



Promoting Attainment of
Responsible Research &
Innovation in Science
Education



Socio-Scientific Inquiry Based Learning (SSIBL): gearing social action to scientific knowledge

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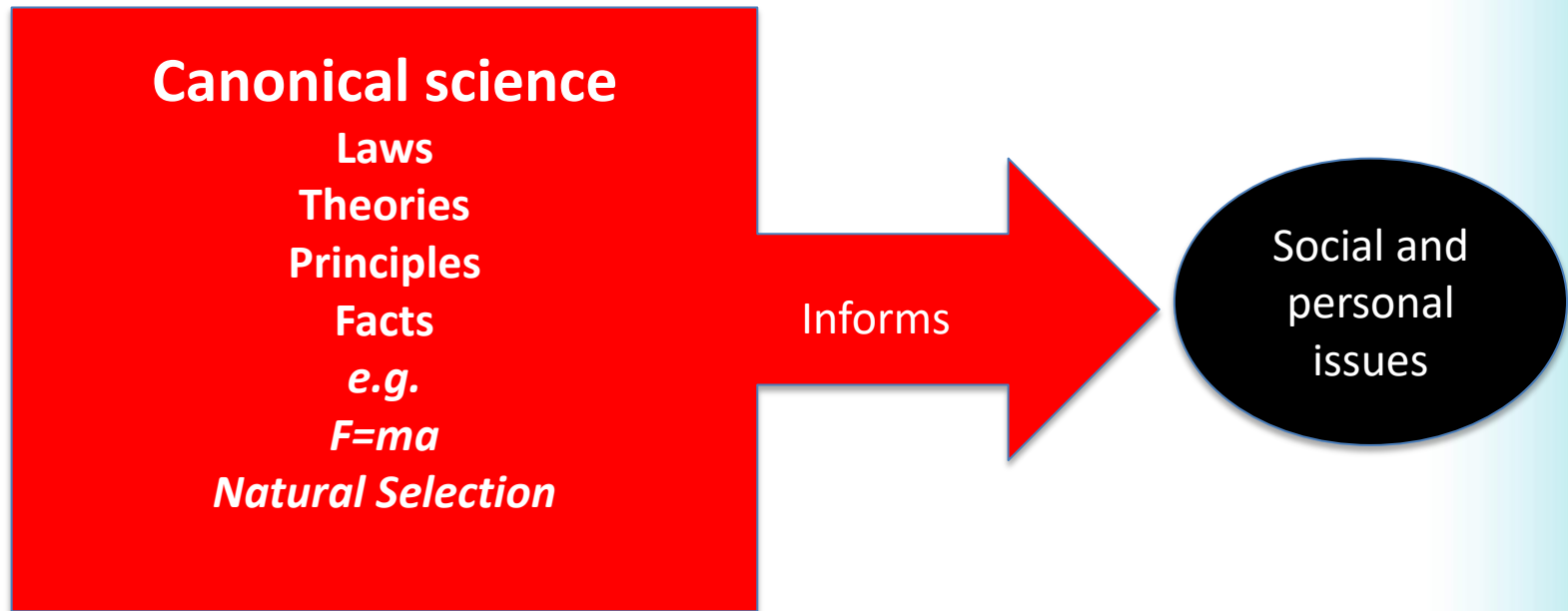
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Vision I/Vision II approaches



Knowledge: *stabilised, essentialised*

Role of SSIs: *illustrative*

Curriculum purpose: *Supporting
stabilised (substantive) knowledge*



'... science can fairly accurately judge the consequences of bringing together a number of sub-critical masses of U-235 above a densely populated

Vision I curricula: the problem of empiricism

Science can fairly accurately judge the consequences of bringing together a number of sub-critical masses of Uranium-235 above a densely populated geographical area. It can say absolutely nothing, however, about whether such an action would be right or wrong. (Hall, 1999)

This is a predominantly positivist/empiricist view where facts sit separately from values, i.e. they are dichotomous

Positivism/Empiricism and detached values underpin most science curricula



Towards epistemological change

- **Empiricism**
- Nuclear reactions can be explained through critical masses etc but can say nothing about how we should act.

*Humean Fact-value
dichotomy*

- **Critical realism**

Our knowledge of nuclear reactions explains their power to destroy all organic life therefore we need to understand how we can organise to prevent such an outcome.



