



BLUE FLAG

2011 EDITION

**ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION ACTIVITIES BOOK**

**FOUNDATION FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**



The Blue Flag is a programme from the Foundation for Environmental Education

The Blue Flag Programme is sponsored internationally by:



Corona Extra

<http://www.coronasavethebeach.org>



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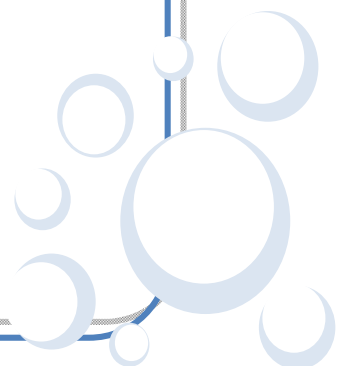
<http://www.shipmate.nl>

Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) is an international organisation that has been promoting environmental education for sustainable development since 1981. FEE is an umbrella organisation with member organisations in around 60 countries around the world. (www.fee-international.org)

FEE is active in environmental education mainly through five programmes:

- Blue Flag (www.blueflag.org)
- Eco-Schools (www.eco-schools.org)
- Young Reporters for the Environment (www.youngreporters.org)
- Learning about Forests (www.leaf-international.org)
- Green Key (www.green-key.org)

Through formal school education, training of staff, and awareness raising, FEE's programmes involve people of all ages and nationalities.



WELCOME TO THE FIRST BLUE FLAG ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ACTIVITY GUIDE

Why this brochure?

This brochure has been created for two main purposes: to help beach and marina managers to organise environmental education activities which fit with their goals and capacities; and to share good ideas throughout the Blue Flag network.

What kind of Environmental Education?

Environmental Education offers a broad framework that encompasses a number of different ideas and approaches to learning in, for or about the environment, in pursuit of sustainable development. The purpose of this guide is not to debate the different definitions, but to encourage a shared acceptance of the diversity of learning approaches. This introduction, therefore, offers a brief description of environmental education approaches and offers a simple classification to help users to navigate their way through the different activities and worksheets.

One way of understanding environmental education is to see it as education that engages learners with nature, encourages them to ask questions about the environment, and engage with environmental change. This means that environmental education is not just concerned with spreading messages about the environment, but it also provides opportunities to enhance learner understandings, question environmental problems and take action for environmental change in pursuit of a sustainable development.

Therefore, the classification we offer is tentative and open to change.

- Information-seeking or enquiry:

Learners are encouraged to ask questions about the environment and gather information or materials. This might be through surveys, counting, collecting, or measuring different parts of the beach, for example.

- Awareness-raising:

Awareness-raising is an educational activity focused on raising a learner's awareness about environmental problems, in the HOPE that they will do something as a response. An example might be an information campaign.

- Action-oriented:

Action-oriented learning is an approach based on environmental change and improvement. The learners take action on a particular environmental problem and try out one or more solutions with the aim of achieving a better environment for all. A typical example is a litter pick.

- Contact with nature / experiential / exploratory

Experiential approaches to environmental education are often based outside, in the particular environment in question, and seek to inspire learners to care for the environment by encouraging contact with nature and exploration, usually around a particular theme, such as 'the sea shore'.

How is this brochure organised?

As you will see, the different categories overlap and are not mutually-exclusive, hence a learning sequence might actually address all four types of environmental education activity in pursuit of a sustainable development.

The same tagging system is used throughout the document, each activity answering the same questions: target group, theme, method, communication, tips, etc.

The activity sheets are organised by theme: *Biodiversity, Marine World, Marina, Special Events, and Waste*. It must be noted that although a specific "Marina" category has been included, the activities under other categories may easily be adapted for a marina.

Where to find this brochure?

You can download this brochure (fully or by theme) on the Blue Flag international website:
www.blueflag.org

Environmental information port

Target group: Adults

Type: Awareness Raising

Duration: Half day to whole day

Country: Spain

• **METHOD:** Every summer the municipality of Ametlla de Mar organises an environmental information service at one of its Blue Flag beaches. Two people offer environmental information on local natural areas, natural paths, protected species, and environmental puzzles for children and also some gastronomy information based on recipes with local marine species. They also offer beach ashtrays and the opportunity to ask anything related to the environment or to communicate citizen's concerns to the municipality.

(People working there are always women over 30 years old with difficulties to access to labour market. They are previously trained by the local vocational training school on environmental issues and communication so this way they improve their training for other future jobs.)



- **MATERIAL:** A tent, plastic table and chairs; beach ashtrays, leaflets for adults and puzzles for children.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Vocational training schools, department of environment from the town hall.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Their presence at the beach is the most effective communication tool.

Voluntary cleaning

Target group: Adults and children

Type: Action oriented

Duration: from Half a day

Country: Spain

- **METHOD:** *The municipality of Puerto de la Cruz offers the opportunity to collaborate in a cleaning day by manual means around the beaches of the area. Together with the personnel from the municipal cleaning service adults and children may help on the cleaning of natural areas where cleaning machines do not have access. Volunteers are equipped with bags, rakes, caps and water to fight summer heat. People become more aware of the importance of manual cleaning, the work daily done by the cleaning service and the origin of waste which sometimes comes from inland or the sea, not just from beachgoers.*



- **MATERIAL:** *Bags, rakes, caps and water*
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *Personnel from the cleaning services and adult associations.*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *The activity may be posted at the beach boards, local newspapers and by any other means.*
- **TIPS:** *For a higher participation it is always better to organise it on a bank day or at weekend.*

Young Beach Savers

Target group: University students

Type: Information seeking

Duration: from Half a day

Country: Turkey

METHOD:

- Youngsters are educated about The Blue Flag beach cleanliness criteria and beach cleanliness level evaluation method
- Questionnaires are prepared to check the awareness level of public about beach cleanliness
- Kiosk and stands (where needed in long beaches) are prepared for information
- After preparations are made, opening ceremony is held to announce projects is starting
- During 2 weeks of project, every Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Wednesday, once in the morning and once in the afternoon beach cleanliness level is evaluated
- In every project day, questionnaires are filled in by the public on the beach
- In every project day, information is given to public via kiosk and stands
- Photos showing dirtiness on the beach are taken during workdays
- Before closing ceremony, all data collected and recorded on computer
- project result report and a press release is prepared
- press document and pictures are shown to media during closing ceremony



- **MATERIAL:** Full board accommodation for project team of 8 university students, kiosk for environmental information, booklets and brochures, water and cold drinks for project team during for very hot days of summer, opening and closing ceremony needs (sound system, computer and stand etc.)
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local municipality, local environment association, local university clubs
- **COMMUNICATION:** Announced in local media and could be repeated in each season, in different public beaches
- **TIPS:** Local volunteers are encouraged to participate

Night at the beach

Target group: Adults (men and women)

Type: Exploratory

Duration: A couple of hours

Country: Denmark

BEACH

- **METHOD:** *The participants meet at the local interpretation centre at around 10 pm when the stars can be seen in the sky. The outdoor counsellor will explain the stars, their mythology etc. while everybody is enjoying a hot beverage. From the interpretation centre the group goes to the beach where the outdoor counsellor explains how to navigate at sea by the stars. The excursion ends at the interpretation centre.*
- **MATERIAL:** *A member of the interpretation centre staff, transportable telescope, hot beverages and cups.*
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *None.*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *Advertisement in the local newspaper. The activity is announced in the municipality website. Printed programmes are placed in camping grounds, local tourist offices, hotels, summer house rental spots, on the local library.*
- **TIPS:** *When advertising, remember to specify that the arrangement will be cancelled in case of bad weather. Also state that warm clothes might be necessary.*

Community Beach Litter Picking Event

Target group: All members of the public

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: A couple of hours

Country: England

BEACH

- **METHOD:** *The aim of the initiative was to encourage members of the local community to get actively involved in the cleaning of their local beaches and educate on the dangers of litter drops to the general public as on the surrounding wildlife.*

The 'Community Beach Litter Pick' takes place every year to promote a sense of pride, ownership and responsibility. Previous experience shows that if a group take responsibility for a particular section of beach then the overall standard of cleanliness increases for a long period of time, which in turn enhances the area in which people work and play.

After the 'Litter Pick' has finished a report is put together by the Marine Conservation Society, highlighting areas where litter has either increased/decreased over the year, as well as the type of litter found. The report is then used by the Local Authority to plan to next 'Community Beach Litter Pick' campaign targeting specific areas.

The Community Litter Pick has been taking place for the last 18 years.

- **MATERIAL:** *Gloves and bags.*
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *Local Authority and Marine Conservation Society.*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *Information can be found at the Tourist Information Centre, in the local press and at council offices.*
- **TIPS:** *Provide volunteers with hand gel.*

Campaigns

Target group: Adults

Type: Awareness Raising

Duration:

Country: Greece

BEACH

- **METHOD:** As beach management aligned to the Blue Flag criteria is a crucial factor to be taken into consideration for the Blue Flag award, this cannot be maintained at a high standard without the help of the beach visitors. So, inventive ways should be used for spreading the message that the Blue Flag Criteria aiming at the protection of the environment should be respected. Any Eco-Code version would meet this need and could be addressed to the visitors of the beach, with the hope that the expected results will be really fruitful.

So attractive, handy items that might serve as fans (pictures 1, 2) or ash trays (picture 3) might be good instruments serving our goal.



Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3

- **MATERIAL:** Carbon paper, paints.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Printing Office can produce the items for free or with a discount.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Give the items to the visitors of the beach.
- **TIPS:** Remember to use coloured pictures to make the items as attractive as possible.

Sculpture making on the sand

Target group: Youngsters and adults

Type: Action oriented

Duration: 5 hours

Country: Greece

BEACH

METHOD: *The sea has always been a precious life-giving source for people, insuring food for them and constituting a connecting route between peoples and cultures. Moreover, it has always been a “radiating” source of relaxation and inspiration.*

Youngsters are invited for a one day project on a sandy beach, where they are split into groups with a secretary/spokesperson in each, and investigate the beneficial impact the sea has always had, over the ages, to the people living by it. Youngsters list these benefits and spot the differences the sea has brought to those peoples’ lives and character. Bring pictures, drawings, articles, historical references, and any other source providing relevant information on your theme and help the youngsters realize in depth the role the sea has played over the ages to people living by the sea.

During the “discussion in a circle” that will follow the group work, the secretary/spokesperson of each group will put forward his/her group’s viewpoints.

Afterwards, the participants will experience the relaxation the sea offers by “playing” with the sand. They will be invited to participate in a “sand sculpture” Competition in which the three best sculptures will be awarded a prize



- **MATERIAL:** Sand, tools if wanted
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Sculptors
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board, to schools, environmental clubs, the public.
- **TIPS:** Remember to invite Art teachers as members of the Jury. This will add prestige to the activity and the Competition.

