



KTH  
VETENSKAP  
OCH KONST


KTH Education and Communication  
in Engineering Science

## Assidere necesse est necessities and complexities regarding teachers' assessment practices

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ResearchED Amsterdam  
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Edited

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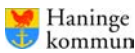

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## The Swedish educational system

- National curriculum (knowledge and criteria based)
- **Teacher based assessment**
- Pre-school
- **Compulsory school ((6)7–16)**
- Upper-secondary school (16–18)
- Municipality (290)
- And free-schools (xx)



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### Compulsory school subjects y 1–9



- Swedish /Swedish as a second language
- **Biology**
- **Physics**
- **Chemistry**
- Crafts (sloyd)
- Home and consumer studies
- History
- Civics
- Religion
- Geography
- Physical education and health
- **Mathematics**
- English
- Music
- Modern languages (“optional”)
- Mother tongue (voluntary)
- Art

- Technology (*teknik*)

**Aims**

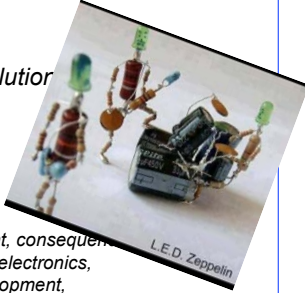
**Core content**

**Knowledge requirements y(3), 6 & 9**






### Core content (kind of crowded...)

- *Three strands for y 1–3, 4–6, & 7–9 (not scripted when and how)*
- *Technological solutions*
- *Working methods for developing technological solutions*
- *Technology, man, society and the environment*



- **Core content include** (but are not limited to)  
*mechanics, materials, different phases of technical development, consequences of different choices, sustainability, environment, digital models, electronics, automatic control, history, technological systems, product development, construction, attitudes, and technology's relation to the sciences, to society at large, and to the fine arts.*
- *And soon (most likely) programming/computational thinking as well...*

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E.g. Different material



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!

Teaching ≠ learning



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## Assidere necesse est

*A teacher who fails to assess what the students do, cannot decide whether or not she is contributing to or impeding their progress.* (L. Lindström, 2006)



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Short summary of *ASSIDERE NECESSE EST*  
*Necessities and complexities regarding teachers' assessment practices in technology education . Hartell (2015) doctoral thesis*

This thesis is about:

1. Teachers' assessment practices in order to move their pupils forward
2. *Assessment as the bridge between teaching and learning*  
  
*... in the younger years of schooling*

*In Sweden...*

Four sub-studies

- 1 **Mandatory assessment documents** (long cycle afl)
- 2 **Classroom assessment** (short cycle afl)
- 3 **Teachers' self-efficacy**
- 4 **WHAT** (e-portfolios & comparative judgements)



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## Substudy 1 Teachers' documenting practice

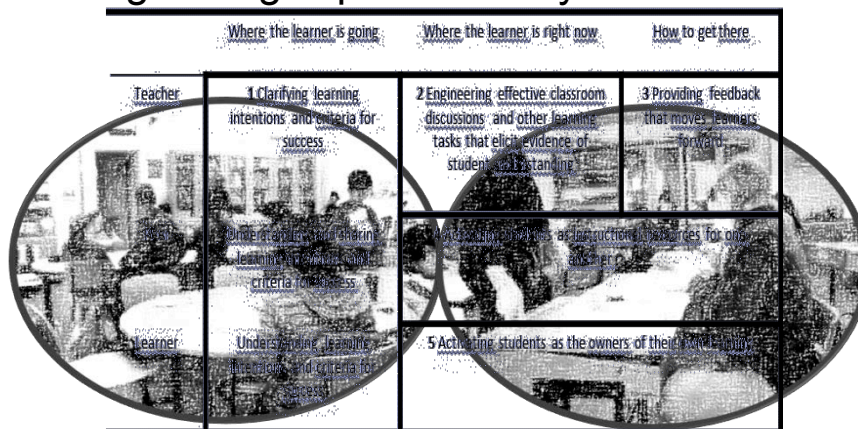


•Exploring the (un-) usefulness of mandatory assessment documents in primary technology. Publicerad i International Journal of Technology and Design Education. (2014), 24:141-161

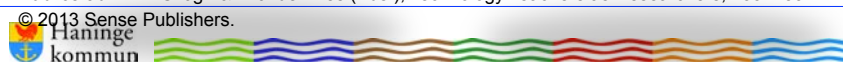


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## Sub-study 2. Teachers' classroom practice Looking for a glimpse in the eye



Publicerad i I.-B. Skogh & M.J. de Vries (Eds.), Technology Teachers as Researchers, 255–283.