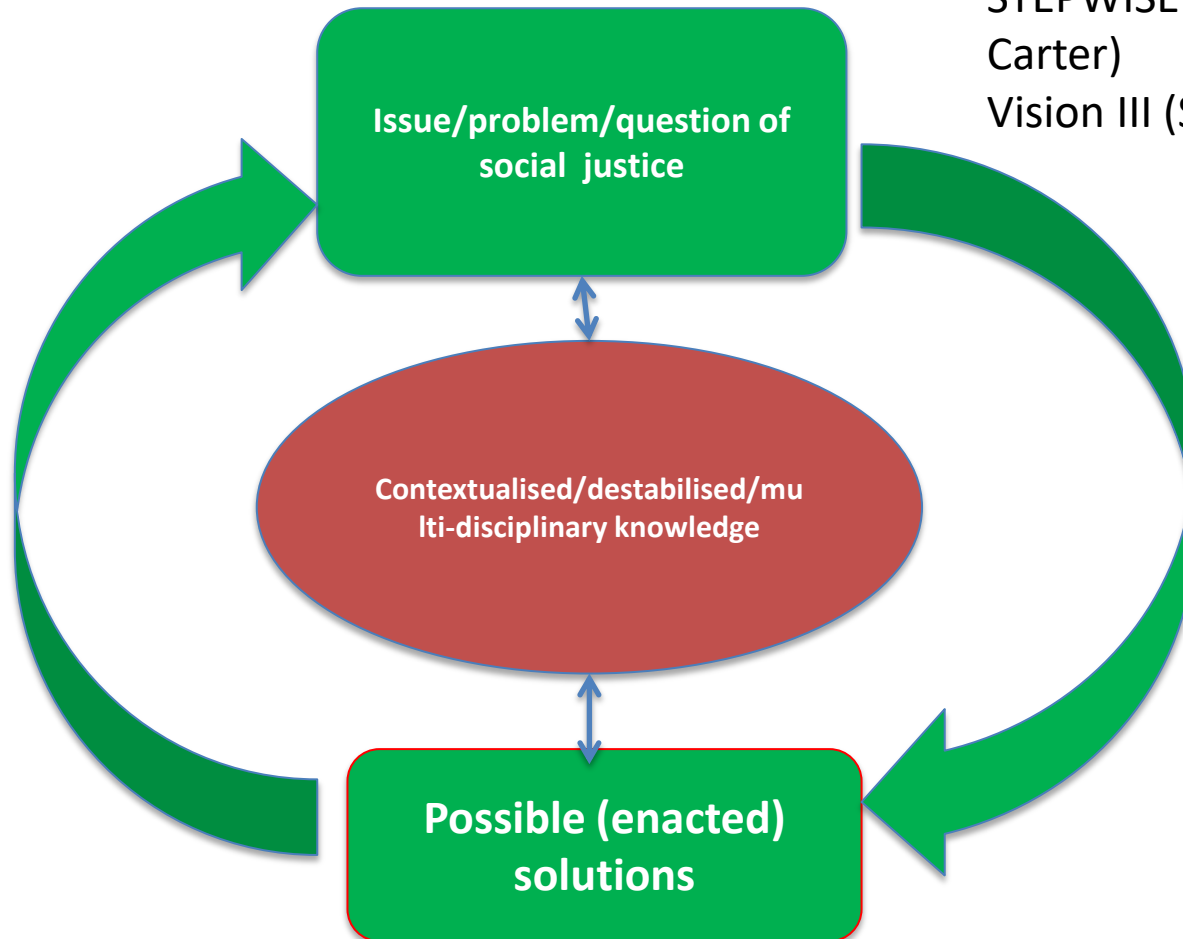
Vision I/Vision II problematised by . . .

- Layton *et al.* (1993)
 - Roth & Lee (2002)
 - Roth & Barton (2004)
 - Roth (2009)
 - Ryder (2002)
-
- **Science needs to be recontextualised for SSIs**
 - **Expert knowledge is fallible**
 - **Technoscientific knowledge fails to take account of socio-cultural contexts**
 - **Technoscience is entrenched in power relations and vested interests**