Games

(Getting to know the sea world / the farm)

Target group: Children / Teachers

Type: Exploratory/Awareness Raising

Duration: 2 hours

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** As fun-making activities help children learn easier and faster, games is the most appropriate tool to help children learn, appreciate, respect, adopt and protect what triggers their esteem and interest. Getting learners to know the natural world around us, you prepare them to fight against any factor constituting a threat for the environment. You help them to become responsible future citizens as they learn in a playful atmosphere what they should do in order to protect what is part of the natural world around us.

With the help of a teacher, start with a presentation of the species of the sea world, by using both pictures and information about them. Design on a piece of cloth frame depicting the sea world by painting pictures of sea flora and sea fauna on it. Make cards with a description of these species on each. Invite the children to pick up one of the cards each and after reading its content (where there should be information about a particular species of the sea world) ask the child to match the content of the card he/she holds with the picture of the species shown on the cloth frame. Ask the children to step on the picture of the species described on their card. Then ask each of them to play the role of this particular species of the sea flora or the sea fauna he/she identifies himself/herself with to introduce himself/herself, to speak about the threats he/she faces and make an appeal to the people to protect him/her.

Alternatively: Instead of using on your cards species of the sea world you can use animals of the animal farm.



- **MATERIAL:** A piece of cloth, paints, paint brushes, cards, pens.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local handcraft shop can give you the paint for free or with a discount.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board, at schools.
- **TIPS:** Ask a teacher to help you with this activity.

Getting to know a National Park / Bird watching

Target group: Children / Adults

Type: Information Seeking

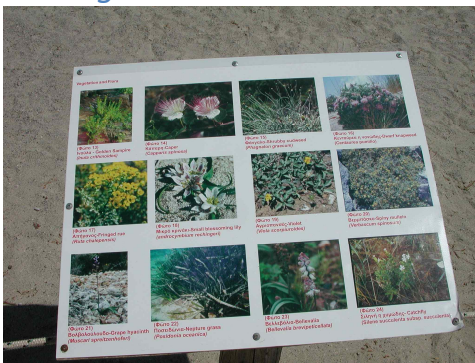
Duration: 2 hours

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** Organize a lecture about the importance of the biodiversity (to be given by a specialist) to the public. The lecture will be accompanied by a presentation of slides with the flora and fauna of the area. A special emphasis should be given to the need for the protection of the environment. A generation of a discussion between the specialist and the public, afterwards, would be very effective towards the overall aim to protect the environment.

Alternatively:

You may organize a picture exhibition on the beach with explanation notes about each species of flora or fauna met in the area and invite the visitors to respect them and protect them, as they constitute part of the natural riches of each country. Sets of binoculars available on the beach which might possibly constitute part of the nearby national park will offer the opportunity to the visitors to enjoy bird-watching.



- **MATERIAL:** Cardboard paper with photos and explanations about the species presented on the posters can serve as successful information boards about these species for the visitors.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local photo shops can give you nice photos to exhibit. Specialists can prepare the texts with explanations about the species to be presented. Local stationery shops can provide you with the necessary materials for free or with a good discount on them. Local carpenters may help in the construction of these posters for free.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board, at schools. In case of a Photo Competition advertise on the Information Board, local press, local TV Channels, at schools.
- **TIPS:** You may organise a Photo Competition for the pictures to be used, so as these would be very nice to use. The idea of a prize would be quite challenging for those who love taking photographs.

Trails

Target group: Children / Adults

Type: Exploratory/Awareness Raising

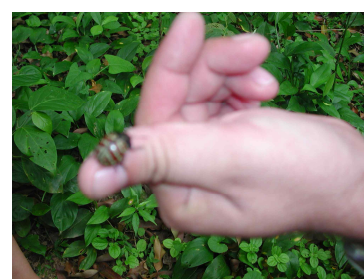
Duration: 3 hours

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** Organize trails for adults or children to raise awareness about the need to respect and protect the environment. When people come closer to the natural riches appreciate them greatly and they are expected to feel the need to respect and protect what they admire.

A nature guide will give detailed information about the different species of flora and fauna met in the natural park. Extra information about the threats the ecosystem faces will enrich the visitors' knowledge about the natural habitat they are visiting and will increase their concerns about the impact these threats might have on the environment.

If the trail is organised for children, prepare worksheets to be filled in during the guided tour. The worksheets should have pictures of the various species. Depending on the children's age, the pictures could be either in black and white for the very little ones to paint them with colours, matching them with the original colours of the respective species they meet on the way, or they could be in colour with space by the side to be filled in by the elder children with the information the nature guide will give about each of the species met on the way.



- **MATERIAL:** Possibly, a leaflet with the flora and the fauna of the habitat would be quite informative for the visitors to take with them after the trail has been finished. If the trail is organised for children prepare suitable worksheets to be filled in during the guided tour.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Nature guides of a Natural Park.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board.
- **TIPS:** With the help of a teacher and the nature guide prepare the appropriate worksheets for the children to use in the guided tour.

Nature Trail

Target group: Everybody

Type: Exploratory / Awareness raising

Duration: 1-2 hours

Country: Ireland

• **METHOD:**

- The trail starts at the Blue Flag on Curracloe Beach where two guides are situated next to a clearly marked sign.
- The two guides take the group around a trail that is marked out with stops. The trail is altered to the visitor needs with each tour (age group, previous knowledge etc).
- The Nature Trail begins with a short health and safety talk and distribution of material, 'A Guide to Nature at Curracloe', which has a lot of information and is generally given to adults, and 'Curracloe Crazy Nature Trail', which is kind of scavenger hunt for the children as they get point for the different species on the card that they spot.
- Then the group is moved along the main walkway onto beach alongside the sand dunes, here the various flora and fauna along the pathway and in the sand dunes are pointed out by the tour guides.
- From here the tour moves onto the beach where the flora and fauna in the water and on the beach are discussed. As we move back up through the sand dunes the tour guides point out other areas along the coast which may be of interest to the visitors. Visitor are encouraged to ask questions at any point along the Nature Trail and if a visitor would like more information on any point on the trial the tour guides will provide as much detail as necessary. The Nature Trial ends where it started and the guides give a quick recap.



- **MATERIAL:** High Vis Jackets, 'Curracloe Crazy Nature Trail' leaflet for children, 'A Guide to Nature at Curracloe' leaflet for adults, Costs of materials unknown as they were produced years ago
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** An Taisce, Coastcare groups, Schools, Local Nature Reserve (Raven Nature Reserve)
- **COMMUNICATION:** Newspaper, Website, Blue Flag Notice board, Sign next to Blue Flag on Curracloe Strand
- **TIPS:** Currently it is only being run during the months of July and August, if possible if it was run during month of June also school group could attend, also there would be more fauna in bloom in June than in late August

'Curracloe Crazy' Nature Trail

Follow the trail and spot as many of these plants and animals as you can. How many points can you score? Answer the questions and claim a prize!

Remember:

- > Always stay on the paths.
- > Take any litter home.
- > Leave plants and animals for everyone to enjoy.

10
points



Marram Grass

- ❖ Marram grass has roots up to 5 metres long!
- ❖ These long roots help to hold the sand dunes together.
- ❖ What do the roots of a plant do?

Razor Shell

- ❖ The Irish name, Scian Mhara, means 'sea-knife'. Can you think why?



20
points

30
points



Cinnabar Caterpillar/Moth

- ❖ Look for these 'tiger tails' on the poisonous Ragwort plant.
- ❖ Why do you think these animals are such bright colours?

70
points

Common Seal

- ❖ There are 2 types of seal in Irish waters. The common seal and the grey seal.
- ❖ Seals can dive underwater to hunt for up to 45 minutes!
- ❖ How do you think they can do that?



100
points!!

Common Lizard

- ❖ Look for lizards sun-bathing (basking).
- ❖ Why do lizards need to lie in the sun?



How many points did you score? Wow! You are a 'top spotter'!
Could you answer the questions? Please return this sheet to the guide.

Sea Safari

Target group: Children / Local community

Type: Exploratory

Duration: from 3 hours

Country: Ireland

- **METHOD:** Children from a local Green-School enjoyed a 'Sea Safari'; scouring the seashore of Port Beach at low tide finding and identifying treasures such as a mermaid's purse, common crabs, jellyfish and razor fish. This was followed by a celebration to raise the blue flag at Port Beach (Ireland). The children were treated to lunch, a special recycling workshop as well as speeches from community members and vice chair of Louth County Council.



- **MATERIAL:** None required, discussion based talk
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Schools, Beach Development Committee, Louth County Council (Litter Wardens/EAO/Cllrs), An Taisce (Green Schools/Spring Clean)
- **COMMUNICATION:** Closed event arranged with local schoolchildren who are working on the Water theme of Green-Schools. Local community members and councillors were also invited to the raising of the Blue Flag.
- **TIPS:** This activity could be made available to more schools.

Shell Collection

Target group: Children from 5 to 12 years old

Type: Information seeking

Duration: from 2 hours to half a day

Country: Spain

BIODIVERSITY

- **METHOD:** First, cards with the different species are distributed and the environmental educator explains the different kinds of shells that might be found at the beach, where and how they live. Then children are divided into groups and sent to look for the different kinds of shells. Finally each group exhibit their collection and every children visits other's collection and tries to identify the shells with the help of the educator.



- **MATERIAL:** Cards with the drawings and names of shells. It would also be interesting to have buckets or other items to collect shells.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Environmental educators, either voluntary or hired.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The activity might be posted at tourist office or environmental education centres.
- **TIPS:** Some kind of registration is needed to organise groups by age and number of kids.

Exploring the diversity of trees (example of Bodrum region, Turkey)

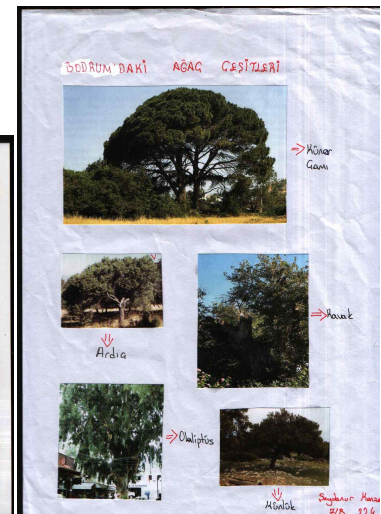
Target group: Primary school groups

Type: Action oriented

Duration: from 2 hours

Country: Turkey

- **METHOD:** Starting with telling what we know about the variety of trees in our forests-Bodrum region.
 - Let everyone say something about the trees and listening if they have any story related with the trees and forests.
 - Preparing some questions to ask in the visit of Provincial Directorate of Forestry
 - Searching some books before going to forest
 - Linking the trees to the beach is important (explaining the link between both)
 - Learning the methods of planting
 - Fixing all the materials for planting (seeds, pickaxes, shovels, etc.)