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## Sub study 3 Investigating teachers' self-efficacy on assessment

Teacher education or not?

Reported achievement...

•Hartell, E., Gumaelius, L., & Svardh, J. (2015).  
•Investigating technology teachers' self-efficacy on assessment.  
•Publicerad i *International Journal of Technology and Design Education*. 25 (3),2015 Pp 321-337 DOI 10.1007/s10798-014-9285-9



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## Sub-study 4 Criteria for success?




Hartell, E. & Skogh, IB. (2015). Criteria for success: A study of primary technology teachers' assessment of digital portfolios. Published in *Australasian Journal of Technology Education*  
<http://www.ajte.org/index.php/AJTE/article/view/27>




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### Flobot's Friend


 Flobot is so busy helping lots of children with their learning. Flobot needs a friend to help you around your own house.


In this task, we are going to design a friend for Flobot. This friend will help you with all the things you need to do.

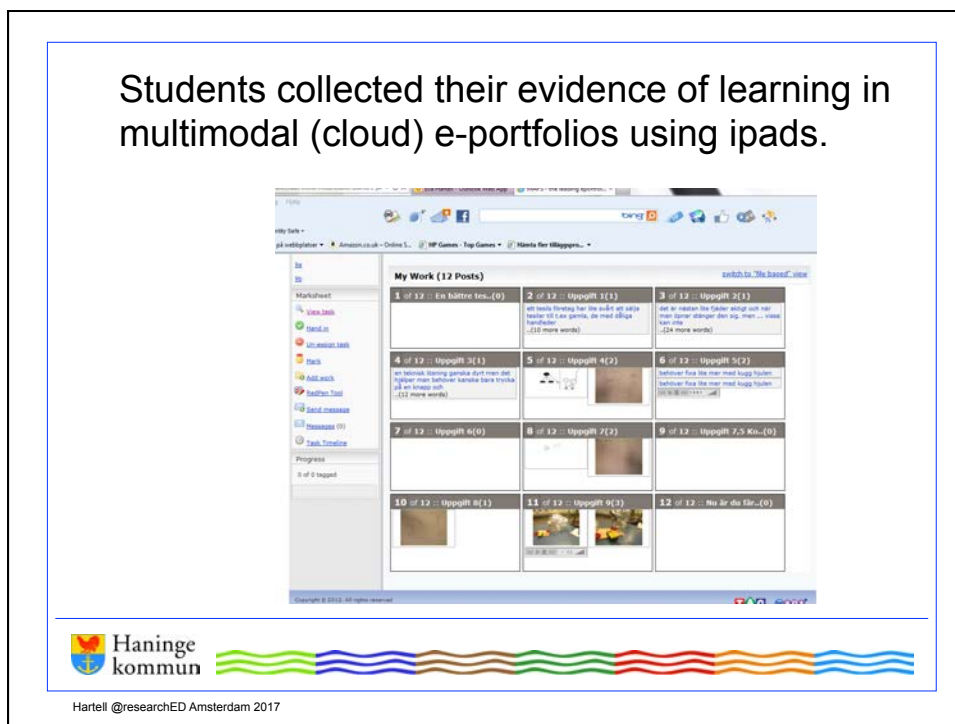
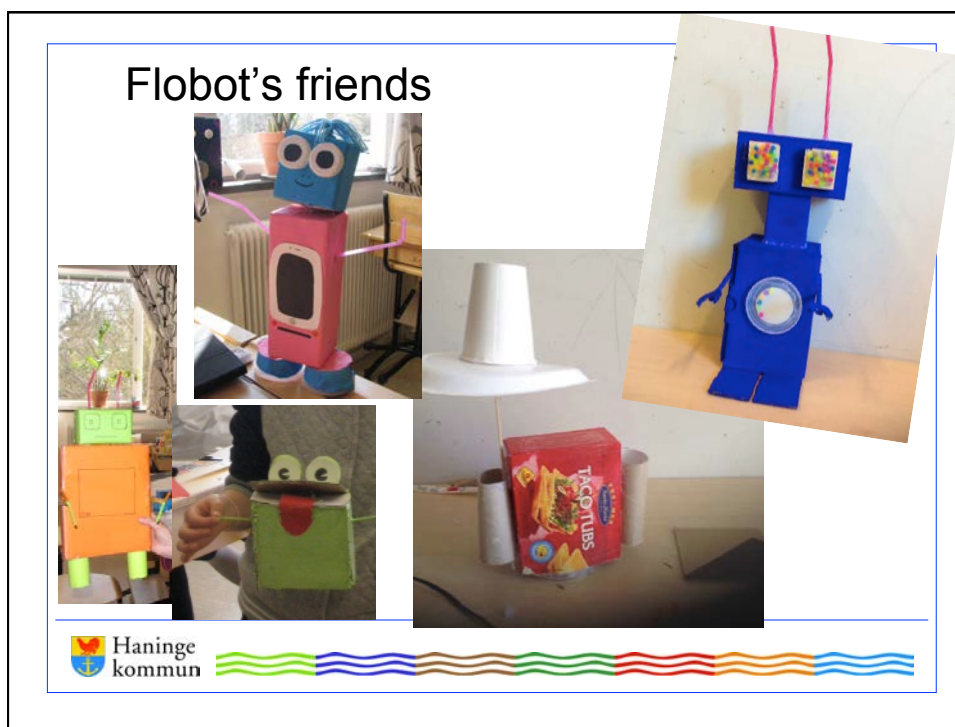


