



Universität für Bodenkultur Wien

„KinderBOKU“ – science made for children

Centre of Education

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KinderBOKU- science made for children



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- KinderBOKU – what is it
- KinderBOKU-Themenkoffer
- BOKU and Children's University
- Sparkling Science – a research programme linking science with schools



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University and children

Since the 1990´s several universities in Austria have established institutions for children due to the ministry and it is still part of the development-plan of the universities

Development of different offers for child care for parents with the aim to support them being studying and working parents

Since 2008 several programmes have been developed and established for knowledge transfer for children and youth at the BOKU

University and children

On each university the establishment of the institutions differ from the Organisation, some are established at the Public relation organisation at their university others at Gender organisation. *www.unikid.at*

At the BOKU we have the „KinderBOKU“ at the Centre of Education.



The KinderBOKU



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Compatibililty of work, academic-
education and family



Knowledge transfer for children
and teenagers



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KinderBOKU - Compatibility of work, academic-education and family



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- Information and counseling services
- Child care for infants from 1 to 6 years – during the whole year
- Child care during conferences at the BOKU
- Child care during the school holiday periods
- Networking activities

KinderBOKU - science transfer

- Project: KinderBOKU-Themenkoffer
- KinderBOKU-Workshops in cooperation with libraries and schools
- Lecture for BOKU-students: „ Scientific Dialog with Children“
- Cooperation with other institution (Children s University)



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KinderBOKU - Themenkoffer science made for children



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- Scientific areas of the BOKU are prepared for children
- Box with prepared materials and media on certain subject areas
- Cooperation with scientists and students of the BOKU and elementary school teachers



KinderBOKU - Themenkoffer science made for children



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- Presentation of the subjects – by BOKU-students
- Low-threshold opportunity for all children from 4 to 10
- Used in kindergartens, elementary schools and extra-curricular-areas of education



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BOKU and Children s University



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- First Children s University in German speaking countries:
„Junge Uni“ at the University of Innsbruck in 2001
- First Vienna Children s University 2003
- Today: about 200 children s universities in Europe (100 in German speaking countries)

- BOKU - partner of Vienna Children s University (KinderuniWien) since 2008
 - organizing site “KinderuniBoku”

- BOKU - partner of KinderUniSteyr (Upper Austria) since 2007
 - several courses by BOKU-scientists in Steyr

Concept of Vienna Children's University as children see it



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- „Studienbuch“ (record of studies)
- ~450 courses (32 from BOKU)
- Student ID
- T-Shirt (color for 2012 is still a secret)
- > 4000 children
- Further activities: poster presentation, handicrafts, games, lecture for adults, ...
- Degree ceremony



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Concept of Vienna Children's University from "the other side"



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Umbrella-Organisation:
The Vienna University
Children's Office gGmbH

(financially) supported by:
BMWF, City of Vienna,
Sponsors, Universities

Date: 16.-19.7.2012

KinderuniWissenschaft



KinderuniMedizin



KinderuniBoku



KinderuniTechnik



KinderuniVetmed



Date: 9.-21.7.2012
2nd and 3rd weeks
in summer holidays

more than 4000
children



Persons involved



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- Lots of children (and their parents)
- BOKU-Scientists
- BOKU-Students
- BOKU Facility Management and ZID
- KinderBOKU-Team and Team of Children's Office



Why Children s University?



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- Science – society – dialog
- Lowers and simplifies the threshold to the University - children get to know how the university works
- Make the public aware of BOKU
- Making better teachers – training in teaching methods
- Promotes the exchange within the BOKU – exchange: teachers – students
- Raises the understanding of the teachers for their own subjects
- ...
- It s fun



Sparkling Science



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- Research programme of Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research (BMWF)
- Started 2007
- Linking science with schools
- No thematic restrictions
- Prerequisite: cooperation between science and schools
- 168 projects (94 already finished)
- Next projects start in September 2012
- Up to 170.000 € per project (2 years)
- ...

BOKU and Sparkling Science



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- BOKU is leader or involved in 12 projects
- Projects are dealing with:
 - biodiversity
 - space behavior of adolescents in the city
 - Reconstruction of regional climate using treerings
 - Indoor climate and concentration ability
 - Interactive learning-tools about environment friendly traffic
 - Research on moth larvae hibernating in spring meadows
 - Management of river areas, development of the natural spaces in small rivers, ecological and social functions of riverine wetlands
 - Global change impact on landscape and society
- lots of proposals in 4th call (decision in July)
 - f.e. support for pre-scientific papers (new rules in secondary schools)

Some experience



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- How to involve pupils:
 - Whole classes or selected persons, age
 - Type of schools
- Strict time schedule of schools
- Much time for communication and coordination
- Scientific methods suitable for involved children
- Interest of Ministry of Science
- Getting more/better data
- (critical) new questions to research area
- Better decision for scientific study?
- Many people informed about subject

Some interesting hyperlinks



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- <http://www.boku.ac.at/kinderboku.html>
- <http://www.unikid.at/>
- <http://www.kinderuni.at/>
- <http://www.kinderunisteyr.at/>
- <http://www.sparklingscience.at/en/>
- ...



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