

Adopting the beach of our neighbourhood

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Preschool Education



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I will implement my scenario in: Preschool children 4-6 old

The duration of the implementation is: 9 hours

My scenario goals are:

1. Identify children's prior knowledge
2. Understand the marine ecosystem and its importance for humans
3. Raise awareness of sea pollution issues
4. Understand plastic waste disposal in the sea
5. Be aware of the link between human activity and marine pollution
6. Emphasize on how people—and children themselves—can reduce marine pollution.
7. Take action in the field-our neighbourhood

How will I achieve my educational goals?

1st lesson-Explore: Children meet a turtle-puppet who struggles to lay her eggs at the neighbourhood beach due to litter. She makes a critical question to children “*Why is there so much litter at the beach?*”

2nd lesson-Prepare: Children discussed the turtle’s problem, and wrote their thoughts on sticky notes

3^d lesson-Plan: Children shared ideas on how and where they could find information to help the turtle.

4th lesson-Study: Children in groups studied materials (books, videos, posters) to identify causes and effects of beach litter.

5th lesson-Learn: An oceanologist was invited at school to speak about the marine ecosystem and human impact.

6th lesson-Act: Teachers proposed a beach clean-up. Children eagerly agreed and cleaned the beach.

7th lesson-Disseminate: Children discussed the clean-up experience and made posters using trash to raise awareness among peers and parents. They invited other classes to participate in future clean-ups,

8th lesson-Reflect: Through discussion, students expressed their feelings from the process and were introduced to the concept of volunteerism

9th lesson-Create: They created a collective “Turtle Book” describing the problem, the solution, and wrote advice for readers

In the end of the project, childrens’ interest arise, the local beach was adopted by our school. Children suggested hosting a turtle’s birthday party and another clean-up with parents. A wooden sign made by a parent-carpenter will be installed on the beach.

Remember that your scenario goals should be linked with Sustainability Citizenship.



This activity links to the Sustainable Development Goals:



Before choosing a competency or SDG, ensure you understand how your scenario promotes it. For instance, if you select critical thinking, identify the specific part of your scenario where this competency is developed.



The green competences that promoted from my scenario are:

Embodying Sustainable Values	Valuing Sustainability	Promoting Nature
Embracing Complexity in Sustainability	Systems Thinking	Problem Framing
Envisioning Sustainable Futures	Futures Literacy	Exploratory Thinking
Acting for Sustainability	Collective Action	



I will collaborate with:

- Helmepea Greece, where open sources were used.
- WWF Greece, as we participate in the program “Adopt a Beach”. Our school has officially adopted the local beach, and we upload at the website the beach litter that we find.
- Parents’ association, is our supportive partner and together we have organized several actions such as putting a label at the beach, or organizing the final clean-up party.
- Dr. Evangelos Alevisos, marine scientist, oceanologist, who was invited as an external expert and together we discussed about sea pollution, and the connection of ourselves to environmental sustainability

Here is my plan for integrating this scenario in my school this year:

- Older children will explain the newcomers WHY our school has adopted the beach
- We will create a space at the common area of our school , where the puppet turtle will have a clean space to lay her eggs
- We could create a virtual exhibition concerning the challenges in a turtles’ journey.
- We will engage local authorities, more local experts
- Children in small groups with the help of their parents will introduce informational preschool books concerning the sea. Workshops with parents will follow, so that families are also involved.

