

# Chapter 1

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**Protecting the environment : A guided nature visit to Capo Rama.**

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## **CIVIC EDUCATION OUTDOOR LESSON**

***“Knowing, respecting and protecting the environment. “***

### **Summary**

Education for sustainable development is a strategic objective for our nation's future.

The conservation of natural resources represents a challenge for future generations.

It's urgent and necessary that students become increasingly aware of their role in the environment, to protect nature and know their territory with its problems.

## *Introduction*

The aim of this unit is to introduce all the natural resources of our territory to our students, teaching them the importance of preservation.

The nature reserve of Capo Rama offers new points to understand how bad behavior can irreparably damage nature, with serious consequences.

## *Learning objectives:*

1. To promote ecological awareness
2. To feel responsible for protecting our planet
3. To increase observation skills
4. To develop a strong sense of respect for the environment in the territory of residence.
5. To convert knowledge into eco-friendly behavior.
6. To suggest solutions to problems related to nature.

## **Resources**

- Map of the nature reserve Capo Rama in territory of Carini.
- Camera.
- Drawing papers.
- Colours.

## Activity

### ***Step 1:***

Tour of Capo Rama Nature Reserve along the coast where our students can observe all nature beauties, well preserved thanks to human activities.



During the first step students are encouraged to observe the surrounding area carefully with a map.



## *Step 2*

Students dwell on typical plants of Mediterranean area and observe flora and fauna. Students are taught how some ancient plants and animal species, like birds and rabbits, are preserved by men.



### ***Step 3***

Students learn the process of coastal erosion over the years.



### ***Step 4***

Students take pictures and mark the plants on the map.



### ***Step 5***

Students, divided into groups, are required to produce a vademecum on rules and behavior to protect the environment and a multimedia presentation on the study trip experience, with personal observations.

## **Comments from the learners' surveys**

This activity enabled the students to better discover their territory directly and playfully.

Furthermore, thanks to the outdoor lessons, students developed skills, like doing research into nature and exploring environment

How did they feel? What did they learn? Did they suggest any improvements?

### **Final remarks**

Didactics visits on the territory is a positive way of teaching, teachers should carry them out effectively. They are good opportunities to help students to learn many things easily and in a fun way. It's a way of learning in which students feel a lot of emotions.

Students love these kind of activities and they know that they aren't just leisure moments, but they have a great didactic value and are important opportunities to learn and discover newthings.