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Teachers then assessed student portfolios w comparative judgements



The power of the collective



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## Findings from substudy 4 What were these teachers looking for?

### Three strands

- Whole
  - Consensus within this group of educated teachers
  - The whole rather than the particular
- Particular
  - “Red thread” (narrative/story)
- Other
  - but also completing the task (*Valid tasks and time and opportunity to learn is needed. Not leave pupils in their own unreflective “doing/making”*)



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## Results doctoral thesis



- Pupil/ student
- The inefficient loneliness-Teachers are alone and cover for planning, execute and follow-up pupil's progress.
- *Preconditions for teaching and learning must be enhanced*
- The overall results strengthen the importance of engineering activities and that students should be taught and not left to unreflective doing in technology
- *Support is both needed and asked for*



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## Contribution

- We know more about the reported goal fulfilment prior to grading
- Strengthened the importance of designing activities and that students should be taught and not left to unreflective doing in technology
- We know more about how assessment is undertaken in the technology classroom and what teachers are focusing on- contributed to emphasise the importance of the interaction/relationship in the classroom and put the spotlight on what counts
- We know that the educational environment is not supportive enough at the moment
- **We know that affordance must increase- the question is how**
- **Strengthened the importance to dig deeper into assessment in different contexts**



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## Where to next/now

*Providing affordance for teachers' assessment practices in order to bridge teaching and learning (in technology)*



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*"..if you are serious about raising student achievement then you have to be focusing on AfL [Assessment for Learning], and if you are not focusing on AfL you are probably not serious about raising student achievement."* (Dylan William, 2009, p. 34)



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### Five key strategies for formative assessment (William, 2009)

	Where the learner is going	Where the learner is right now	How to get there
Teacher	1. Clarifying learning intentions and criteria for success	2. Engineering effective classroom discussions and other learning tasks that elicit evidence of student understanding	3. Providing feedback that moves learners forward
Peer	Understanding and sharing learning intentions and criteria for success	4. Activating students as learning resources for one another	
Learner	Understanding learning intentions and criteria for success	5. Activating students as owners of their own learning	

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## Teacher Learning Communities

Tender Love Care

*Embedded formative assessment packs*

by Dylan William and Siobhan Leahy (SSAT/NoK)

Love the one you are with

Knowing ≠doing

9 + 9 ws once a month for 2 years

(not dependent on school year)

Not dependent on external expert

Tight but loose structure

Include peer observation where the observed sets the agenda

This framework provide great support!



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Provide affordance for teachers assessment  
practices with  
Teacher Learning Communities



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## Subject (& context) specific assessment

### Assessment in sTEem is difficult

- Context
- Purpose and content
- Crowded and broad curriculum
- Design and history of technology
  - not taught the same way-not assessed the same way
- What is a reasonable level of knowledge? Progress?
- Construct definition
- Preconditions for teaching and learning....



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## 1. Clarifying learning intentions and criteria for success

- Jönsson (2008)
  - sTEem?
  - Big hairy audacious goals...
  - Open ended..
- William!



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## Can the Swedish national syllabus help w baering of forward & progress?