- **MATERIAL:** Books related with the trees, seeds, pickaxes and shovels
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Everyone in the school (students, teachers, managerial staff, etc.), Provincial Directorate of Forestry, Municipality
- **COMMUNICATION:** All the areas related with the school
- **TIPS:** Must be done frequently with different ages as an alternative environmental education method.

Sustainable use and enjoyment of our estuaries

Target group: All residents, visitors and users of the estuaries

Type: Awareness Raising

Duration: Continuous

Country: Ireland

- **METHOD:** *The project aims to promote environmental awareness and the sustainable enjoyment and recreational use of the estuaries (in the South Devon) to local communities*

This will be achieved through communication about the estuaries, their wildlife and ecology, their sensitivities and management, in a way that creates understanding about them and allows the making of informed decisions about how communities may use and enjoy them.

Under the initiative there are 5 main separate projects, they are: Environmental Slipway Signage; Site Interpretation Boards; Seagrass Meadows Awareness; South Devon AONB Coastal Wildlife Book and 'Make the Most of Your Coast' schools and education elements.

Environmental Slipway Signage

It is designed to encourage responsible use and enjoyment of the estuaries by boat users. To achieve this series of boards are to be erected at public slipways containing both sustainable general guidance information and detailed local information.

Site Interpretation Boards

For a number of popular viewpoints such which would interpret the view of what people see when they look across the water; but highlighting key but hidden aspects within the same view, such as depicting the topography of the seabed and the waters above with their wildlife communities together with a level of information about some of the local management and conservation issues and how visitors might play their part.

Seagrass meadows

An awareness raising initiative is being put together in partnership with MarLin and University of Plymouth about the plight and need for the conservation of these highly important and biologically rich and diverse communities. It will interpret their global importance, for wildlife and commercial fishing where they are, how to enjoy them and what to do if you cross them.

Sustainable use and enjoyment of our estuaries

South Devon AONB Coastal Wildlife Book

Collation of local underwater photographs by local divers, together with good topside landscape location photographs, into a book both as a way of raising awareness and reminding ourselves of the sheer diversity of colour, form and frequent 'bizarreness' of our local marine wildlife, communities and seascapes. It will also help celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty's designation and show why our coast is proposed to be so highly designated.

'Make the Most of Your Coast'

The programme is designed to encourage and facilitate teachers to be confident in leading school parties on beach visits. There will be guidance on the suitability of local beaches for targeted or wider curricular visits, local 'beach teachers' who can help, a chest of interpreted resources and a web-based signposting of suggested curriculum-linked web-based teaching resources. The programme also offers support to teachers on any questions or queries they may have.



- **MATERIAL:**
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local Authority, Salcombe-Kingsbridge Estuary Conservation Forum, Schools, Green-Blue project of the Royal Yachting Association, MarLIN and University of Plymouth.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information boards, A4 posters and leaflets.

Aquarium

Target group: Kids, teens and adults

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: continuous

Country: Denmark

- **METHOD:** *It is a very easy activity and only needs a fish tank at the interpretation centre. The guides at the interpretation centre can build the aquarium and encourage the children to go fishing and deliver then their catch to the aquarium. Bugs and plants are also welcome.*

It is a good idea to combine this activity with other fishing activities so the children catch their own fish and bugs. A bell ring may tell the guests, that it is feeding time for the fish, and the children will be allowed to feed the animals, while the guide tells about their feeding habits and predators.

- **MATERIAL:** *There are many different models of aquaria. Blue Flag recommends the one which is used at the Blue Flag interpretation centre in Sonderborg, where it is possible for the children to touch the fish and plants. If you wish to see a drawing of the Sonderborg's aquarium, please email to bf@friluftsraadet.dk.*
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *Aquarium clubs, they may sponsor an oxygen pump. Local fishers may contribute to the aquarium with bigger fish and molluscs. Contact the authorities and ask for permission to make use of citizens in the social services penalty program to help building the aquarium.*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *A list of all the activities taking place at the post should be posted on a visible place on the door. Wind poles must be placed outside the interpretation centre, showing that Blue Flag activities are offered. Information about the fish tank/touch pool on the homepages of Blue Flag and the interpretation centre.*
- **TIPS:** *Remember to rub detergent on the inside of the aquarium's glass walls to keep it from blurring. The aquarium must have an oxygen pump and cooling system- you can find both elements running on batteries or sun cells. The aquarium could be made of acrylics instead of glass.*

Making an information board

Target group: Kids

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: A couple of hours

Country: Denmark

- **METHOD:** *The goal is to develop graphic materials (posters, wall sheets) with information about nature or other ideas for other children on how to use nature when the interpretation centre is closed: making sand sculptures, digging holes on the beach etc. The children must have access to the local centre to pick up materials they need (paper, scissors, glue, etc.) to make the posters. It is important that their parents are there. The posters are delivered at the interpretation centre, where the staff will take care of posting them in visible spots: on the interpretation centre's external walls, in the parking lot, the sweet shop and the toilet building.*
- **MATERIAL:** *Paper for wall sheets, glue, scissors, pencils, things from the beach, buttons, laminator etc.*
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *None.*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *This has been thought as a general activity all summer long. It could take place in a corner of the station a "workshop area" where all the necessary information and materials can be found on the one condition that the children hand in a work sheet or a poster.*
- **TIPS:** *Make a poster of cardboard with information about the open workshop. Many people drop by the Blue flag station but do not necessarily know about all the activities. Keep on exchanging wall papers and posters frequently.*

Rock Pool Ramble

Target group: Families, general public

Type: Exploratory

Duration: two days

Country: England

BIODIVERSITY

- **METHOD:** The 'Rock Pool Ramble' was a two day event which was organised by Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk's Community Development Team in collaboration with the BBC's CBeebies Breathing Spaces

The idea behind the events was to encourage both local and visiting families to explore the wildlife living in the rock pools beneath the red and white striped cliffs. It's hoped that by bringing the underwater to life people will gain a greater understanding of the sort of wildlife/creatures live along our coasts and in doing so encourage people to respect and maintain the precious ecosystem on their doorstep.

The 'Ramble' starts with a scavenger hunt while waiting for the tide to retreat, enabling people to look at what has been washed up on the beach. Explaining to people what happens if rubbish is thrown on the beach and how it can harm wildlife. When the tide goes out, we explore the rock pools and discover what sort of creatures live there. Experts are on hand to inform people/children what the creatures are, what sort of environment they like to live in and how we can help ensure that we protect their environment.

Over the course of the two days approximately 150 people attended the 'rock pool ramble' with organisations such as Natural England, Green Quay and the BBC all taking part.

- **MATERIAL:**
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local authority, BBC Breathing Places, Natural England, Green Quay.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The local news ran with the story and did a follow up article on the events and its success. A press release was distributed to 25 different print and radio news desks. A handout was also produced and was distributed to all those who attended the ramble. Posters were also put up around the beach front.
- **TIPS:** Wear sensible clothing and children should always be accompanied by an adult.

School Visit

Workshops on Beach Safety & Natural Environment

Target group: Primary School Children

Type: Awareness Raising

Duration: 1 hour

Country: England

BIODIVERSITY

- **METHOD:** *The aim of the activity is to educate primary school children (in mid Cornwall) on all aspects of beach safety. As well as beach safety the programme is also used to promote an understanding of environmental issues across the beach.*

The programme runs yearly and is carried out by the Beach Safety Officer, during the summer term. The Beach Safety Officer along with the RNLI Lifeguards and Supervisors visit local schools in the mid Cornwall area and give a 30 minutes talk on beach safety issues such as the meaning of the different flags, the dangers of getting cut off by the tide, rip currents and how to recognise them, types of waves and their dangers and the job of the RNLI lifeguards.

Apart from beach safety the sessions also cover some areas of environmental education, looking at what wildlife can be found in and around the beach and coastal area e.g. living in the rock pools. There is also a discussion about hazards of dropped litter and how this can affect the wildlife, with message to the children being put your litter in the bin either at the beach or at home.

If a school wishes to hold the session at a beach this is easily arranged.

- **MATERIAL:** *Support material such as flyers and worksheets.*
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *RNLI Lifeguards, Local Authority, local schools.*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *Information is advertised on the information boards and is advertised o schools in the mid Cornwall area.*

Secondary School Biodiversity Action

Target group: Children and specialist groups

Type: Awareness Raising

Duration: Continuous

Country: England

BIODIVERSITY

- **METHOD:** *The aim of the initiative is to increase biodiversity and to create new wildlife habitats for environmental and educational purposes.*

Currently North Tyneside Council is working with Norham Community Technology College who have a thriving Environment Group, called the Environflippin'mental – EFM – Group which looks at and addresses a variety of environmental issues. There are over 100 students involved in the EFM Group and they have a dedicated committee which meet every term in school. The group have developed a school Sustainability Policy therefore it felt appropriate that a Biodiversity Action Plan would be produced to complement the Policy.

Information is distributed to parents and the community via the school newsletter and is displayed in the School's Eco Schools notice board and website. There is consultation with the local Friends of the Earth Group and they have links with Rising Sun Country Park.

- **MATERIAL:**
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *North Tyneside Council, Rising Sun Country Park, Norham Community Technology College, Friends of the Earth.*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *School website, newsletter and Eco Schools website.*

Save Dolphins and Turtles

Target group: Children from 5 to 14 years old

Type: Awareness raising

Duration: Half a day

Country: Spain

• **METHOD:** The first part of the activity is a power point presentation on marine animals, the problems they suffer and the conservation projects existing around the world. The activity might be develop first in classrooms and then take children to beach, or do everything at the beach and give explanations instead of a presentation. On the second part of the activity children simulate the rescue of a dolphin and a turtle. They learn what they should and should not do in case they find some dolphin or turtle at the beach. They also represent different roles corresponding to different people present at the beach, such as life savers, children, aged people, experts or sailors.



- **MATERIAL:** Environmental educators are needed and a model of each animal should be produced at scale. For the explanations, either power point presentation or posters are needed.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Environmental educators, either voluntary or hired.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The activity can be promoted at schools and as it is developed at the beach, people around may also participate as public.
- **TIPS:** It is recommended that this activity is organised at schools and children are taken to beach to play role play.

Seashore and Water – Fun in the Library

Target group: 4-12 years

Duration: 1 hour

Type: Learning about animals found in marine environments/water quality

Country: Ireland

MARINE
WORLD

- **METHOD:** *There were three parts in the session:*

- *Introductions to species found on the sea-shore and in the sea*
- *Story-time*
- *Making sea-life puppets*

1.) Initially children introduced themselves and told their ages. This was followed with discussion on their experiences at the beach; what beaches they went to, what kind of creatures they find on the beach or in the sea etc.

