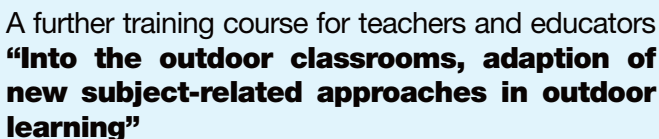


Learning outside the classroom





“The aim of this project is to support pupils’ subject related learning outside the classroom. This is done by qualifying the collaboration between a dual target group consisting of representatives from formal and non-formal learning environments.”

Karen Barfod

Senior Lecturer & Project Manager

VIA University College

Why this project?

As European children spend a great deal of time in school, it is necessary that various teaching methods are developed in order to provide an education system that works for all.

In this light, it is important to encourage both formal and non-formal learning professionals to cooperate and develop educational activities outside the classroom. Non-formal environments offer opportunities for gaining expertise and developing educational approaches that are closely connected to academic subjects.

It is a challenge for teachers to make non-formal educational activities fit into their curricula and also use them to supplement indoor lessons. To cope with this challenge, this project connects educators from non-formal and teachers from formal learning environments, so that they can cooperate and develop new insights as well as exchange knowledge, plans and goals.



Target group

The project targets a dual group:

- ➡ **Teachers from formal learning environments.**
- ➡ **Educators from non-formal learning environments,** e.g. guides, rangers, educational staff from museums, etc.



Project aims



To develop the skills and competences of teachers and educators in formal and non-formal learning sectors in order to integrate outdoor environments into the learning processes of children at primary and lower secondary level.



To facilitate interdisciplinary exchange of knowledge and networking between the two sectors.



Project results

We have developed two courses:

A Foundation Course containing basic learning theories and methods.

A Subject Course emphasizing subject-related approaches to activities outside the classroom.

The courses are based on the idea of learning by doing, meaning that participants learn about the outdoors through experiencing it themselves and being involved with activities in different settings such as nature, geoparks, museums and other environments. The course material has been tested with participants from both target groups in Romania, Sweden, Germany and Denmark.

The results and materials are downloadable, free of charge, from the project's website:

www.viauc.com/inandout

Project partners

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