

Evaluation after the meeting: Learning Outside

The Everest of our school, Pamukyazı Tamsa Seramik Fabrikası A.Ş. Secondary School, is learning outside the classroom. We can't do enough outdoor activities because of several reasons: Firstly; we have to prepare many legal documents for local national ministry education office to get permission for taking students somewhere outside the school for learning activity. This work discourages teachers and administrators and changes their positive attitudes towards learning outside into negative ones. Therefore; the school administrators and teachers see outdoor activities unnecessary and waste of time. Secondly; bus companies don't adhere to the rules of the contract; sending a different bus or a different bus driver, which cause the school administrators be stuck in a difficult situation. Thirdly; parents are reluctant to send their kids out of school as they have a fear of something bad will happen to their kids. Also, parents' financial situation is not good enough. And the school doesn't have enough financial resource to support such trips.

Despite these difficulties, we, as teachers, will do our best to apply these outdoor activities in our school. Firstly, we will change the attitudes of the administrators, teachers and parents towards learning outside through showing the videos and pictures of outdoor activities in Pecs, which could be seen how much the kids feel happy and excited doing something out of the routine school life. We will put the photos of these activities on school project bulletin board and show the slides or videos on TV in the school corridor to introduce and raise the awareness on the importance of learning outside in the school administrators, teachers, students and parents.

We will also explain them in the parents and teacher meetings that these activities help kids learn the world outside the school, improve them and learn social skills such as risk taking, integration, problem solving, cooperation, interpersonal communication and creativity.

The outdoor activities presented in Pecs are cooking, rowing, hiking, group building activities, craft work, treasure hunt with GPS, art/drawing, drama activities in a historical ruin, visiting a limestone cave, games and visiting a thermal power station using recycles.

We will apply some of these outdoor activities within the bounds of the school possibility in the next term. We will organize a cooking competition among students. Students will do craft work from recycled materials and organize art/drawing activities and these works will be displayed at school. We will play drama activities and games in the school garden to create group consciousness, cooperation and integrity in students and make learning atmosphere more enjoyable at school.

We strongly believe that these outdoor activities will help our students become more active, motivated, have more fun and develop their social skills while experiencing them.