Different marine life was then introduced using stuffed animals to represent them for example an octopus, whale, shark, dolphin. The children's information about each species was brought out and then there was discussion about the characteristics of each species, such as the differences between a whale (mammal) and a shark (fish). Children also discussed the ways that different sea creatures moved and if they needed to breath.

2.) Children were read the "Floopy and Water" story using the Floopy hand-puppet. Children were introduced to the idea of water pollution and what might cause it. Children discussed possible causes of water pollution and learned new words like 'chemicals' and 'conservation'. Children also learned the potential impacts of water pollution on animal life through the experiences of Floopy. Some ideas were also brought up from the children on how water could be saved and why it's important to do this.

3.) In the final part of the session children made 'puppets' from recycled toilet roll holders. They were given colouring sheets with characters such as Floopy the fish and a 'pretty octopus' to colour in and these were then cut out and stuck on to the holders to make puppets. All of the children participated in this part of the session and at the end were given resources from ENFO as a reward for their work.

Seashore and Water – Fun in the Library



- **MATERIAL:**
 - Stuffed animals representing different sea-life creatures – Free (these were all collected at the Wicklow Co. Co. recycling centre)
 - Floopy and Water story-book and puppet – Free (provided by ENFO when in operation)
 - Colouring Pencils/Crayons and Photocopying of colouring sheets
 - Toilet roll holders – Free (recycled)
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Volunteers to assist with the craft session – possibly student summer job scheme or environmental course students. The Irish Federation of Group Water Schemes (who also produce good water education materials), The Irish Fisheries Board (educational materials), Local Libraries
- **COMMUNICATION:** The session was advertised on the Blue Flag notice board at Greystones beach, in the library and the Wicklow Co.Co.'s website. 16 children made a booking with the library and participated in the session.
- **TIPS:** There was limited space/seating for the session (16 participants) in the children's section of the library – a bigger space would have been more suitable. In the second session for 7+ years there were 7 participants and this was a more comfortable number given the available space. The session was facilitated just with Wicklow Co.Co.'s EAO and she was very effective at keeping the children's attention and on making the topic relevant to local beaches in Wicklow. While parents informally helped with the craft session, a volunteer helper might also have been useful. Volunteers have been available to the County Council in the past.

Marine Animals sculpture making

Target group: Children and teachers

Type: Children and teachers

Duration: 4 hours

Country: Greece

MARINE
WORLD

- **METHOD:** Children should be informed about the importance of the eco-systems and biodiversity. Explain how the life chain in nature works. Speak about the flora and fauna of the sea eco-system, and let the children speak about the endangered species they happen to know. Ask the children to work in groups, appoint the group secretary/spokesperson who is going to take notes on the discussion that will be going on, and ask them to refer to the dangers these species face. Ask them to suggest the measures to be taken so as these species would be saved. Bring pictures and newspaper articles speaking about the risks they face. Ask the children to discuss the issues raised. This activity will prepare them to act as responsible citizens and make decisions about initiatives and action to be taken to protect these species. When the time allocated for the discussion finishes ask the children to move on to a round table discussion during which the spokespersons will put forward each group's viewpoints. Then, ask students to express themselves artistically by making figurines with clay of the endangered species they have expressed their concerns for. Let the figurines dry in the air and ask the children to paint them with colours.



- **MATERIAL:** Clay which will solidify by itself (no need to place it in an oven), water paint, paint-brushes.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local handcraft shop can give you the paint and clay for free or with a discount.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board, in schools, in children's clubs.
- **TIPS:** Remember to use water colour paint so that if the children stain themselves the parents can wash the clothes.

Artworks from recyclable materials

Target group: children and teachers

Type: Awareness raising

Duration: 1 – 2 hours

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** In the effort to pass the message *REDUCE, RE-USE, RECYCLE*, children are invited to express themselves artistically by using used recyclable materials, with the help of their teacher. The objects to be created should be exhibited in an art exhibition which could be visited by their parents and the public. The exhibition could be held in the Town Hall, the Town Cultural Centre, Museum, or in a Hotel Conference Centre.

Object Making

Beautiful objects can be made from different used recyclable materials. Any recyclable material could be useful for this purpose. Children guided by a teacher make various objects and paint them in order to exhibit them in an art exhibition.



- **MATERIAL:** Card board, glue, plastic bottles, coloured paper, paints, and any other used recyclable materials.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local stationary shops.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Invitation letters to schools, and placing info on the activities on the BF notice boards. Advert in newspapers to advertise the programme
- **TIPS:** Organize a committee consisting of a representative from the Town Council, a teacher of Art, and three children to go around the art exhibition and decide which three artworks should be awarded a prize, as the competition element is very challenging for children.

Puppet show

Target group: primary school groups

Type: Awareness raising

Duration: 40 + 40 minutes

Country: Ireland

- **METHOD:** “Bui Bolg” is an Irish street theatre company which was commissioned to create the materials for the puppet show and create the script. Bui Bolg is paid to perform the show by Wexford County Council. Wexford County Council owns the show but has given permission for the puppet show to be performed in other Local Authority areas.

The characters in the puppet show are ‘The Litter Warden’ and ‘Fox’. The Litter Warden has a big prop Green Bin which the fox is inside (which is unknown to the Litter Warden until he reveals himself during the puppet show).

The show starts by the Litter Warden telling the children about what he does and why they shouldn’t litter. As the fox is introduced the children and the Litter Warden must pass this information on to the fox and tell him not to litter.

Summary of Storyline:

‘The Litter Warden’ introduces himself and begins to talk about the work he does in Wexford. But he realises he has left his litter picker when he goes off to find it. At this point the fox jumps out of the bin and introduces himself to the children, but asks them not to tell anybody that he is there. He hides again as the Litter Warden returns. As the Litter Warden starts talking the fox starts throwing rubbish out of the bin, but the Litter Warden is unaware of the fox living in the bin so he blames the children. After several of the children tell him why they wouldn’t litter he eventually realises there is a fox in the bin. The Litter Warden asks the fox to get out of the bin but he refuses. The Litter Warden explains to the fox and the children why it was wrong to throw rubbish. Then the fox tells a story of how his friend ‘Billy the Rabbit’ got injured because of litter. By telling how the fox has learnt not to litter he encourages all the children in the audience not to litter.

Both the fox and the Litter Warden are acted out by members of the Bui Bolg, Wexford Street Theatre Company. One of the actors is in the bin controlling the fox; this actor also has a microphone so is able to do the voice for the fox. Both actors are very energetic and the show is humorous as well as informative.

Puppet show



- **MATERIAL:** Bui Bolg was commissioned to create the materials for the show. These include the prop bin, fox puppet, microphone and sound equipment for fox voice and Litter Wardens costume.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Wexford County Council already partnered with Bui Bolg, Wexford Street Theatre Company
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertised in Local Newspaper, Wexford County Council Website, Blue Flag Notice board
- **TIPS:** To reduce the cost involved this could be run as a secondary school drama competition. To write and perform a play/drama with an environmental message for beach users.

Trash Art Exhibition

Target group: Children

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: 5 hours

Country: Greece

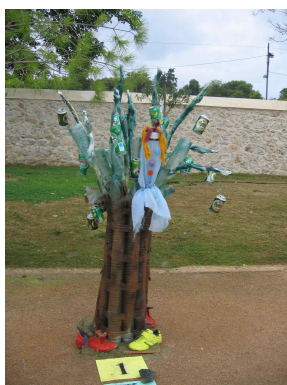
- **METHOD:** As introduction to the activity, you may explain what the biodiversity is and why it is important. Give a few examples of how animals and plants are affected by our activities and how everyone is responsible for their protection. Stress also the need that we should reduce our waste and definitely try to recycle what cannot be re-used.

As Trash Art is very popular among youngsters, you could ask the children to express themselves in a creative way, by making a plant or an animal that inspires them. They should use useless items they may have found at their home.

Bring pictures, drawings, statues, etc that might serve as models for the production of the Trash artworks.

Ask the children to choose an animal or a plant and make a sculpture of it with the useless items.

Once their sculpture is ready, the children might want to paint it with colours.



- **MATERIAL:** Useless items, water paint and paint-brushes.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local handcraft shop can give you the paint and paint-brushes for free or with a discount.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board, at schools.
- **TIPS:** Remember to use water colour paint so that if the children stain themselves the parents can wash the clothes.

Campaigns

Target group: Adults

Type: Awareness Raising

Duration: 5 hours

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** As one of the objectives of the Blue Flag Programme is responsible Waste Management, a Conference tackling issues such as Waste, Obligations and Possibilities for Waste Management could be an effective way of raising awareness to the public about the need for Responsible Waste Management.

The topics to be presented in the Conference could be:

- Waste in solid state (household waste, batteries, appliances)
- Waste in liquid state (sewage treatment)
- Legislation, Protection of the Environment, Protection and Safety for the Citizens
- Waste Management
- Local Government (Responsibilities, Problems)
- Raising awareness to the public (Environmental Education Programmes)

After the presentation of each topic invite the rest of the audience to join in a discussion that should follow the presentation, in which viewpoints might be put forward and questions might be set to be answered by the specialist who has presented the relevant topic.

A possible Visit to a Waste Management plant, after the presentation, might complete the participants' view, in point of what has been tackled.



- **MATERIAL:** Paper for official invitations.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** University professors, specialists from the local government.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the local press, TV channels, webpage, information board.
- **TIPS:** To ensure a broad participation of the public, send invitations by e-mail to as many decision-makers and citizens as possible.

Campaign

(Protection of the Environment)

Target group: Children / Adults

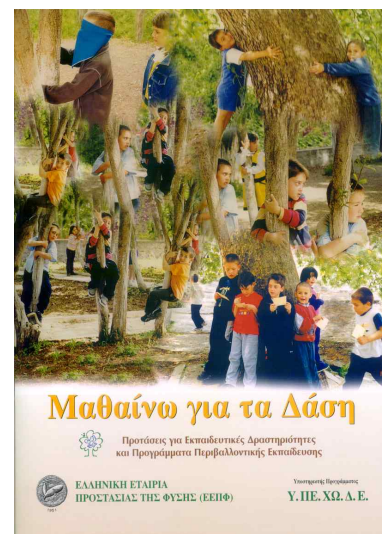
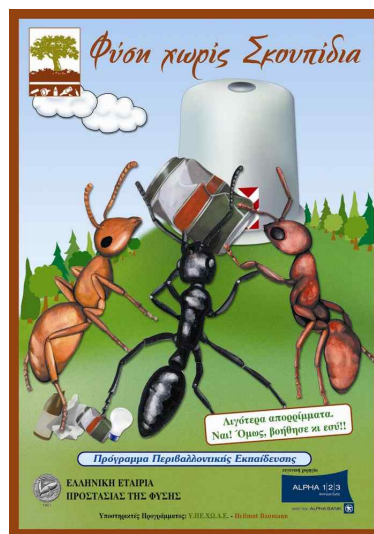
Type: Awareness Raising

Duration:

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** A Poster Exhibition with topics which raise awareness to the public about the need to protect the environment would be extremely effective, as the message might pass across in a very artistic way. Any expression of thoughts and ideas in an artistic way is always touching, as it always attracts the attention of even those who have not got an artistic talent themselves.