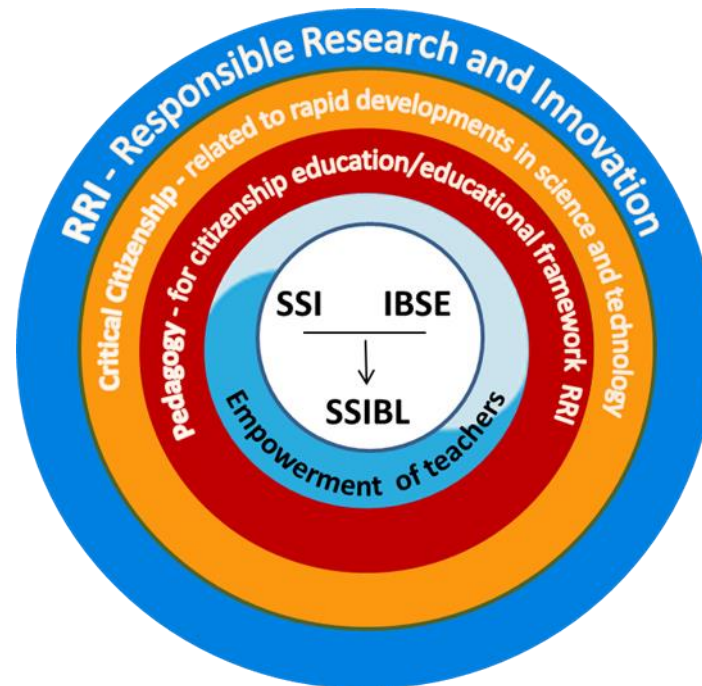


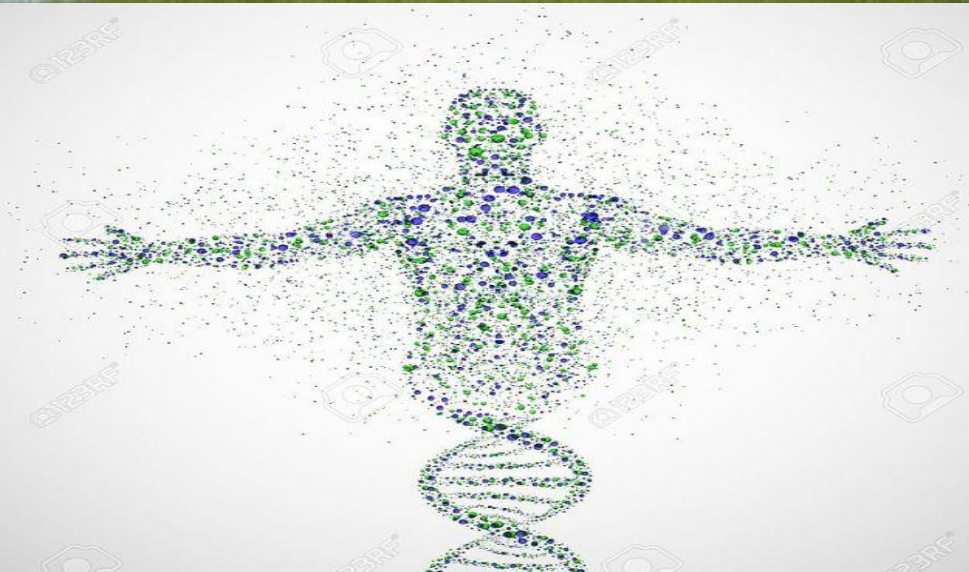
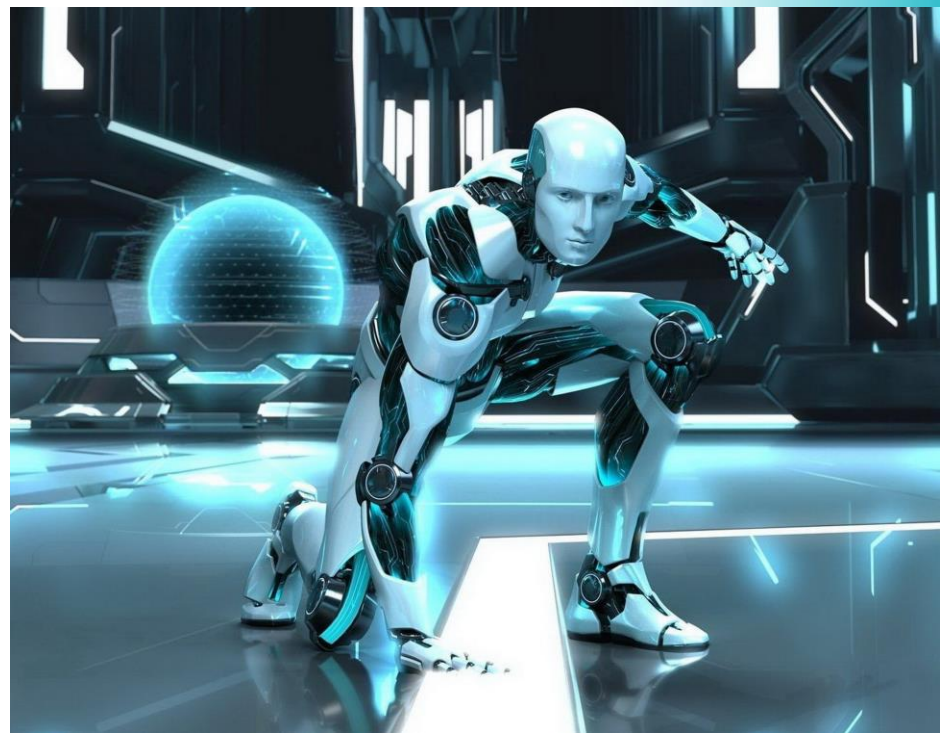
Another approach

SAQs (Legardez &
Simonneaux)
STEPWISE (Bencze &
Carter)
Vision III (Sjostrom)



PARRISE project – Socio-scientific Inquiry Based Learning (SSIBL)





Aims of SSIBL

- Encourage young people to *participate* in research and innovation issues influenced by science and technology
- *Promote interest* in science, mathematics and technology so they can become scientific researchers of tomorrow
- Encourage young people to act as *informed social agents* through scientific inquiry informing responsible research and innovation



Aims

- Ethical Acceptability
(e.g. products sourced do not depend on slave labour; equal distribution of products throughout diverse sectors of society)
- Social Desirability of products (e.g. promote health and wellbeing)
- Sustainability (no damage to biosphere)



Questions

You are baking a birthday cake for a diabetic friend. What is the best recipe?

