

“Smart Up Europe for an Optimistic Future”



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TUTORIAL I

CORE TOPIC: Planning, building and maintaining a school garden			
How can we strengthen our learner's environmental awareness? How can we use our resources in a sustained manner? Brainstorming			
Main selected idea: Planning, building and maintaining a school garden <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can we establish a sustainable school garden? How can we create and preserve a bee friendly environment at our school premises? How can we take climate and its change into consideration? (Fridays for Future) How can we create an appreciative way of dealing with food and its producers? 			
DISCUSSING IDEAS			
WHAT DO WE NEED?	WHAT CAN WE DO?	WHO	WHEN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> plot (near or on school premises) tools equipment plants / crops water supply volunteers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> plan a garden, build a garden, include the school garden into the school's society (every class uses the garden as a learning environment), use plants/crops that can grow in dry circumstances, create a bee friendly environment. 	Learners who... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> like to work outside, are interested in nature, want to live healthy and ecologically, want to understand where food comes from. 	Twice a week as subject, school club
ACTIVITY PLANNING			
STEPS		RESULTS	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Getting the acceptance of the school's staff and finding a person responsible Finding a plot, getting the permission of the owner Spotting conflicts of interest and resolving those issues Motivating and activating students Including students in planning and creating the garden Documenting the planning process of the plot, deciding which crops and plants to use, finding donors and sponsors, Collecting specialised knowledge Deepening knowledge on bees Decluttering the plot and the garden shed Soil cultivation in patch area Building patches Securing water supply Building a raised bed Planting and sowing Weeding Establishing and reactivating the garden as a part of school's society Harvesting Using the harvest Preparing the garden for winter Planning the next garden year 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> We discussed our ideas with all our colleagues and found a manager for this garden project. We found a plot on our school premises and asked the owner (administrative district and local community) for their permission, which we got. We talked to every possible group that could have an interest in this plot and made sure that everyone was ok with our plan. We promoted our project among the students and selected a group of interested students. We asked the students for their ideas and included them into the plan. We took care of planning our garden visually so that one could imagine how it was going to look like. Through talks we could get some equipment, tools, and plants for free from families and friends. Through conversations at home the students collected knowledge on taking care of y garden from family and friends. To create a garden not only usable for humans but good for bees and insects as well, we collected knowledge on how to make sure that bees can live in that plot as well (planting of wildflowers and herbs, abandonment of bee toxic chemicals). We made sure that everything that needed to go made space for the new garden. We prepared the soil for its new purpose. We build different patches fitted to the plants and their needs. We secured our water supply by building a pond since there was no other way to get water near that plot. We built a raised bed and used old techniques so that no additional material was needed. Before we could plant our crops and plants, we had to grow them in a secured space. Once the plants were strong enough, we planted them into the patches and beds. To make sure that the crops and plants could grow we had to weed and pull out unwanted herbs. We promoted the use of the garden as a green classroom and thus reactivated a concept that had been around our school for years. We harvested our plants. We used our harvest in home economics classes and had barbecues in the garden to spread awareness of its existence. We prepared the garden for autumn and wintertime and made sure that pond, beds and patches can be used next term again. We activated younger children to take part in this project and used our newly gained experience to improve the garden. 	

- The students and the teacher in charge documented their work on the school garden through a website that will be presented during the LTTA in Germany.

C. Mickisch/JCSE Emmerthal (project coordinator)

"The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and it cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information c

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

