

## **ACTIVE METHODOLOGIES AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES: A WINNING COMBINATION FOR 21ST CENTURY SKILLS?**

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### **Abstract**

For some time now, the teaching-learning paradigm has been centered on the individual, the active author of his or her learning process. From this principle emerges the need, on the part of educational institutions, to use active methodologies, clear expressions of innovative teaching practices, albeit largely already shared by illustrious exponents of the academic sciences such as Dewey, Freire, Bruner, and Vygotskij, to name but a few. But which active methodologies are really inclusive and innovative enough to develop and acquire life and soft skills in today's times and how do teachers perceive these?

Furthermore, in today's society where technology is rampant in all its forms, can the so-called ICTs be valid supports to the teaching-learning process? These are just some of the questions we have asked ourselves and which we have tried to answer in the exploratory study involving us in the training of primary and secondary school teachers. Our aim was primarily to investigate, also through semi-structured questionnaires: 1) the teachers' knowledge and beliefs about active and innovative methodologies aided by the use of new media and subsequently, the impact of the training course on the teachers' ability to put into practice the methodologies they learned and the tools and apps they used during the training; and 2) their perception of the actual value that these methodologies, as well as the technological innovation presented during the course, can bring to their daily practice and the acquisition of life and soft skills.