

10-13 year old

Impact on the environment - our forest - 12 lessons

Objectives:

Learning criteria from the main curriculum of elementary.

- ❖ Work under guidance in a group according to a project-based schedule to design an environment, object or system.
- ❖ Described examples of the impact of human actions on nature and man-made environment in the local area and in Iceland, told about possible developments in the future.
- ❖ Participate in examining, defining and improving your own environment and nature.
- ❖ Discussed how arable land is used and various aspects of land use and vegetation protection.

Learning objectives:

- ❖ That students have the opportunity to work on projects that contribute to a better environment.
- ❖ That students learn to appreciate the value of the forest for outdoor recreation, experience and use.
- ❖ That students learn about the biosphere of the forest; i.e. plants (flowers, trees, mushrooms), fauna (small animals and birds), soil and how the ecosystem forms a whole.
- ❖ That students learn how to behave in and respect the forest.
- ❖ That students learn methods to use materials from the forest in handicrafts, such as casting and construction, among other things.

Materials Needed:

Registration form, see attachments

Lesson structure:

Session 1- 80 min - 2 lessons

A lecture about trees in Iceland, the use of forests, methods of casting and choice of material.

Discussion time to follow.

Student work: discussions and reflection after the lecture

Session 2 - 80 min - 2 lessons

Students receive instruction in reasoning methods and choice of material

Students work on their cognitive tasks.

Students' work: butter knife, pen.

Session 3 - 160 min - 4 lessons

Lecture on the forest ecosystem, food chains in the forest and the main plants and animals.

Discussion time to follow.

Student work: concept map of the forest ecosystem.

Session 4- 160 min - 4 lessons

Field trip - Planting.

Students plant in a nearby forest

Student assessment :

- student self-assessment
- reflection after discussion lessons
- concept map of the forest ecosystem
- wood carving
- interest and activity

Other information:

In recent years, the Government of Iceland has increased the emphasis on measures to offset climate change. Among them is increased forestry and landscaping with the aim of sequestering carbon in the soil and vegetation, but also restoring and improving degraded ecosystems, which are very common in this country. In this light, i.a. expected to plant one birch tree for every citizen in three years. In the first year, it is expected that one tree will be planted for the youngest 10 cohorts of the country's population, but there are currently 49,670 individuals of that age. This fall, elementary schools in the country are invited to participate in this effort and receive birch saplings for planting, in collaboration with Yrkjusjóð.

Yrkja - the youth fund for the cultivation of the country distributes tree seedlings to elementary school children for planting. Every year, between seven and eight thousand primary school students, from around a hundred schools around the country, plant trees on behalf of the fund.

Yrkjusjóður was founded in 1992, but the fund's initial capital was the result of the sale of the book Yrkja, which was published on the occasion of the 60th birthday of Mrs. Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, the former president of Iceland. The fund has its own board, but the Íslands Forestry Association oversees it and deals with the schools.

Applications for Yrkjusjóð are advertised early each year. All primary schools in the country can apply for trees to the fund, whether for planting in spring or autumn.

More information and educational materials about trees and planting can be found on Yrkja's website: www.yrkja.is