An open air exhibition might be very effective, as the ones who will visit it are not only those interested in seeing it but also all the passersbys who otherwise would have never seen it. So, obviously in the case of an open air exhibition the ones who will benefit from it will be quite a lot.



- **MATERIAL:** Posters produced at the printer's office.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local printers can produce posters for free or with a discount.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board, at the local press, local TV channels.
- **TIPS:** Try to use as inventive posters as possible.

Campaign

Target group: Children

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: 4 hours

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** As introduction to the activity, you may explain and discuss with the children how important nature is for us and why there is a great need for the protection of the environment. As long as it has become quite clear for the children why we should all try to protect the environment, ask them to express their thoughts either on posters or on a very long piece of cloth put on a long wall of a very busy street.

If the children choose to make their own posters, ask them to turn them into placards and while holding them in their hands demonstrate in the streets asking people to protect the Environment. If the children choose to draw on the piece of cloth, inspired by nature, ask them to write messages on their painting, inviting people to protect the environment.

Both happenings will attract people's attention who will consider their habits, concerning the protection of the environment.



- **MATERIAL:** Cloth, paints, paint-brushes, hard coloured paper, coloured pens, sticks.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local handcraft shop can give you the paint and the hard paper for free or with a discount.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise at schools, at children's clubs.
- **TIPS:** Remember to use water colour paint so that if the children stain themselves the parents can wash the clothes.

Campaign

Target group: Children

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: 4 hours

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** As introduction to the activity, you may explain why there is a great need to protect the environment. Invite the children to join the discussion concerning the threats the environment faces and ask them to give ideas on how awareness for its protection could be raised to the public. Ask the children to work in groups and make placards with messages concerning the protection of the environment. Then ask the children either to sail along the beach or to walk around in the streets of your town, with their placards raised. This could be a lively demonstration-invitation addressed to the citizens of the town to do their best in order to protect the environment.



- **MATERIAL:** Paper, paints, paint-brushes.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local handcraft shop can give you the paint for free or with a discount. A boat owner could be very helpful for the activity.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The activity could serve as a very effective invitation to the public for initiatives and action to be undertaken for the protection of the environment. Unexpected happenings, particularly when created by children, constitute surprising events which attract people's attention and interest.
- **TIPS:** Remember to use water colour paint so that if the children stain themselves the parents can wash the clothes.

Drama and Plays 1

Target group: Children/Youngsters/Teachers

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: 6 hours

Country: Greece

SPECIAL
EVENTS

- **METHOD:** *As you want to make children and youngsters appreciate nature and struggle for the protection of the environment, as an introduction to the activity, you may generate a discussion about the environment, the gifts it offers, the threats it faces, the initiatives and action to be undertaken and the measures to be taken for its protection.*

You categorize the issues to be tackled and you ask the children to split into groups, each of which is assigned an issue to investigate. (i.e. VALUES, ENVIRONMENT & QUALITY IN LIFE, THREATS, INITIATIVES/ACTION, MEASURES etc). A spokesperson is assigned in each group to keep records on what is being said in the group. When the time allocated for the investigation/discussion finishes, the spokespersons of the groups put forward their findings in a round table discussion.

Ask the children / youngsters to split into groups of five, ask them to close their eyes and visualize whatever you will be asking them to visualize while you will be playing a piece of instrumental music. (Choose a musical piece, generating feelings of relaxation in the beginning, turned into fear and threat in the continuation and turned again into optimistic ones at the end). While you will be playing the music and the children / youngsters will be having their eyes closed, ask them to visualize, “a BEAUTIFUL PLACE BY THE SEA or IN THE WOODS, an ENVIRONMENTAL THREAT, YOURSELF, INITIATIVE & ACTION YOU TAKE, MEASURES YOU PROPOSE”. Stop the music and ask the children / youngsters to open their eyes, work in their groups and try to build a story they will turn into a sketch afterwards. Ask the members of each group to act out the play they have created for the rest of the groups. Organise a performance day for the public.

Drama and Plays 1

Alternatively:

Organise a playwright competition. Set the issues to be tackled in it. Ask children / youngsters to write a play in order to enter the competition. Award with a prize the three best plays and ask the awarded playwrights to organise with their classmates a performance, with the help of their teacher.

Organise a performance day on which all three plays will be acted for the public.



- **MATERIAL:** Paper, paints, paint-brushes, paper and pens.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local book-shops can give you the paper, the paints and paint-brushes for free or with a discount.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board, in the schools.
- **TIPS:** Contact the teachers of your local schools and ask for their help. Provide them with any materials they need to create the stage setting for the performance.

Drama and Plays 2

Target group: Children/Youngsters/Teachers

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: 5 hours

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** As you want to make children and youngsters appreciate the natural riches and the gifts they offer to people try to make them experience the beauty of nature, by creating the magic setting needed for such experiences. Choose a romantic and relaxing musical piece and play it for the children / youngsters. Ask them to visualize the story this musical piece illustrates. Ask them to feel strongly the feelings the events of the story cause. Ask the children / youngsters to split into groups of 4-5 and cooperate in order to create a romance story. The teacher should monitor the activity, so as the cooperation would be as effective as possible. When the story is completed by each group (within the allocated time), each group are asked to act out by miming for the rest of the groups the story they have created. The audience (the rest children or youngsters) are asked to describe what they have watched. The group who created the story act out in loud voice the story exactly as they created it, so as the audience could compare the original story with the one they guessed.

Alternatively: You can ask the children (if they are quite young) to work in groups and create a fairy tale they will act out for the rest of the children.

Organise a performance day on which all plays will be acted for the public.



- **MATERIAL:** Paper, paints, paint-brushes, paper and pens.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local book-shops can give you the paper, the paints and paint-brushes for free or with a discount.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board, in the schools.
- **TIPS:** Contact the teachers of your local schools and ask for their help. Provide them with any materials they need to create the stage setting for the performance.
- Ask the children/youngsters to describe the feelings evoked in the story/ fairy tale. So, they will realize, as they are asked to do so, what strong feelings could be evoked in a beautiful natural setting.

Drama / Simulation

Target group: Children

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: 2 hours

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** As introduction to the activity, you may explain why biodiversity in nature is important. Then, you should invite children to choose a plant or an animal each, and identify and relate themselves with the plant or animal they choose. Ask them to think why their life is in danger. Then ask them to address an appeal to the rest of the audience for the things people should do in order to protect them, as their life is greatly threatened. It is more engaging and committing, if the appeals are written on coloured papers serving as demonstration placards.



- **MATERIAL:** Coloured paper, paints, papers, coloured pencils, scissors.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local handcraft shop or bookshop can give you the materials for free or with a discount.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board, at schools, at children's clubs.
- **TIPS:** Remember to ask children to change their voices while addressing the appeal to make it sound as "colourful" as possible.

Literature / Drama

(Get inspired and create a fairy tale)

Target group: Children / Teachers

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: 6 +hours

Country: Greece

SPECIAL
EVENTS

- **METHOD:** Organise a visit to a place of geological interest and generate a discussion about the factors that have worked towards the creation of geological sculptures or caves. Raise the need to protect these natural monuments and invite the children to get inspired by what they see. Working in groups let them try to make a fairy tale related to this geological monument. Appoint a secretary / spokesperson in each group and allocate time for this activity. Then, ask each group to narrate their fairy tale to the rest of the groups. (Example 1: A witch who used to destroy a natural park was petrified by someone with magic power. Since then ... Example 2: This is a cave where a prince turned by someone with magic power into a crab used to live until ...)

You can extend the activity by asking the children to work in their groups again and dramatize their fairy tale in order to present it as a play to the public on a performance day you will organize. The play can be enriched with music which children can choose.



- **MATERIAL:** Paper, pens, (for the play: used clothes serving the situation, CDs with music, CD player, paper, paints, paint-brushes). The performance could be at a school theatre, or at a conference centre of the Town Hall or a Hotel.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local handcraft shop / book shop can give you the paper and the pens for free or with a discount. A Conference Centre manager could offer the hall for the event.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board, at the schools.
- **TIPS:** Ask for a teacher's help. If you extend the activity to the dramatization of the fairy tale you need to organise more than one meeting with the children. Their teacher might undertake the responsibility of preparing the performance. The teacher should help the children to dramatize their fairy tale by helping them to add lively dialogues in it, make rehearsals and build the stage setting.

Designing a cloth shopping bag

Target group: Children

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: One week for preparation

Country: Greece

SPECIAL
EVENTS

- **METHOD:** As introduction to the activity, you may show a picture of a person carrying his/her shopping in plastic bags. Discuss about the children's viewpoints concerning the use of plastic bags. Explain why plastic bags should not be used. Focus on the fact that they constitute a serious threat for the marine creatures, as they quite often lose their life, because of the floating plastic bags in the sea.

Invite the children to join a discussion afterwards about the need to "Reduce, Re-use, Recycle".

After having made them realize how important this message is, ask them to try to express themselves artistically by making a cloth shopping bag, which will be decorated by useless items, serving as decorative items to be used for the bag. Allocate time for its production and organize an Exhibition for the cloth bags that will have been produced. Possibly you can set a Competition for the nicest bag which will be awarded a prize. You could reproduce the nicest one.



- **MATERIAL:** Old useless cloth and useless items children may find at home.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local handcraft shop can give you glue.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board, in the local press, local TV Channels.
- **TIPS:** Remember that Trash Art has become quite popular among young people. You could organise another Trash Art Exhibition with objects made from useless items.

Blue Flag Certificate for Schools

Target group: Children/teachers

Type: Awareness Raising

Duration: continuous

Country: Ireland

SPECIAL
EVENTS

- **METHOD:** *This year in Ireland we have developed a Blue Flag Certificate for schools. This initiative is being rolled out to all schools in Ireland. It aims to increase awareness amongst young people and the wider community about the Blue Flag programme. A school is eligible to receive the certificate if they:*
 - i. *Undertake a research project about a Blue Flag beach or*
 - ii. *Carry out an activity on a Blue Flag beach that demonstrates the school's commitment to improving the environment of that Blue Flag beach*

The up to date list of Blue Flag beaches and marinas is available on www.beachawards.ie.

