

Chapter 4

Maths outdoor lesson: “Measurements”

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Summary

A CLIL outdoor lesson about measuring, comparing results, talking and listening

“Measurement”

Introduction

This is a CLIL (Content and Integrated Language Learning) outdoor lesson, in which pupils learn specific words and expression related to measurement in English.

Learning objectives

To enable students to:

- to compare, describe and solve practical problems for lengths and heights (e.g. long/short, double/half)
- to use natural materials to measure length and height
- to understand why it's important to use standardised measurements

Resources

- natural surroundings: leaves, sticks
- rulers, notebooks, writing tools
- worksheets

Activity

Step 1: Introduction – the pupils will be introduced the key vocabulary in English for length and height measurement units (Millimetres, Centimetres, Meters, Kilometres)

Step 2: Pupils work in groups to transform from one unit to another, to practise in English the names of the measurement units.

Step 3: Pupils are encouraged to explore the outdoor environment and collect natural materials, using only the natural objects (sticks, leaves, pine cone, etc.) the children will be asked to measure various body parts (arms, legs) then compare and contrast their findings with each other.

Step 4: Next, they need to measure and note down the length of leaves or sticks and calculate how many leaves long are their arms? How many sticks does it take to measure their leg?

Step 5: Consolidation and evaluation: Students work in groups of 3 to complete a worksheet and reflect on what we realised there.

Comments from the learners' surveys

Pupils appreciated the practicality of the lesson and the innovation of it. It was their first CLIL lesson.

Final remarks

A very active, practical lesson. Lots of opportunities to work together with their classmates. Opportunities for speaking and listening in English. Appealing for pupils due to lots of touching and feeling of resources and the practical element.

Supplementary material

The worksheet used:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KWxsrRYvs-C2IEfb7WxuaIMwwVhFl_CFUGJ2xdhqfv4/edit?usp=sharing