Enactions Three pillars

SSI

CE

IBSE

Perspectives

Personal

What does it feel like to be diabetic?

Social

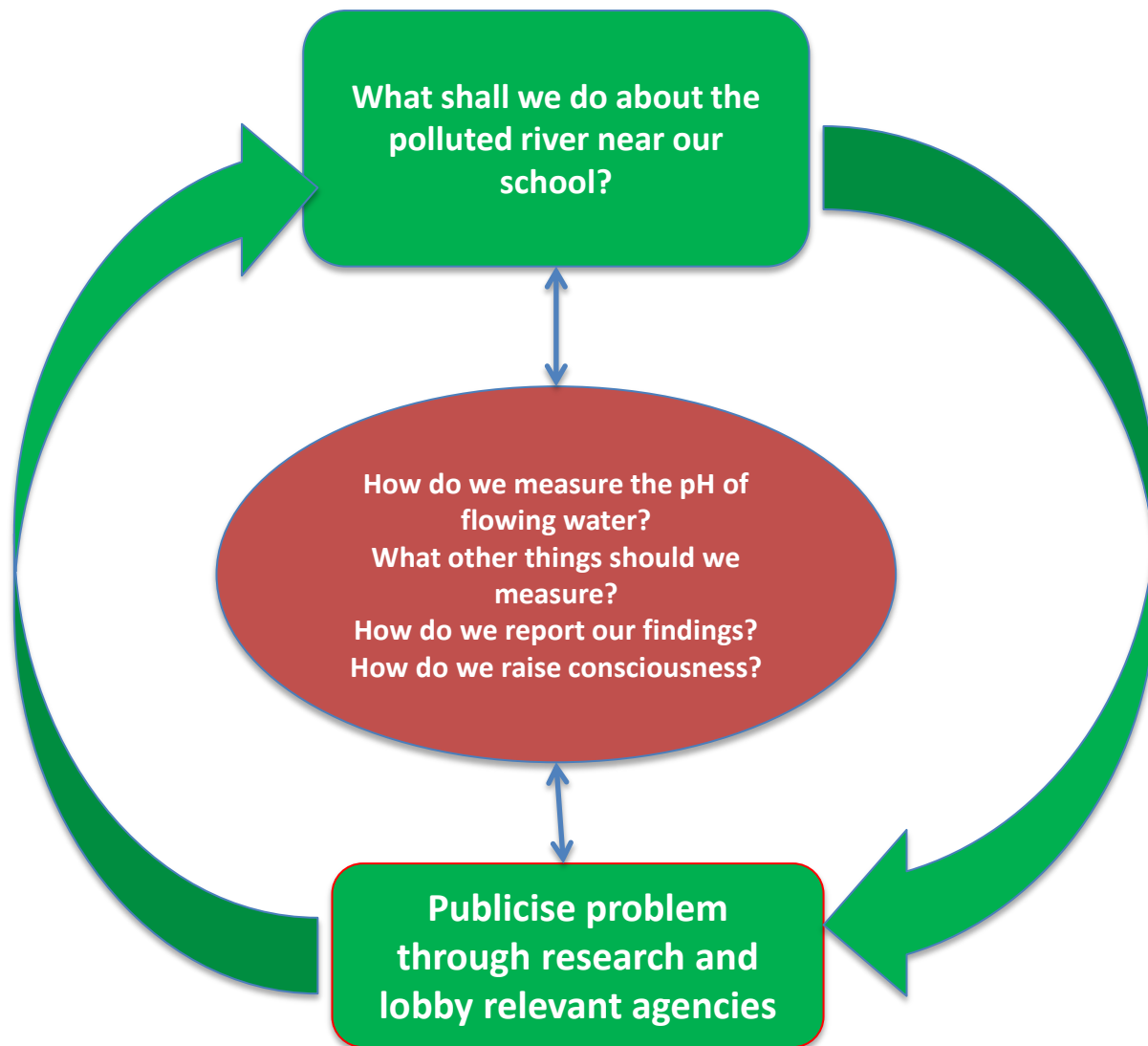
What can I bake for my friend who is diabetic?

Global

What treatments are available for diabetes?

Actions

Recipe for a 'diabetic' cake.