Kunskapskrav i slutet av årskurs 6			Kunskapskrav i slutet av årskurs 9		
E	C	A	E	C	A
Eleven kan beskriva och ge exempel på enkla tekniska lösningar i vardagen och några ingående detaljer som samverkar för att uppnå lösningsförmåga och funktion. Dessutom kan eleven på ett enkelt sätt beskriva och ge exempel på några hållbara och stabila konstruktioner i vardagen, deras uppbyggnad och de material som används.	Eleven kan förklara enkla tekniska lösningar i vardagen och hur några ingående detaljer samverkar för att uppnå lösningsförmåga och funktion. Dessutom kan eleven på ett avancerat sätt beskriva och visa på samband mellan några hållbara och stabila konstruktioner i vardagen, deras uppbyggnad och de material som används.	Eleven kan förklara enkla tekniska lösningar i vardagen och hur några ingående detaljer samverkar för att uppnå lösningsförmåga och funktion och visar på några utmaningar. Dessutom kan eleven på ett avancerat sätt beskriva och visa på samband mellan några hållbara och stabila konstruktioner i vardagen, deras uppbyggnad och de material som används.	Eleven kan beskriva enkla tekniska lösningar i vardagen och med viss detaljrikedom förklara hur några ingående detaljer samverkar för att uppnå lösningsförmåga och funktion. Dessutom kan eleven på ett avancerat sätt beskriva och visa på samband mellan några hållbara och stabila konstruktioner i vardagen, deras uppbyggnad och de material som används.	Eleven kan förklara enkla tekniska lösningar i vardagen och hur några ingående detaljer samverkar för att uppnå lösningsförmåga och funktion. Dessutom kan eleven på ett avancerat sätt beskriva och visa på samband mellan några hållbara och stabila konstruktioner i vardagen, deras uppbyggnad och de material som används.	Eleven kan förklara enkla tekniska lösningar i vardagen och hur några ingående detaljer samverkar för att uppnå lösningsförmåga och funktion och visar på några utmaningar. Dessutom kan eleven på ett avancerat sätt beskriva och visa på samband mellan några hållbara och stabila konstruktioner i vardagen, deras uppbyggnad och de material som används.

**Pupils can carry out very simple work on technology and design by systematically testing and retesting possible ideas for solutions, as well as designing well-developed physical or digital models. During the work process, pupils formulate and choose action alternatives that lead to improvements. Pupils draw up well-developed documentation of the work using sketches, models or texts where the intention of the work is well documented.**

*[Extract of knowledge requirement 6A from the Swedish national syllabus for technology (NAE, 2011, p. 258)].*

Knowledge requirements in Sw tech ed y 6 + 9



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## 1. Clarifying learning intentions and criteria for success



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## Rubrics and transparency?

Du ser någon förklaring till varför våra kartor blir fel.	Du ger några förklaringar till varför våra kartor blir fel.	Du ger flera förklaringar till varför våra kartor blir fel.
Du förklarar förklara på vilket sätt det kan påverkas.	Du ger någon hint till hur det påverkas.	Du förklarar hur det kan påverkas.
Du ger några exempel.	Du ger några exempel.	Du ger flera exempel.

## Elaborating on exemplars possibilities w comparative judgments

Hattie (2009)  
William & Leahy (2015)  
Kimbell & Stables work

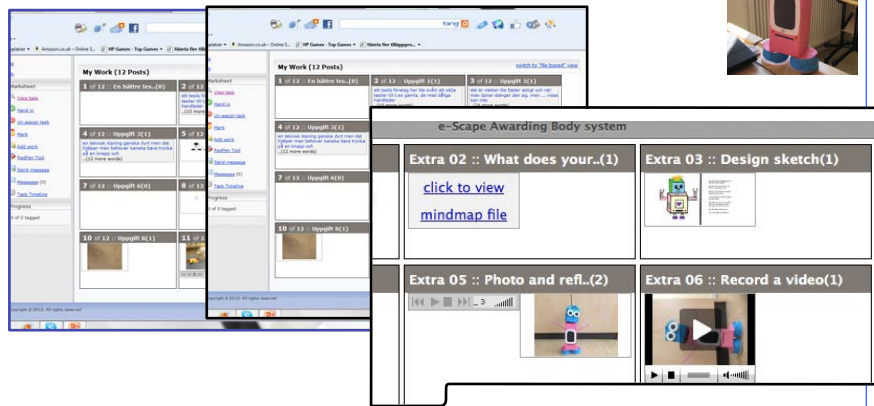

## Exemplars?!





## Exemplars!




## What about this?






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## Choose your exemplars carefully....

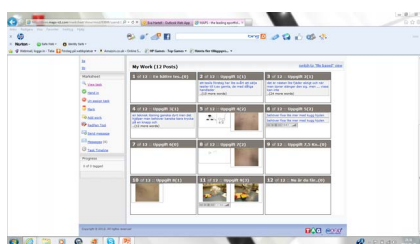
- The way you view your subject is reflected in your practice
- How do you and your colleagues view your subjects?
- Construct definition (agree or disagree?) 
- Exemplars can be useful to point out directions...Clarifying learning intentions and criteria for success (compare w study 2)
- CJ as sorting mechanism?