Possible research projects include:

- ✓ *Sand Dune Erosion*
- ✓ *Flora and Fauna*
- ✓ *Health & Safety at the Beach*
- ✓ *The Role of Your Blue Flag Beach in the Community*

Possible activities include:

- ✓ *Beach scavenger*
- ✓ *Beach Clean Up*
- ✓ *Awareness Campaign about Litter/Dog Fouling/Graffiti*
- ✓ *Habitat Survey of the Beach*

A brief description of the activity or project must be submitted to the Blue Flag Manager. It should be no longer than 4 pages and must include the following:

- 1. Name of School*
- 2. School Contact Number*
- 3. Email address for correspondence*
- 4. Class / Classes that participated*
- 5. Contact Teacher*
- 6. Name of Blue Flag Beach*
- 7. Date of submission*
- 8. 500 words description of the activity / research project*
- 9. Photographs of the activity or research*

Blue Flag Certificate for Schools

A Blue Flag Certificate for Schools in recognition of their contribution to the conservation and preservation of their chosen Blue Flag beach or marina will be awarded to those schools that submit this information to an adequate standard.

- **MATERIAL:** *Dependent on activity.*
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *Dependent on activity.*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *Blue Flag Newsletter, email all Environment Education Officers in Local Authorities, email all Beach Managers, email all Green-Schools Coordinators.*



The National Trust for Ireland

is delighted to award the 2010
Blue Flag Certificate
to

School Name

for their efforts in improving the environment
of their local Blue Flag beach

Blue Flag Beach Name



Annabel Mc Loone
Blue Flag Manager Ireland



Public Talk on “Dog Fouling’ in Cork”

Target group: General Public / Dog Owners

Type: Awareness raising

Duration: 1h30

Country: Ireland

SPECIAL
EVENTS

- **METHOD:** *The talk was organised to give the general public an insight in to why it is important that they control their dog on public beaches and clean up after them. The afternoon’s event was chaired by Mary Stack of Cork County Council. A talk was given by Cork County Councils Veterinary Officer, author of “Responsible Dog Ownership & Dog Bite Prevention”. His talk gave an overview of the legislation in Ireland regarding the responsibility of dog owners. He also talked about the problems that occur when dogs are not looked after responsibly such as attacks and fouling and what effects both of these have on the human population. He then went on to talk about how to care for your dog properly and what you can do if you have concerns about a dog that is not being looked after.*

A representative from An Taisce also spoke about the Clean Coast programme asking groups to get involved in the area. There were also talks given by representatives of the Council about the Blue Flag and a representative from the Dog’s Trust Munster Unit gave a brief talk about her work in the area. All talks were accompanied by Power Point Presentations. There were leaflets on dog fouling, examples of signage used by the local authority and pooper scoopers for those in attendance to bring home with them.

- **MATERIAL:** *Information leaflets, power point presentations, Responsible Dog Ownership & Dog Bite Prevention*
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *Coastcare groups, Residents associations, County Council, Dogs Trust Charity.*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *Advertised in the local area. Power Point Presentation, youtube video.*
- **TIPS:**

Environmental Messages

Target group: Primary school groups

Type: Awareness raising

Duration: 40 + 40 minutes

Country: Turkey

- **METHOD:**

- Starting with brainstorming (“what kind of environment we want?”)
- Getting words and collecting them to make sentences with the help of brainstorming
- Repeating the sentences and make the pupils to imagine while listening to the background music
- As part of result oriented coaching, questions are asking and exercising
- Creating slogans after what they had experienced in this working process
- These slogans should be written on an simple drawing of natural being they have chosen
- Painting the working cartons if wanted
- These works should be cut and made portable in order to exhibit at the available parts of the school



- **MATERIAL:** Used carton boxes, scissors, crayon, board marker, glue
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** School staff, friend groups, family members
- **COMMUNICATION:** Close environment to the school
- **TIPS:** Could be linked to special days

I love my tree

Target group: Primary School Groups

Type: Exploratory

Duration: 2 hours

Country: Turkey

- **METHOD:**

- *Pupils are led to the garden with their eyes closed by the help of scarf.*
- *Under the supervision of teacher(s), each pupil is taken near a tree.*
- *By touching and hugging a tree, pupils are told to feel and to get to know their own tree.*
- *In the meantime, pupils are told to imagine what their teachers are telling about the life stories of the trees by using personalization method.*
- *After a while (after the group feels ready), teacher(s) take the pupils away from the trees and open their eyes to make a circle in the middle of the garden.*
- *The teacher, who is standing in the middle of the circle, asks to the pupils to find their own tree.*
- *Teacher(s) asks the pupils whom have found their own tree to come back to the circle, and the ones who couldn't find are guided to find their tree by the help of the teacher(s).*
- *After re-circling, the teacher throws the ball which she/he's holding to one of the student and asks her/him to tell her/his feelings.*
- *After sharing the feelings of one pupil, they are needed to throw the ball to another.*
- *The first tour should be finished by sharing the pupils' feelings and the second one should cover the feelings of the trees.*

After finishing the garden work;

- *pupils are asked to make a writing activity about their feelings and the trees' feelings*
- *pupils are asked to make a painting activity*
- *pupils are asked to make a presentation on the importance of the trees in our lives*



- **MATERIAL:** Requested number of scarves, ball
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** School staff, teachers
- **COMMUNICATION:** Could be link with other schools.
- **TIPS:** Could be repeated in each season

World Environment Day (integrating the LEAF and Blue Flag programmes)

Target group: All public close to the beach

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: 2 hours

Country: Turkey

SPECIAL
EVENTS

- **METHOD:**

- *Contacting with a Local Blue Flag Responsible*
- *Inviting the responsible to school and having the information about the Blue Flag, giving some information about the LEAF Programme*
- *Talking about what can be done cooperatively for the environment*
- *Encouraging everyone to talk and trying to create different ideas*
- *Forming effective slogans to carry and writing some scripts that show the importance of saving the environment in the World Environment Day*
- *Accelerating people by cleaning the beaches and getting them help the group*
- *Showing all the garbage collected from the beach and sea*



- **MATERIAL:** *Used cartons, scissors, crayon, board marker, glue, garbage bags, gloves.*
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *Blue Flag Awarded beaches and marinas, municipality, provincial directorate of environment, the chamber of sea trade.*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *the areas related with the school and the sea.*
- **TIPS:** *Must be done frequently with the cooperation of different sectors to point out the importance of the environment.*

Hidden dangers at the coast

Target group: Adults

Type: Awareness Raising

Duration: 1-2 hours

Country: Denmark

SPECIAL
EVENTS

- **METHOD:** A guide from the interpretation centre gathers the group at the Blue Flag flagpole. First the participants are asked questions about their prior knowledge about the dangers on the beach and in the harbour. Afterwards, the guide suggests different solutions based on the participants answers - and leads the group around in the area pointing out the hidden dangers and describing different types of beaches (city beach, isolated beach etc.). At the end of the outing a folder about safety is handed out.
- **MATERIAL:** A guide from the interpretation centre or a representative from a safety related organisation (lifesaving organisations, the local police, etc.), folders about safety and a microphone or megaphone.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local police, lifesaving organization, insurance companies.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The activity can be announced through the loudspeaker system or the guide can contact the people on the beach, explaining that a short safety course will be held for parents and others interested. Folders and flyers can likewise be handed out.

Mini Ironman

Target group: Teenagers (or adults)

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: About 3 hours

Country: Denmark

SPECIAL
EVENTS

- **METHOD:** In collaboration with lifesaving organisations and the City Council the interpretation centre arranges a mini triathlon. The contestants meet for example at the marina. The route is laid out for the running to take place on the beach. At the beach the participants are going to swim a certain distance in the sea. After this the contestants must cycle a marked route before finishing at goal area. At the finishing area, the hand out of medals and gifts will take place. After this some kind of food and beverage is served for the hungry and thirsty contestants.
- **MATERIAL:** First aid personal, local police, life guards, volunteers handing out water, fruits and ex. sandwiches. Volunteers register all the contestants.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** City Council, potential sponsors (bicycle shops, local sport clubs, fitness centres, life saving organisations, local shops (food and beverages, flowers for the winners, gifts for the winners). The application procedure for the mini ironman could be handled by the physical education teachers at the school before the summer holiday begins.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertisement on the local newspaper, local radios, SMS-chains, posters at the elementary and secondary schools and at the municipality website.
- **TIPS:** Communication and security are the key elements in this activity. Deadline for signing up is necessary. Seek advice about preparations at organizations holding similar events (Ecco, Sparta Athletes Club ect.).

Art Exhibition

Target group: Children / Adults

Type: Action Oriented

Duration: Decided by organisers

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** An Art Exhibition with themes inspired by the environment will raise awareness to the public about the need to protect it. The beauty of the environment triggers talented people's feelings and creativity who express themselves in an artistic way. Not only should adult artists be invited to participate in this Art Exhibition but children as well. Both might produce artworks which will attract the attention of even those who have not got an artistic talent themselves.

An open air exhibition might be very effective, as the ones who will visit it are not only those interested in seeing it but also all the passersby who otherwise would have never seen it. So, obviously in the case of an open air exhibition the ones who will benefit from it will be quite a lot.



- **MATERIAL:** Paints, drawing paper, brushes, colour chalk for the drawings on the ground.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Local handcraft shop can offer materials for free or with a discount.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Advertise on the information board, at the local press, local TV channels.
- **TIPS:** Organize a Competition and set a prize for the best three paintings.

Anti-pollution Training

Target group: Staff working in the marina

Type: Action-oriented

Duration: 1-2 hours

Country: Greece

• **METHOD:** Staff members get informed about what they should do in case of a pollution accident in the marina. After having been taught in theory what detailed procedure they have to follow, they are asked to participate in an anti-pollution training exercise and implement the emergency plan that has been designed for such a case.

The exact time of the training exercise should not be pre-announced, so as the effectiveness of the staff's intervention, in case of pollution emergency might be well-tested.



- **MATERIAL:** Mock polluting material.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Port Police officials.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The marina staff should be taught what they should do when a pollution accident takes place. Port police officials could help a lot in this.
- **TIPS:** Try to get the boat- owners who might be in the marina at the time of the training exercise involved in the anti-pollution training exercise.

Recyclable Waste Race

Target group: Children visiting the Marina

Type: Action-oriented

Duration: No time limitation

Country: France

- **METHOD:** Children are divided in two groups. Both groups compete to win the Recyclable Waste Race. Wearing t-shirts in different colours identifies each team. First, one team member has to pick up waste with a hand truck. Then the player must run to the “waste reception centre”. Here he has to choose the right waste disposal (ex: paper disposal if he is carrying a book) so that the waste can be recycled. The second player of each team can now start the race and recycle another waste. The first team who has correctly recycled all the waste wins!



