

HOW TO PROVIDE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AT SCHOOLS?

Environmental education is a **life-long process**, it does not start and end at school...

Environmental awareness can only be reached through systematic and comprehensive approach! It can be reflected in all spheres of activity and also adults should be targeted – it is never too late to start – it is a **continuous process**... drop by drop we can internalize it to our behaviour.

A big challenge is the national policy approach to environmental education... *Are environmental issues reflected in **national education curricula**? How can we get them there?*

We all are a great source of knowledge... Let's get inspiration from **GOOD PRACTICES** of our countries

- Environmental topics reflected in main subjects (also in maths, language classes, physics, etc.) during **thematic weeks**;
- Global environmental issues shown on **local case studies**;
- **Recycling bins** and waste collecting places at schools;
- **Farm at school**, kids have a great opportunity to learn about **composting** and have opportunity to use this soil during **horticulture classes** in school garden;
- Pupils learn about **material cycles**, recycling and **visit recycling centre**;
- **Outdoor education**, field trips – a great opportunity to learn about nature conservation and environmental issues;
- Kids are motivated to recycle (paper, bottle caps, old batteries,...) through school/national **competition**;
- **Creative laboratories** for material reuse and recycling;
- **Responsible school canteens** using local and seasonal production.
- ... and there are much more of them 😊

Some innovative ideas...

Learning by doing – this is not new or innovative, but it is always effective and it simply works 😊

Be creative and make kids curious – let kids get practical experience and understanding of environmental issues through experiments.

Make recycling a game for kids – use waste material in art classes for new creative production.

Adapt your message to young generation, use their language and modern devices, make recycling **trendy and cool**.

Show students **what happens if...** if we do not behave in responsible way.

Give students space for their own **small projects** related to environmental protection.

Do not forget about further education and **training for teachers** – new methodologies, toolkits, activities,...

...Neither about **parents** because they are important examples for their children's behaviour.

And have in mind that **kids can be great educators and multipliers of environmental issues!!!**