grúpa 2
Ceist 4
Ceist 5
Correct answers

CÉIM 8

Na Torthaí // The Findings

An rud a thug muid faoi deara leis na torthaí seo ná nach mbíonn an meán in ann an t-ollphictiúr a thaispeáint duit an t-am ar fad. Cé go raibh meánscór níos airde ag an nGrúpa Cóimheasa, fuair níos mó daoine sa nGrúpa Trialach 4 phointe ná níos mó.

Chomh maith, chonaic muid go raibh ár straitéis leis an Nutella thar a bheith éifeachtach mar go bhfuair an Grúpa Trialach scóranna níos airde ar na ceisteanna a bhain le Neamhspleáchas.

Ar an iomlán, chonaic muid go ndearna na 'múinteoirí' jab maith ag iarraidh Réabhlóird Mheiriceá a mhúineadh. Ní raibh mórán difir idir na scóranna a fuair an dá ghrúpa. Is toradh suimiúil é seo agus b'fhéidir gur chóir do mhúinteoirí ranga níos mó úsáide a bhaint as na daltaí iad féin chun coincheapanna éagsúla a mhúineadh dá chéile.

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What we realised from conducting this analysis was that the average can't always give you the full picture of what is going on with the data. Even though the Control Group had a higher average score on the test, we found that more participants in the Experimental Group had a score of 4 or more.

As well as that, we found that our strategy with the Nutella was very effective because the Experimental Group scored higher on the questions about Neamhspleáchas/Independence.

Overall, we found that our 'múinteoirí' did a great job teaching the other class about the American Revolution. There wasn't much difference between the scores of the two groups. This is definitely an interesting finding and maybe going forward teachers should give students more responsibility when it comes to teaching one another.

Conclúidí

Mar choncluid, tá muid thar a bheith sásta leis an méid a rinne muid sa triail. Bhain muid an-sult as ár dtorthaí a roinnt leis an rang eile go háirithe - ní raibh cliú acu go raibh an comórtas seo ar siúl againn!

Feictear dúinne gur chóir go mbeadh níos mó freagrachtaí ag páistí sa seomra ranga. Ar ndóigh, braitheann sé ar aois na bpáistí. Ach cinnte, ag leibhéal Rang a 5, tá muid breá ábalta a bheith ag teacht aníos le smaointe agus straitéisí cruthaitheacha chun rudaí a mhúineadh dá chéile.

B'fhéidir go raibh fachtóirí éagsúla ar siúl sa triail a raibh tionchar acu ar na torthaí a fuair muid. Cinnte go bhfuil níos mó taithí ag Múinteoir Caoimhín ná mar atá againne. É sin san áireamh, b'fhéidir go raibh an Grúpa Trialach níos airdeallach mar gheall go raibh rud difriúl ar siúl.

Mar fhocal scoir, tuigeann muid go gcaithfidh níos mó fiosrúcháin a bheith déanta ar cheisteanna casta mar seo ach, mar a deir muid i gcónaí, tús maith leath na hoibre!

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In conclusion, we are delighted with what we have pulled off with this trial. We especially enjoyed getting to share our results and explain our trial to the other class - they had no idea that we were entering a competition!

Based on our findings, we feel that students should be given more responsibility in the classroom. Of course, it depends on the age of the children. However, there is no doubt that by the time children reach 5th Class, we are well able to help our teacher out by coming up with creative ways to explain things to one another.

It is possible that different factors were at play which may have influenced our results. Certainly Múinteoir Caoimhín has more teaching experience than us. That taken into account, maybe the Experimental Group were more attentive because there was something a little different going on.

Finally, we understand that this is a complicated question that needs more investigation but, as we always say, tús maith leath na hoibre!

Buíochas

Ba mhaith linn ár mbuíochas a ghabháil le na daoine ar fad a chuidigh linn ár dtriail a reachtáil:

- Rang a 5B as a bheith páirteach ann.
- Múinteoir Caoimhín a bhí chomh foighneach agus cabhrach linn ó thús go deireadh agus é sásta aon rud a dhéanamh dúinn.
- Bríona a bhí ag cuidiú linn sa rang i rith an tréimhse agus a thug gach tacaíocht dúinn agus muid ag tabhairt faoin triail.
- Múinteoir Treasa a chuidigh linn an triail a choinneáil rúnda.
- Múinteoir Aoife a roinn na grúpaí go randamach dúinn.
- Príomhoide na scoile, Múinteoir Máirtín, a thug tacaíocht dúinn cuir isteach ar an gcomórtas.