



Erasmus+

# ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION IDEAS

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FOOTFALLS OF NATURE  
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# WHAT IS IT?

This material is a collection of ideas for teachers of primary and secondary education, who want to teach about ecology in a more students-centred way.

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# BALCONY DECORATION CONTEST

If you live in a city or a place where most of the families live in blocks of flats, it is nice to motivate students and parents to use their balconies to plant some flowers, herbs etc. Students will learn germination process by firsthand experience. Later, you can organise a photography contest or gallery.



# SCHOOL GARDEN

Use the space you have around the school to create a school garden. It can be really small, even just a box with vegetables or herbs would work. Students will not only learn about the stages of plants' growth, but also feel responsible for taking care of it.



# A VISIT TO RECYCLING PLANT

We teach our students how important recycling is, but showing them how it works is much more effective. They should observe what happens to the waste taken from the household and how it is reused.



# PARK/FOREST CLEANING

It doesn't take much time or organisation, but brings many different benefits. First of all, our students learn to take care of their neighbourhood and see the effects of dropping litter, which may prevent them from doing the same in the future.

Secondly, we make our local areas cleaner. Last, but not least, we spend time together in the fresh air, integrating our group.



# VISITS TO NATIONAL PARKS

Planning school trips remember to include national parks located in your area. It is important to show our students how to protect the nature and how valuable it is. Moreover, being in contact with natural landscape will increase the wellbeing and decrease the stress level.





# OUT-OF-WASTE DECORATIONS

At school we make lots of art work and decorations on different occasions, using lots of paper and other materials. How about encouraging our students to make decorations out of waste? It can be really nice, creative activity for them, and such decorations are very interesting and unique.



# DRAMA CLASSES

Drama and ecology? Sounds strange, but it's a great activity to prepare a simple theatre play, through which we can present different environmental issues, according to our needs. By taking roles of characters from the nature, our students learn empathy and critical thinking. We can even write the play together with our students.



# WASTE BINS LABELS

To understand the types of waste better , students can design labels for different types of bins. They can discuss the choice of the symbols or drawings, think about what can or cannot be thrown into a given bin.



# LOCAL FARMS

From the very beginning, students should be aware of how important it is to buy locally, especially products which we use every day - food. Some farms are open to young visitors, and their owners are eager to talk about the production process. Students can observe how much effort it takes to produce food and why local products are better.



# NEW YEAR'S ECO-RESOLUTION

Small steps make big changes. Just before a New Year we can offer our students an activity called "Eco-resolution". It's very simple - they think about one thing they could change in their life to be more eco-friendly, and share their ideas with the others. After some time, new idea becomes a routine



# SHORT VIDEOS AND ANIMATIONS

Information technology can be very useful in education. One of the examples is using short videos or animations to introduce the topic or problem we want to discuss with our students.

The participants of our project have created many short videos connected with waste types, carbon footprints or water. Feel free to use them during your lessons! You can find them in our You Tube chanel "FOOTFALLSofNATURE".



# CYCLING TOUR

Whenever possible, we should replace cars with bikes. To implement this idea among children, we can organise cycling tours at school. They will enjoy spending time together in the fresh air, they will be more fit and probably they will continue this activity after school.



# GAMES AND QUIZES

In order to teach our students types of waste, we can use different games and quizzes. One of them is Memo game - we prepare pictures with different waste and distribute them to students. They need to memorize the images and later match them to the appropriate waste bin. They can also create and play quizzes online, they really enjoy it!





# LOCAL INSTITUTIONS

Teachers are not alone in the process of ecological educations. There are some institutions, which are ready to support us in many different aspects. We can organise events, contests, visits together with local authorities. We can invite environmental workers for seminars and workshops. We can ask for professional guides at National Parks. There also many non-profit organisations, who prepare interesting and professional materials which can be used in and outside the classroom.



Thank you for reading our brochure!

You can find more ideas in our project's twinspace:

<https://twinspace.etwinning.net/96126/home>

and Instagram account:



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