Research approach

- Student teachers engage in thinking about scientific ideas in terms of social justice
- Study carried out across 110 *different* schools with 177 teachers.
- Student teachers set the task of finding out about contemporary practise of inquiry in science lessons particularly in relation to socio-scientific issues
- Create their own approaches after intervention
- Identification of promoting and inhibiting factors

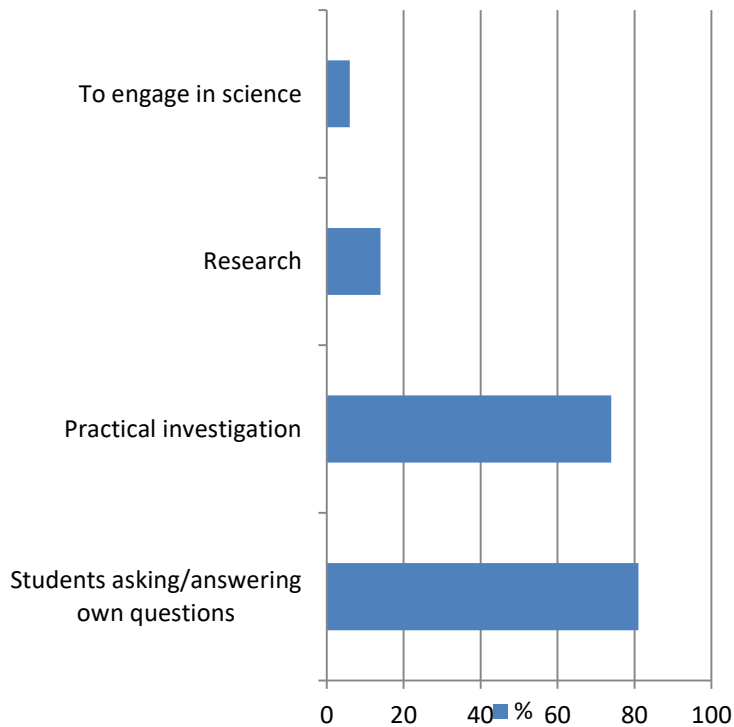


Science teachers' beliefs and practices about inquiry learning

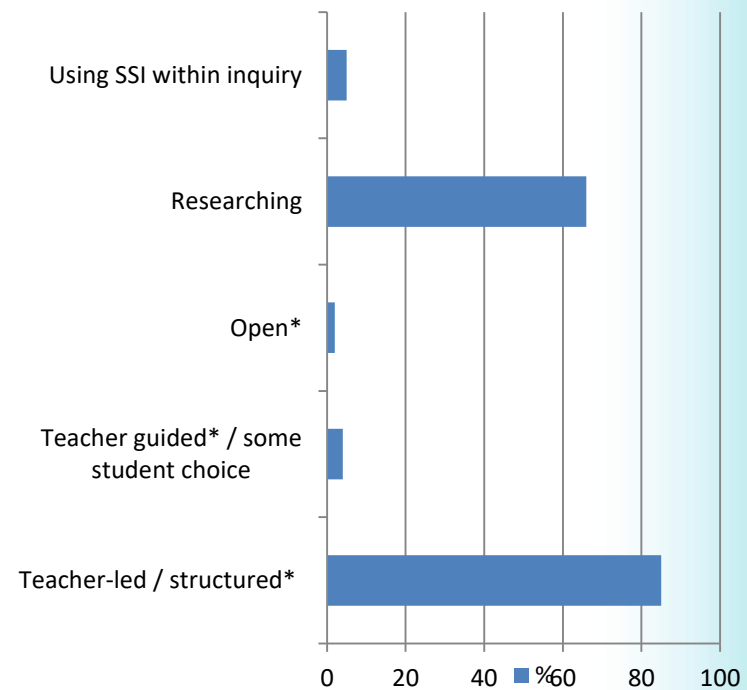
Beliefs about inquiry learning

- *Actual* practice in inquiry learning

Science teachers' beliefs about inquiry learning



Science teachers' actual practices with inquiry learning



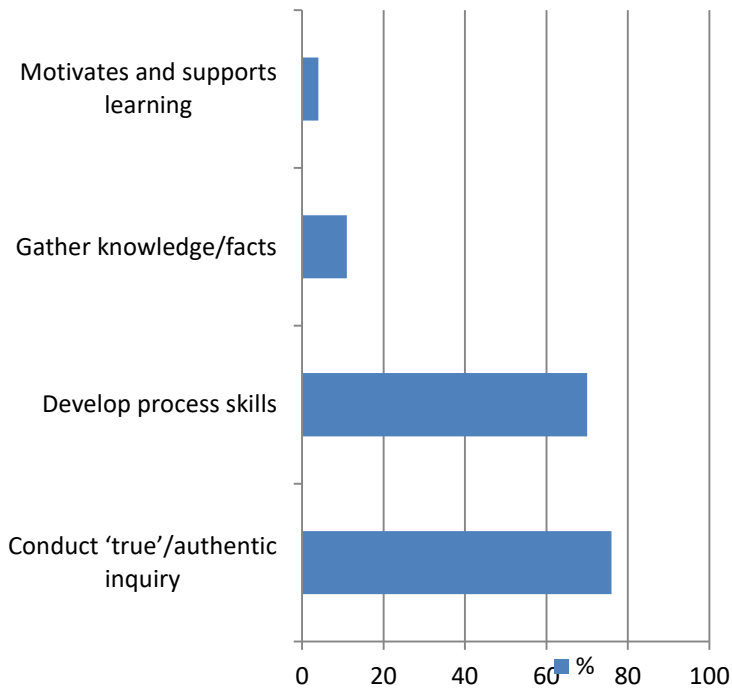
* Banchi, H., & Bell, R. (2008). The many levels of inquiry. *Science and children*, 46(2), 26