- **MATERIAL:** T- shirts (2 different colours), different types of recyclable waste (paper, wood, electronic devices, metal, food), two hand trucks and some waste disposals.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Environmental educators, either voluntary or hired.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The activity might be posted at tourist office, environmental education centres or on the Internet.
- **TIPS:** Some kind of registration is needed to organise groups by age and number of kids.

Environmental patrimony protection exhibition

Target group: Marina visitors

Type: Awareness-raising

Duration: No time limitation

Country: France

MARINA

- **METHOD:** The Marina with the support of Brittany's Geological and Mineralogical Society (SGMB) has organized an exhibition to promote the geological patrimony and the environmental protection of the "Presqu'île de Crozon". Because of its geological and mineralogical richness a big game reserve project was created. In this specific region you can still appreciate the traces of the Palaeozoic Era. The Marina's concern is not only to protect this particular geological patrimony but the environment in its diversity and richness.



- **MATERIAL:** A place to welcome an exhibition about the local environmental patrimony, big-character posters to display the information and pictures.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Geological and mineralogical associations, researchers and museums as well as environmental protection associations.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The activity might be posted at tourist office, environmental education centres, museums entrance or on the Internet.
- **TIPS:** It is recommended to post the opening hours and to have somebody who gives information about the exhibition and the local patrimony to the public.

“Clean Marina” Day

Target group: Boat owners, divers and marina visitors

Type: Action-oriented

Duration: One day

Country: France

MARINA

- **METHOD:** *The marina has organized a « Clean Marina » day. The aims of this activity were to clean up deep-sea in the Marina area, prevent and reduce pollution, and promote environmental education. Seventy volunteers have participated in the cleaning activity (boat owners, divers and marina visitors). 3,5t of waste has been collected from deep-sea and then recycled. Supermarket caddy, plastic bags, bottles, bicycles, chairs, tires and other devices have been found. Also, a big waste sculpture has been created to increase marina visitors' awareness of pollution and environment protection.*



- **MATERIAL:** *Three boats, diving equipment and waste disposals.*
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *Diving schools and clubs, environmental associations.*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *The activity might be posted at the Marina, the city hall, environmental education centres or on the Internet.*
- **TIPS:** *It is recommended to organise the activity some time before the big cleaning day to select the volunteers and organise them by groups.*

What is hiding in the Marina

Target group: All Marina Visitors and children institutions

Type: Action-oriented

Duration: 1-2 hours

Country: Denmark

MARINA

- **METHOD:** *Divers from the local Diving School will dive down to the bottom of the harbor and take up what they consider to be of different dirt and junk. There will then be told about the degeneration of various types of waste and how to sort waste.*
- **MATERIAL:** *Diving equipment, garbage bags and something to drive bigger things on the environmental station.*
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *local diving club, the local partner who is responsible for collection, distribution and management of garbage,*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *invitations for institutions for children, poster on the marina for informing the locals and guests/tourists, local tourist office and invite the local press to cover the event - at the same time maybe an Add in the local paper.*
- **TIPS:** *Let the kids come up close to see the findings and maybe have an Environmental educator or a Physics teacher to talk about the findings and maybe do some experiments or something active with the kids like garbage sculptures.*

Water preserving

Target group: All marina visitors

Type: Awareness-raising

Duration: 2-3 hours

Country: Croatia

- **METHOD:** *This activity starts with brainstorming (What can we do for our environment? Why is it so important to preserve our water?) Stickers “Protect water, every drop is important” are given to all participants. They can be written in English and German or any other language. After brainstorming participant need to post stickers on info board, taps, and showers and in toilets. They can post stickers also on their boat, when they come back home in their house etc.*
- **MATERIAL:** *Stickers, glue.*
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** *Environmental educators, voluntaries, family members.*
- **COMMUNICATION:** *Time and date of activity might be posted in marina.*
- **TIPS:** *Could be linked to special days.*

Maintain of green surfaces in marina

Target group: All marina visitors

Type: Action-oriented

Duration: 2-3 hours

Country: Croatia

- **METHOD:** Marina staff (gardener, maintenance) show to all visitors presentation about different sorts of flowers and trees planted in marina. They teach them about different methods of planting. They give to all visitors few plants, gloves and watering can and they also show them how to do the planting. After the planting it is necessary to water the plants.
- **MATERIAL:** Different sorts of plants, gloves, watering can.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Environmental educators, either voluntary or hired, local environment association.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Time and date of activity might be posted in marina.
- **TIPS:** It is better to organize this activity over the weekend, because of higher participant response.

Environmental Education for Children

Target group: (School) Children

Type: Awareness-raising

Duration: half a day – 1 day

Country: Croatia

- **METHOD:** Children from school and kindergarten are invited to visit marina. Marina employees can talk with them about what they can do to save environment. They also show to children all garbage collected from the marina and sea (paper, glass, plastic) and dangerous waste. They can show to children how they treat dangerous waste. Children become more aware of the importance of waste separating.
- **MATERIAL:** Video materials, presentation, brochures (optional)
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Environmental educators, either voluntary or hired.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Invitation letter to schools and kindergartens.
- **TIPS:** It is better to include as many schools as you can, especially International Eco-Schools.

Art workshop with ecological topics

Target group: Children

Type: Awareness-raising/Action oriented

Duration: 2-3 hours

Country: Croatia

- **METHOD:** Educators can teach children, why is it so important to segregate waste. Children can draw something on a paper, cut it with scissors, and paste on a plastic bottle. The aim of this activity is to encourage children to think about environment, and how they can contribute to environment preservation.
- **MATERIAL:** Papers and pens in different colours, plastic bottles, glue, scissors.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Art professor
- **COMMUNICATION:** Time and date of activity might be posted in marina.
- **TIPS:** Could be linked to special days.

Brochures about Global Warming

Target group: All Marina Visitors

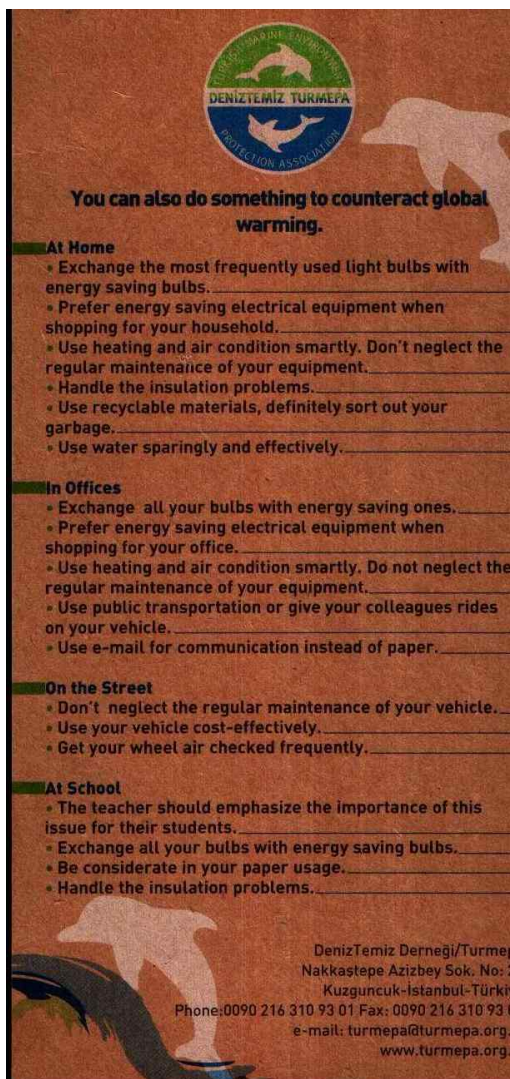
Type: Awareness-raising

Duration: -

Country: Turkey

MARINA

- **METHOD:** Brochures had been prepared about what individuals can do against Global Warming and had been distributed to visitors of the marina.
- **MATERIAL:** Brochures
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** TURMEPA(Turkish Marine Environment).
- **TIPS:** One day after brochures had been distributed to people staying in the marina, a questionnaire could be applied to them about Global Warming to determine if the brochures were effective or not in raising awareness. Thus a good environmental education activity could be done.



Leaflets about Refuelling

Target group: All Marina Visitors

Type: Awareness-raising

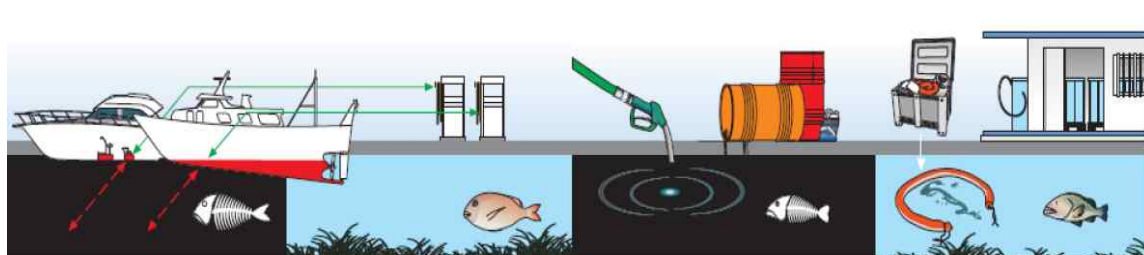
Duration: 1-2 hours

Country: Spain

- **METHOD:** the marina gives to its visitors leaflets related to Good Practices. The leaflets talk about the “Refuelling in the Gas Station”:
Refuelling is an operation that can produce water disposals if we do not take the proper precautions. The fuel can fall on the deck and end up in the sea. We must bear in mind that the chemicals and the heavy metals of the fuels have devastating effects in the sea life.

How must we do the refuelling?

- Slowly to avoid the fuel of making bubbles.
- With absorbent materials in hand to use in case of accidental leaks.
- Installing systems to recover the fuel that pours out.
- Installing a detention deposit on the deck.
- Knowing the amount of fuel we can refill. Using visual levels.
- Notify the station staff if you notice any accidental disposal, and ask for absorbent materials if required.



- **MATERIAL:** Good Practices leaflets
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Every marina visitor
- **COMMUNICATION:** The activity will be offered in the marina's reception and in the informative panels of the marina.
- **TIPS:**

Children's discover and learning barrel

Target group: Children of all Marina Visitors

Type: Experiential

Duration: ½ or 1 day

Country: Netherlands

- **METHOD:** Children can get a learning barrel. The children can take it with them at the boat.



- **MATERIAL:** A waterproof small barrel. In this barrel there is a landing net, a magnifying glass, a glass bell, fathometer, map of the lake, map of fishes and animals and a book with instructions and orders.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** Environmental educators, either voluntary or hired.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The activity might be posted at the marina office or environmental education centre. There is a poster in Dutch.
- **TIPS:** Make a competition. Children deliver the questionnaire. At the end of a period of time the child who gave the best answers gets a price or a certificate.



