

Calculation Key met? Apple pie!

October 14, 2014 by the editors

How do you get a child so far that it prefers to learn? And how calm you in passing also increases with *21st century skills* ? Meet Continuous Improvement or Continuous Improvement, the method of teaching guru Jay Marino. A Groningen village school shows that it works.

Miss Lidy OBS 't Jonkertje in Jonkersvaart throws pittenzak to students whom she wants the answer to the sum. So far nothing special. The text on the sign that hangs in her class, is called: "Next Thursday we can table 2 within 35 seconds cancel. That is the goal that Miss Lidy with Group 4 has set.

The reward: free play. In grade 8 students are now collectively to peel apples. Because 80 percent took the mathematics test,

as agreed in advance, they can now bake an apple pie. The graph on the "data plate" on the wall shows at a glance that the target, calculated the group average is achieved.



Dashboard

Working with objects and data boards in the classroom; it is part of the teaching Continuous Improvement (Continually Improve) by Jay Marino. To carry out his vision, the American educational consultant as in the Netherlands. In the class of Miss Lidy he explains how he came. Upon the idea of a data plate "If I autorij on my dashboard, I see how much fuel I have left and what the temperature is under the hood. In class I can also use information about my progress. So it is handy to have, with all your appointments that I make with the students. "A data plate there

New sources

Constantly Improving is based on educational and psychological studies, and the premise that teacher, parent and child together are responsible for education. In the classroom, this means that students agree on learning per week, month or year. Children help to decide on their own learning, and thus become motivated to learn from itself. The role of the teacher is a facilitator; He asks the right questions at the right time and encourages the child to look for new sources of knowledge itself. In addition to tablets, smartphones, and computers are used as tools. A *serious game* to learn the table 2 Prima. Constantly Improve operates entirely on the principle of *21st century learning* , where students are equipped with skills for the future. Marino: "A child knows best what it needs in this century."

Victory

In the USA, already working with thousands of schools Constantly Improve in the Netherlands are more than a hundred schools started it enthusiastically. As it Jonkertje that the method used for a year. Precisely on this small village school, where different groups sit together in class, it works well. Because in addition to the class meetings are each child's personal goals. Teacher Roxanne Writer: "One child may terminate the table of 3 within 20 seconds, the other within 35 seconds. Together with the class we agree that 80 percent must be within 30 seconds. The sense of victory if it succeeds, is such a big motivation. Really lovely to work with "The goals are always clear and SMART incidentally asked: . Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound.

Homemade rap

The learning process of the child is documented in a (digital) portfolio. This includes test results, which are used to improve. Organisational again But the Portfolio to more like parents in the development of their child.



There may also pictures of the school visit to a museum in it, or a rap that kids have made the mounting program on the tablet itself. Drawings, samples of how a student writes or sound recordings that reads a book, also fit into the portfolio.

Respectful

The teachers 'room' t Jonkertje has its own data plate. Then, the mission of the teachers: "We are respectful of each other, with an open and positive attitude." But also: "We hold a clear division of labor." The teachers and governing bodies to make arrangements team and set goals through the so-called circle PDSA (*Plan, Do, Study, Act*), in which a subject first improvement is analyzed and then improved. Examines whether the improvement resulted. Finally, the desired result

Gain time

Constantly Improving also raises questions. Teachers have been so busy, how come that far on goals and data plates? Marino thinks there with his method just to win a lot of time falls. "When I was in school, we had six weeks all the capitals of the world out of our minds to learn," he says. "Now every student she can look up online within five seconds. We learn how to handle it wise, then we save them a lot of time. "

Creativity

But which place gets more creativity in this method? When all goals must be measurable, is there still room for a pretty picture? Erica Sprang, director of 't Jonkertje, thinks so. "The students are constantly coming up with their own achievable goals. She teaches creative thinking and smart questions "She has the attitude to see change in the groups". You need a lot of pulling out all the stops to motivate children. With this method, you get motivation from themselves - . A power that everyone has "That it works in itself looks Sprang happen before her eyes. "Miss, we have another table to take home?" Asked a student last. "In order to practice at home? On the toilet"

- [More about Jay Marino and Continuous Improvement <http://www.jaymarino.me>](http://www.jaymarino.me)
- [Also read our article "Data Driven work on education "](#)

(Text: Veerle Corstens)

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