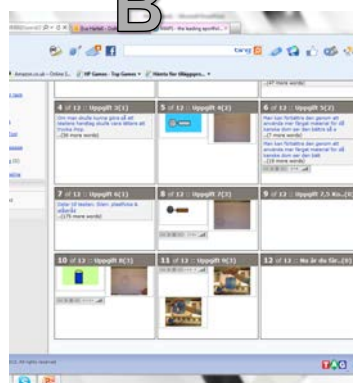
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## Providing affordance for teachers' assessment practices via CJ

A



B



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## E-portfolios & Comparative judgement

- Data is collected during “ordinary” lesson activities
- Students collect evidence of learning (validity?) & teachers work load)
- Decision driven data collection instead of data driven decision making
- Reliable results
- Inviting other professionals to your classroom and you get to visit theirs “without too much trouble” (cloud-based)
- *The power of the collective*



## Results from three trials

- V high reliability

## What did the teachers think of CJ

- *Fun! A bit insecure in the beginning, but I felt more confident after a short while.*
- *It was amusing/fun and I learnt a lot. It is easier to assess this way. Compare two at a time. I like the idea that we are more who co-assess*
- *Interesting. Different.*
- *Fun!! But tiny internet connection problems...*
- *This was really interesting! Took a while to see and understand what I was supposed to look for. Purpose got more explicit on what qualities I were looking for.*
- *Nice to see other than my own students' work*



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## What I would like to work out if it works

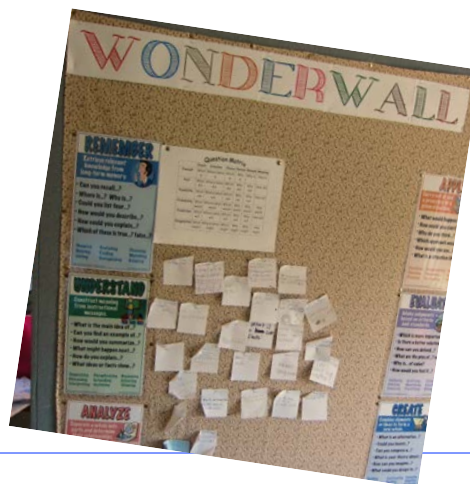
Plus perhaps some descriptors from teachers' think a louds



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## Invite pupils to ask questions

- Wonder wall
- Exit notes
- Items
- Alone, pairs, groups
- Analogue and/or digital



## 2. Engineering effective discussions, tasks and activities that elicit evidence of learning



And not leave them alone  
In unreflective doing/making

4. Activating learners as learning resources for one another
5. Activating learners as owners of their own learner

*‘...learning with others helps me a lot...’*



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## Providing affordance through e-portfolios and CJ -Eva's thoughts

- Inviting other professionals to your classroom and you get to visit theirs "without too much trouble"
- Exemplars (Hattie, 2009, Wiliam, 2016)
- Construct definition
- Connoisseur of ~~wine~~ **STEM**
- Professional development – building teachers' assessment literacy & self-efficacy?
- Teacher work load
- The power of the collective
- For students!
- Equality / equity in assessment



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- Purpose of assessment must be clear
- No need for 1:1
- Teachers and students LOVE it, loving is not enough...
- Importance of task design! (I really recommend the work of Emeritus Professor Richard Kimbell and Professor Kay Stables at Goldsmiths.)
- Decision driven data collection
- SEN
- Newly arrived/immigrants?! Translanguaging!



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## ASSIDERE NECESSE EST

Necessities and complexities regarding teachers' assessment practices in technology education

To be continued...



February 4<sup>th</sup>! #rEDHan



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Thanks for listening!  
Good luck and keep in touch



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- Twitter @evahartell
- See you in Haninge Feb 4th!  
#rEDHan



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## References

Doctoral thesis Assidere necesse est

<http://kth.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A788413&dswid=-6102>

Licentiate thesis The inefficient loneliness

<http://www.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A565600&dswid=7401>

Papers

- My favourite book Wiliam, D. (2009). *Assessment for learning: why, what and how? An inaugural professorial lecture by Dylan Wiliam*. Institute of Education University of London.

Swedish school system, curricula etc

- Adult <http://www.skolverket.se/publikationer?id=3238>
- Upper secondary <http://www.skolverket.se/publikationer?id=2975>
- Compulsory school <http://www.skolverket.se/publikationer?id=2687>
- Pre-school <http://www.skolverket.se/publikationer?id=2704>



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