Soon 20 years of “La Main à La Pâte”, an international model for inquiry-based science education in elementary school

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I’ll present the status and the achievements of La Main à La Pâte, an international model for inquiry-based science education in elementary schools developed in France since 1995, under the impulse of Nobel prize Georges Charpak and Académie des Sciences. The pedagogical approach is based on study of objects of the real world, with science as an inquiry. Emphasis is put on: Questioning, Autonomy, Experimenting, Collective construction of knowledge. An important aspect of our action is the development of international partnerships, with for instance websites in six languages. I’ll also present the new program Maisons pour la science started in France to insure the professional development of teachers in science.

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