Purposes of inquiry learning

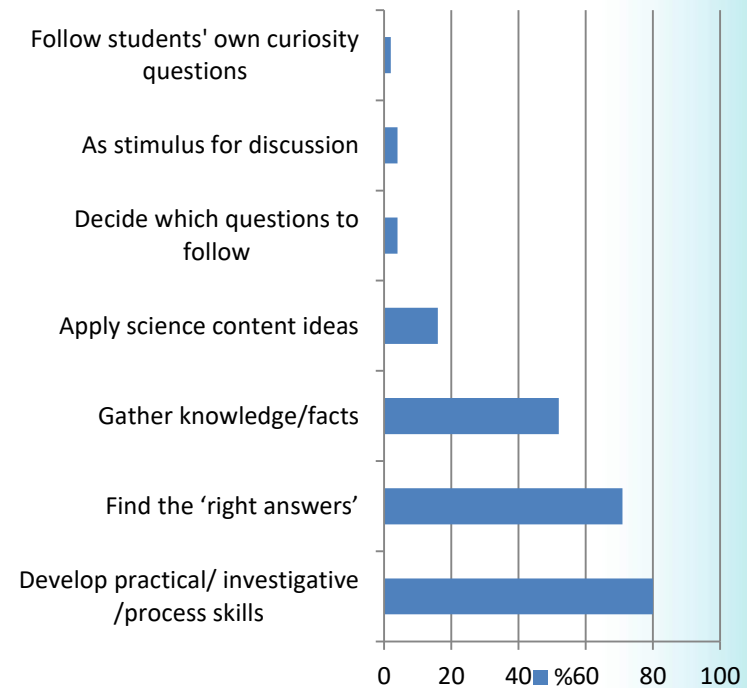
Beliefs about purposes

Science teachers' beliefs about purposes of inquiry learning



- *Actual* purposes during inquiry

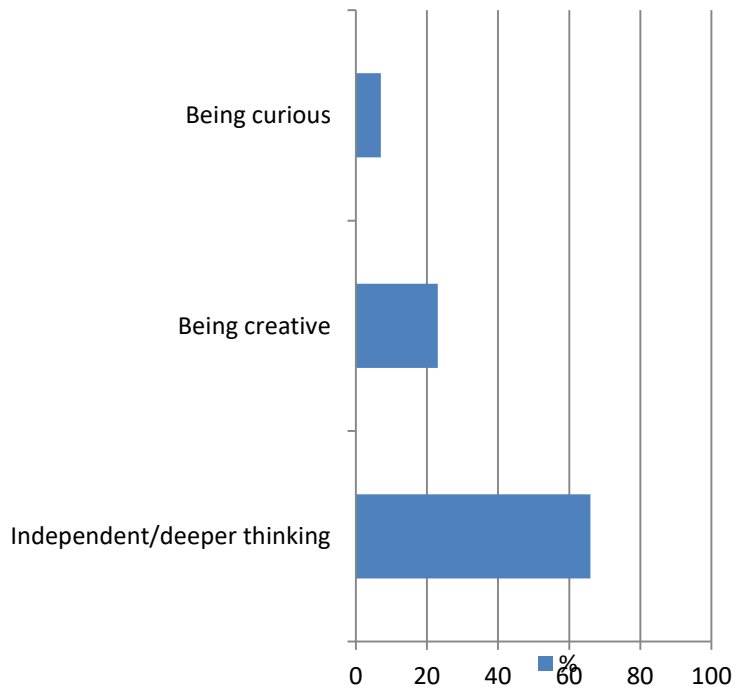
Science teachers' actual purposes during inquiry learning



