

Danish digital learning platforms

Themes: Digital materials and digital learning platforms in classroom; Quality in the production system of learning materials; Content-oriented curriculum and learning materials

Abstract

This symposium brings together three of the leading publishers of learning materials in Denmark and research in learning materials. The theme of the symposium is the digital, subject-specific educational portals that have come to play a great role in Danish high school teaching on all levels and in all subjects.

CLIO-online

Ann-Birthe Overholt Nicolaisen, Educational Innovation Manager

Since 2006 Clío has created a number of innovative services and differentiation tools for the classroom in addition to 45 interactive learning portals for all primary and lower secondary school subjects. Clío bases its work on high user involvement from both students and teachers and on the latest research and development in technology and didactics. Clío's educational technology is currently in use by more than 750,000 students and 80,000 teachers in Denmark and Sweden, and the company has just launched its first international product for English as Second Language. Behind all Clío's solutions lies a strong desire to create better learning experiences for each individual student.

Ann-Birthe Overholt Nicolaisen is working at Clío Lab as an Educational Innovation Manager and she will present our experiences, our current status and our plans for the future in three perspectives: First how Clío collaborate with the research field. Second, how we work hard to get Danish EdTech spread out in the world. And last but not least, how we see the differentiation potentials in Clío's products as a way of offering all students individual support and challenge in order to be able to participate on equal terms, when learning together with others.

Gyldendal

Mikael Pedersen, publishing director

Since 2011, Gyldendal has developed a product portfolio of educational sites ('fagportaler') that offer purely digital teaching materials for all subjects and all grade levels from 0 through 10.

These educational sites constitute the backbone of our publication list, and in many schools they have now partially replaced printed textbooks or supplanted them altogether.

In this presentation, publishing director Mikael Pedersen will summarise Gyldendal's experiences from 2011 up to now and glance towards the future. He will also focus on the ways in which the shift from printed to digital teaching materials has benefitted education and comment on the needs that have not been met. Finally, he will offer Gyldendal's take on the elements of future generations of educational sites.

Alinea

Charlotte Staun Christensson, UX designer

Designing educational platforms with the user

In august 2018 Alinea launched a new educational digital platform covering all subjects and levels in the Danish Primary School.

More than 400 teachers and students have been involved in the development process. Through observation, interviews, co-creation workshops and user testing the users have been involved through all steps of the product development. This has resulted in some quite interesting and rather surprising findings on how teachers work and children learn...

Content is designed for students using the latest research on how children learn. Learning concepts such as bite-sized content and brain breaks have been focal points when creating content.

A research perspective on the Danish educational portals

Stig Toke Gissel, head of The National Centre of Excellence for Learning Resources, UCL University College

The portals offer teachers and students a wide range of courses and teaching resources that can be adapted by the teacher to their specific needs and that teachers can combine as they see fit. Furthermore, each portal offers specific functions for supporting and scaffolding learning.

From a research perspective it is crucial that we analyze the potential of these portals and explore how teachers and students use them – and what these portals do to both curriculum, teaching and students activities in class. Stig Toke Gissel will characterize the educational portal and point out some potential advantages and drawbacks. Furthermore, findings from observations of teachers' and students' use of the portals are presented.