

Grandparents Interview

My grandparents had a garden where they went every weekend to mow the lawn and enjoy nature. My other grandparents had a vegetable garden where they grew all kinds of vegetables and fruits. They grew the plants for their own use. Most of the work did my grandfather and when he died my grandmother couldn't do the work on her own anymore. My grandfather's favourite tool was a shovel. Very often my mother and her sister had to help my grandfather in the garden doing various chores like weeding or pruning. Having a garden was hobby for my grandparents they enjoyed being able to be in the fresh air and to work with their hands. As my grandparents lived in the city, the environment has changed so far as there were more houses built. The most common crop in our countryside was corn. In my grandparents childhood they still used horses as working animals on the fields and in the woods. They haven't farmed the land and since my grandfather is dead there is no vegetable garden anymore.



Environment

I asked my grandparents what the environment looked like when they were younger.

First they said that it looked much better than today and the problem with the Greenhouse effect wasn't really there. They also said that they didn't bought food from America or Africa. They always bought their food from the nearby market, because they lived in a small village near Graz.

They also bought their milk and drinks in glass bottles, which they also brought back to the seller.

In summary they said that the environment was much better and there weren't any problems with CO₂ or the Greenhouse effect.



Interview mit Großeltern

Hattest du einen Gemüsegarten oder Nutztiere?

Ja, wir hatten einen großen Gemüsegarten und einen sogenannten Naschgarten mit Ribiseln. Diese Dinge wurden sehr intensiv gepflegt, weil sie einen wichtigen Ernährungsbaustein darstellten.

Was hast du angebaut?

Kohlrabi, Karotten und andere Rüben, Salat, Obst...

Hast du diese Produkte auch verkauft?

Nein.

Was für Werkzeug hast du benutzt?

Ein Kramperl, einen Spaten, eine Unkrautkralle

Hast du das allein gemacht?

Nein, alle Familienmitglieder haben mitgeholfen

Hattest du einen Job oder war das die einzige Einnahmequelle?

Nein, aber der Gemüseanbau diente nicht als Einnahmequelle. Ich habe mich um Haushalt, Kinder und Schwiegermutter gekümmert und bin keiner bezahlten Einnahmequelle nachgegangen. Mein Mann verdiente das Geld.

Wie hat die Umwelt damals ausgesehen?

Es gab weniger Verkehr, mehr Lebensmittelversorgung, weniger große Ketten und unsere Kinder spielten stundenlang mit den Nachbarkindern in den Gärten und in der näheren Umgebung ohne sich dabei zu gefährden.

Gab es Aktivitäten in deiner Umwelt, die es heute nicht mehr gibt?

Gartenumstechen, selbstbewältigter Obstbaumschnitt

Warum baust du jetzt nicht mehr selbst Gemüse an?

Weil keine ökonomische Notwendigkeit besteht, keine Familienmitglieder im Haus die ich dauerhaft versorgen muss. Außerdem mag ich Gemüse nicht sehr gerne.

The environment when my grandmother was younger

When I was younger, the environment was greener, but otherwise there are no major changes. We also plant some vegetables and many herbs. It wasn't our real job and we only ate them ourself. We lhad a cat and a dog once, but no animals like sheeps, cows or geese.



My grandma grew up in a small town in Austria but when she was about 12 years old she went to a boarding school in Vienna. Her parents didn't work on the fields that much because her dad was an architect and her mom was a housewife because my grandma had 4 siblings. They had a small field but some workers looked over the field. On the field where potatoes, carrots and salad but they used to use it for themselves. Because my grandma's dad gained a lot of money in his own building firm she didn't have to work on the fields or get a job. The fields were filled up very good so they didn't have to buy the things that they used to build on. When my grandma and her brothers and sisters had time they helped in the fields as well. Sadly where the fields were in the old days there is now a huge golf course so you can't go there any longer.