Values in inquiry learning

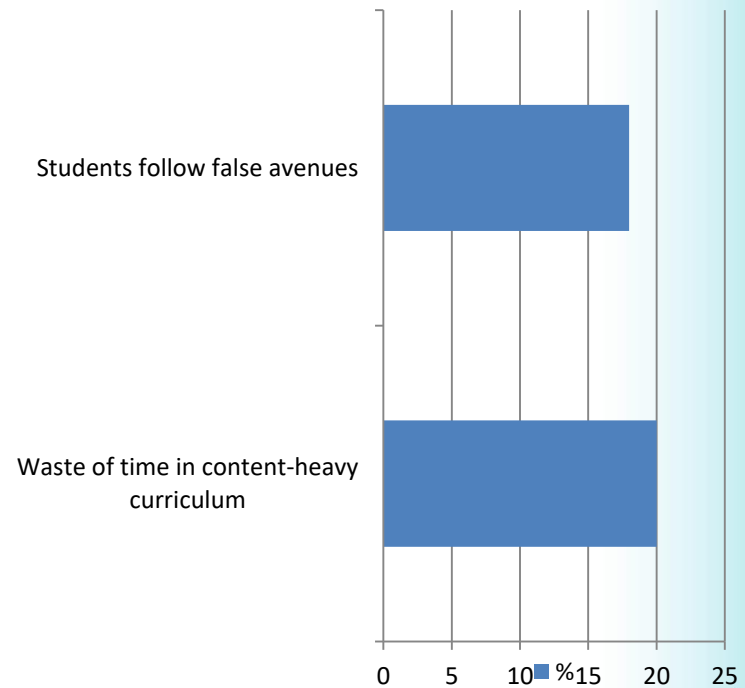
Reasons *for*

Science teachers' reasons for value in inquiry learning



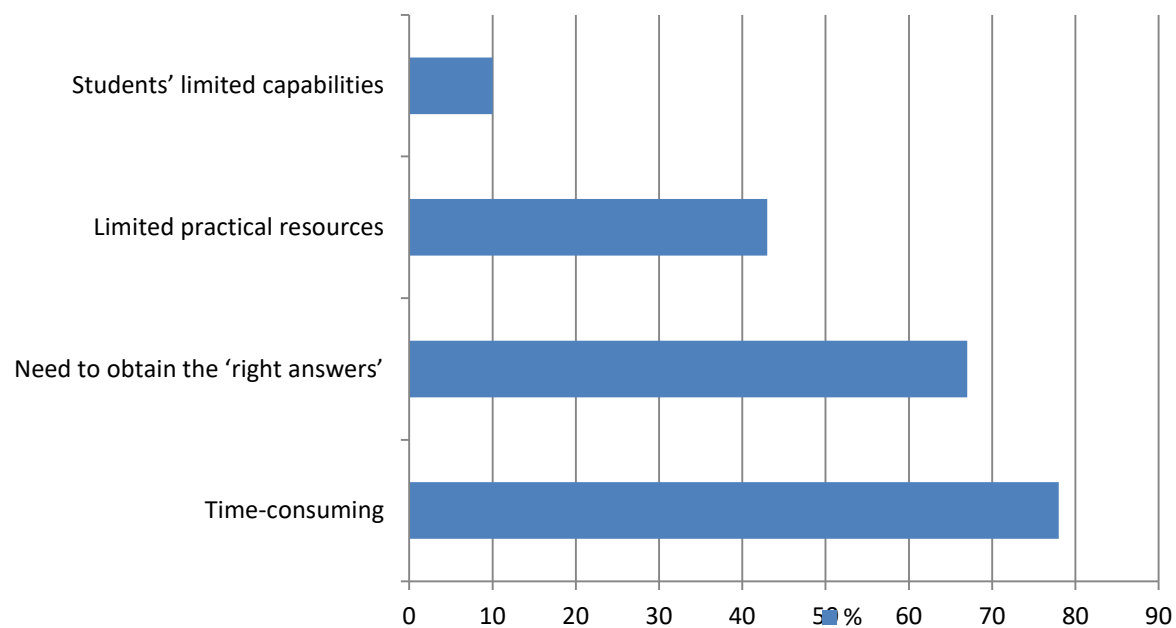
- Reasons *against*

Science teachers' reasons for lack of value in inquiry learning



Perceived obstacles for inquiry

Teachers' perceived obstacles to inquiry learning



How is this generated?
How much does it cost?
What impact does it have?



Where does it come from?
How is it made?
Who makes it?
What impact does it have?

What happens to AI?
Can it be recycled?
How?
Who gains? Who loses?

TPD session at UCL IOE: Some grand challenges of the 21st century



Planned project

What do we need to know?

What are the alternatives?

Why do it?

Other questions . . .



What are the health risks?

Martha's approach – smoking/e-cigarettes

- Year 9 group (13/14 years old)
- Drew on what they had learned about the respiratory system affected by smoking to create survey questions.
- Distributed survey to 15 friends and family
- Analysed and reflected on findings
- Created a school campaign based on findings to deter other students from smoking.



Issues from Martha's lesson

- Quality of survey questions
- Difficulty in analysing data
- Difficulty in critiquing reliability of data
- Good support from science department who are now using Martha's plans.



