



## **Nat-working"marine research": an educational encounter with research**

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NaT-Working "Marine Research" is a program of the Leibniz-Institute of Marine Sciences (IFM-GEOMAR) and several secondary schools in or near Kiel, Germany. To stimulate students' interest in sciences, opportunities are offered for laboratory work and field trips, where students are able to participate in actual marine research in direct cooperation with scientists. Symposia and teacher training courses complement the practical work by providing the scientific background. The project is funded by the NaT-Working Program of the Robert Bosch Foundation.

This talk will present the program from the perspective of a secondary school, pointing out the pedagogical aspects of this cooperation. The inherent interdisciplinarity of geophysical and biogeochemical sciences makes them a particularly suitable topic for school education, directing the students' perception to global systems. The opportunity to contribute to research work teaches scientific thinking and methodology in a more sustainable fashion than exercises in a school laboratory can achieve. However, in order to avoid potential disappointments, scientists need to be aware of the framework in which schools have to operate and of the limitations they encounter in engaging in this type of cooperation.