Javed's lesson – products of crude oil/degradation of plastics

- Chemistry of plastic degradation
- Learned about links between molecular structure and rate of degradation.
- Use of plastic bottles in schools.
- Question: Why does school canteen continue to sell drinks in plastic bottles knowing the problems of their disposal?
- Carried out initial survey



Issues from Javed's lesson

- Students very keen
- Supported by school tutor
- Students too concerned about reactions of canteen staff and senior management.
- Less 'controversial' had they focussed on their own practise in recycling.



Caroline's lesson – cycling to school

- Only 0.02% of students cycle to school X. Why?
- Discussed physiological and health benefits of cycling
- Students explored three categories:
 - Danger
 - Expense
 - Lack of incentive

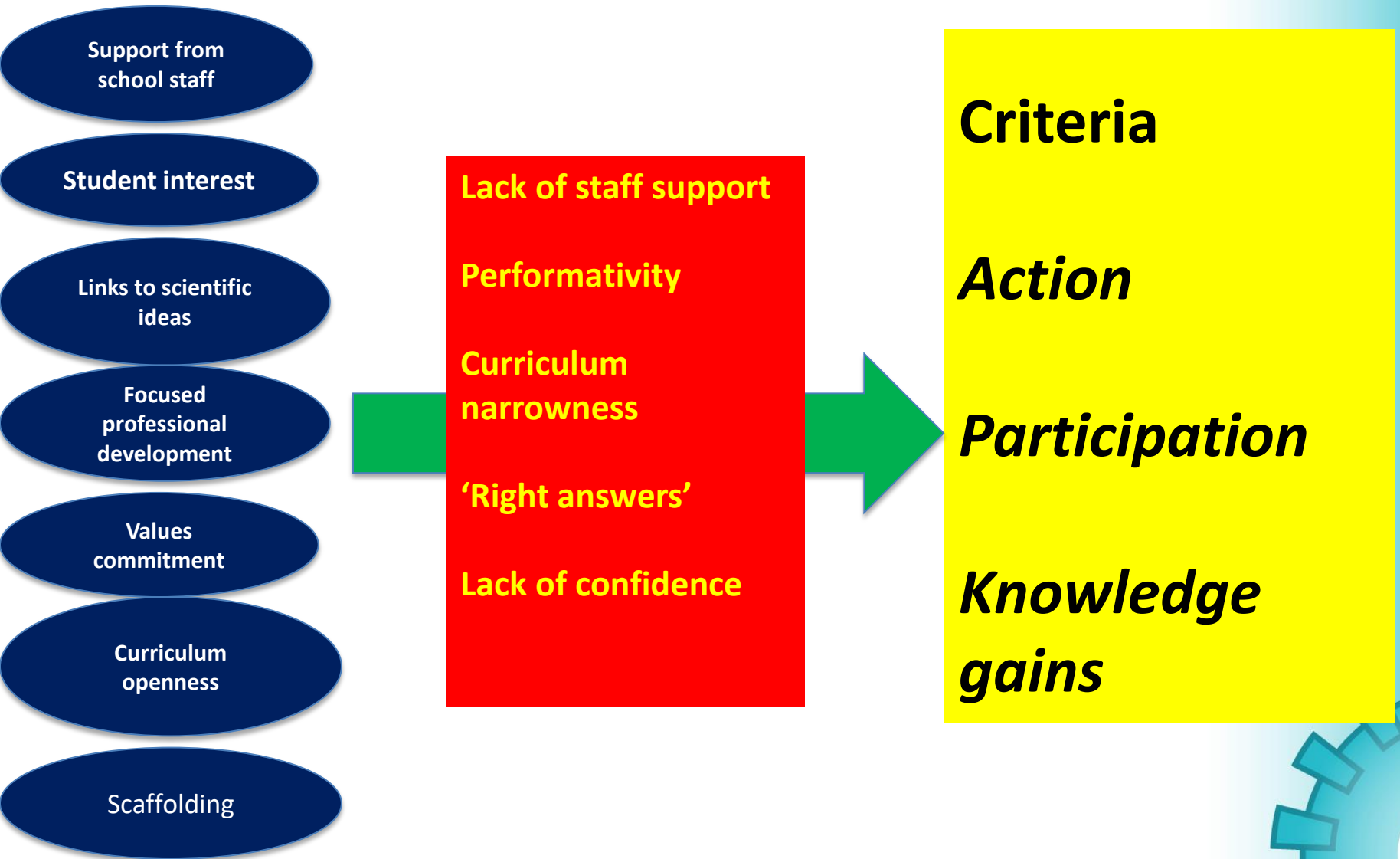


Issues from Caroline's lesson

- Lack of support and interest from other science staff
- Reluctance to do activity outside of school grounds, e.g. looking at road safety for cyclists.



Promoting factors for SSIBL



Grazie