Guided Visits on the River

Target group: school children

Type: Contact with nature

Duration: 1-2 hours

Country: Italy

METHOD: *The environmental education project takes place, for free, in the two marinas on the river Tagliamento in Lignano Sabbiadoro. The activity takes place according to a series of stages: the children leave the meeting point by bicycle and arrive at the dock at Marina One in which they are welcomed by the staff that provides all the equipment suitable for children to deal with a boat trip (life-jacket), then a rescue explanation of how to stay safe in the boat.*

The children are divided into two groups on the boats led by competent and responsible operators, departing from and arriving at the Marina One and Marina Punta Verde.

During the boat cruise, lasting about an hour, along the banks of the Tagliamento river, in the direction of its delta, the children have the opportunity to experiment the surrounding environment and to learn about the ecology of the flora and fauna of the River. They can observe birds and other typical animals from the boat by a binocular; then they can also take picture to make a report of the journey.



MATERIAL: *boats, life jackets; binocular; camera.*

POTENTIAL PARTNERS: *environmental educators.*

COMMUNICATION: *the websites of the Marina One and Marina Punta Verde and publication in the newspaper Messaggero Veneto.*

Eco-code

Target group: All Marina Visitors & Staff

Type: Awareness-raising

Duration: -

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** Boat-owners are handed out an ECO-CODE focusing on environmental issues. They can read it and test themselves in how environmentally aware they are. They can see whether they are fully informed or whether there are still things about environmental issues to know.
- **MATERIAL:** An Eco-code leaflet
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** A local printers' house.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The ECO-CODE can be available at the reception office of the marina and can be delivered to the boat-owners upon their arrival. The staff can also get it.
- **TIPS:** Remember to pinpoint your concern about the protection of the environment upon the boat owners' arrival and kindly ask them to contribute in this effort.

SOME ADVICE

I'm doing something for the environment. A few simple things we can do in order to reduce our purchases:

- we use a shopping list and we buy only the things we need,
- we buy products that can be reused,
- we pick a general cleaning product for the house.

In order to reduce waste with hazardous substances:

- we carefully read the ingredients of the product we buy,
- we do not buy and we avoid products harmful for humans and for the environment,
- we buy non-toxic products as much as possible,
- we use alternative cleaning products, such as vinegar or lemon.

For reducing the garbage reaching the landfill:

- we do not throw away without thinking,
- we rent, share and borrow instead of buying new stuff,
- we sell or give away to friends and neighbours everything we no longer want,
- we make presents and cards for our loved ones, instead of buying them,
- we grow vegetables and flowers in our garden,
- we buy second-hand books.

In order to reduce packaging:

- we prefer packaging made of recycled materials or recyclable packaging,
- we choose products that have been packaged in a manner that facilitates their use and consumption,
 - we avoid products with large and bulky packaging,
 - we do not purchase lots of single-use products (paper tissues, kitchen paper, etc),
 - we buy products that are sturdy with a large life cycle,
 - we carry our own bags when we go shopping.

Some ideas for reusing stuff we keep at home:

- We mend our clothes, repair our toys and appliances.
- We reuse old envelopes, sheets of paper printed only on one side, empty plastic bottles of water or soda.

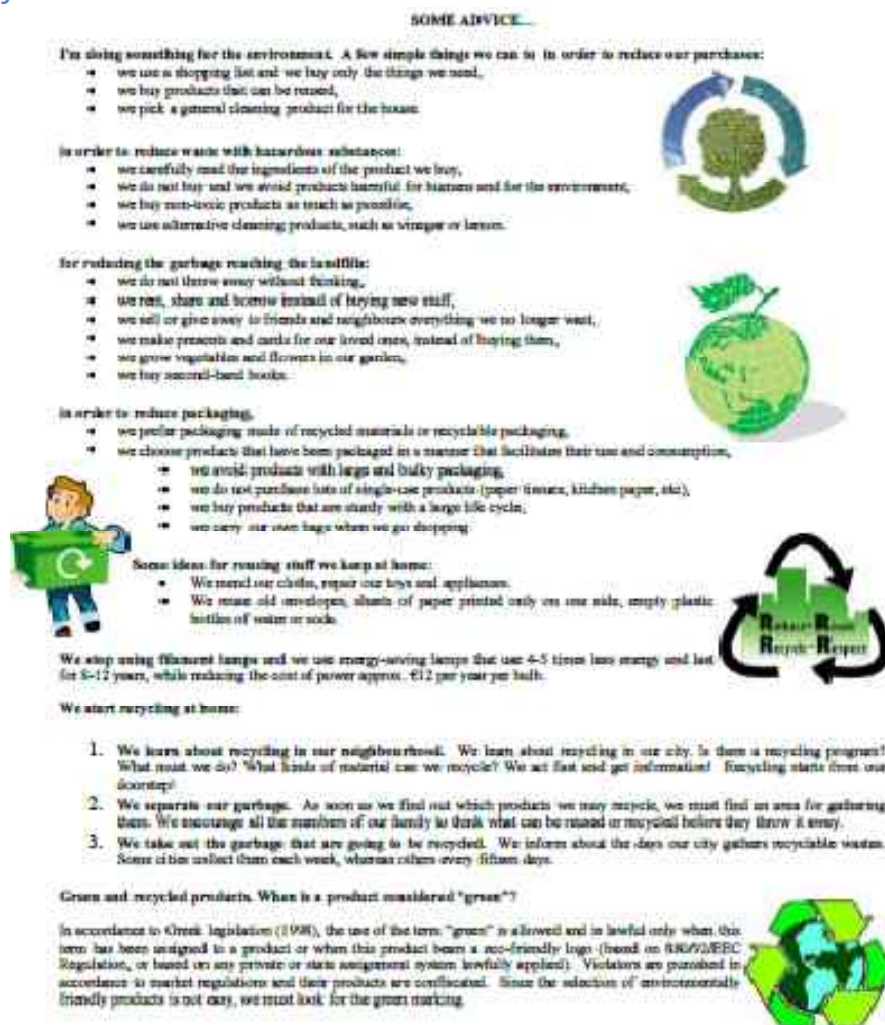
We stop using filament lamps and we use energy-saving lamps that use 4-5 times less energy and last for 8-12 years, while reducing the cost of power approx. €12 per year per bulb.

We start recycling at home:

1. We learn about recycling in our neighbourhood. We learn about recycling in our city. Is there a recycling program? What must we do? What kinds of material can we recycle? We act fast and get information! Recycling starts from our doorstep!
2. We separate our garbage. As soon as we find out which products we may recycle, we must find an area for gathering them. We encourage all the members of our family to think what can be reused or recycled before they throw it away.
3. We take out the garbage that are going to be recycled. We inform about the dates our city gathers recyclable wastes. Some of them collect them each week, whereas others every fifteen days.

Green and recycled products. When is a product considered "green"?

In accordance to Greek legislation (1198), the use of the term "green" is allowed and is lawful only when this term has been assigned to a product or when this product bears a eco-friendly logo (based on EN609/MEEC Regulation, or based on any private or state assignment system lawfully applied). Violators are punished in accordance to market regulations and their products are confiscated. Since the selection of environmentally friendly products is not easy, we must look for the green marking.



Garbage Collection Campaign

Target group: Boat owners & Staff

Type: Action-oriented

Duration: 2-3 hours

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** The staff and the boat-owners are given a leaflet with pictures of different types of materials the garbage is made of and their life period next to each. This is because the participants in the campaign should be aware of the long lasting period some materials need to sustain until they decompose and disappear. As long as both the staff and the boat owners get informed about it, the marina management organises a garbage collection campaign in order to raise awareness about the need to respect nature and not to degrade its beauty with garbage all around. So, the staff and the boat owners are actively involved in this campaign by joining the garbage collection sally.



- **MATERIAL:** A leaflet with pictures and the life period of the garbage materials next to each, plastic gloves and plastic bags for the garbage to be put in.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** The cleaning services of the local authorities and local people living close to the marina.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The cleaning campaign can be posted on the information board of the marina and the information board of the Town Hall. It can also be announced on the radio and the local TV channel.
- **TIPS:** Remember that the more publicity the event is given the better the results will be.

ECO Quiz

Target group: All Marina Visitors & Staff

Type: Awareness-raising

Duration: About 1 minute

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** Boat-owners are handed out a Quiz focusing on environmental issues. They can play with it and test themselves in how environmentally aware they are. They can see whether they are fully informed or whether there are still things about environmental issues to know. A key with information concerning the issue tackled in each question of the Quiz is also provided for them to check themselves about the environmental knowledge they have acquired so far.
- **MATERIAL:** A quiz
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** A local printers' house.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The quiz can be available at the reception office of the marina and can be delivered to the boat-owners upon their arrival. The staff can also "play" with it.
- **TIPS:** Remember to pinpoint your concern about the protection of the environment upon the boat owners' arrival and kindly ask them to contribute in this effort.

How well are we environmentally informed?

1. How much energy was used in order to produce an aluminium can, weighing 15 grams?

- Capable for operating a TV set for 3 hours.
- Enough.
- I don't know.

> Floros Marina recycles aluminium dropped in the blue bins located in various sites of the facility.

2. A glass bottle may produce light for a room for:

- Five minutes.
- Eight hours.
- It cannot do that.



> Floros Marina recycles in special bins inside stores every glass bottle purchased from the stores in cooperation with the Hellenic Recovery Recycling Corporation.

3. How many years does it take for a plastic bottle to start decomposing?

- 40 - 50 years.
- 400 - 500 years.
- Plastic bottles are immediately decomposed.



4. How many years after burial does it take for a plastic bag to get decomposed?

- One year.
- 2 years.
- 10 to 50 years depending on its environment.

> Floros Marina recycles plastic dropped in the recycle bins located in various sites of the facility.

5. What do you believe that a garbage bin contains?



6. How many trees do you believe that we are saving for each ton of paper we recycle?

- One.
- Seventeen.
- None.

> Floros Marina recycles the paper it produces in cooperation with a non-profitable organization.

7. Which materials do we recycle in blue bins?

- Clean packages made of plastic, glass, paper, or aluminum.
- Dirty packages made of plastic, glass, paper, or aluminum.
- Only paper.



> Floros Marina has been cooperating with the Municipality of Palea Falira for the collection and recycling of the packaging materials collected in the blue bins.

8. The energy that can be saved on an annual basis by recycling packaging materials and paper is equal to the energy consumed by the city of Athens in:

- Four days.
- Four months.
- Four years.

> Floros Marina provides facilities for recycling packaging material, paper, glass bottles, bulbs, electrical and electronic devices, ink cartridges, batteries and condensers, as well as wastes produced by vessels, such as bilge water, lubricant oil, waste, etc.

Bird watching in a Wetland

Target group: Boat owners

Type: Contact with nature

Duration: 2-3 hours

Country: Greece

- **METHOD:** Boat-owners attend a presentation organised in the marina about the birds met in the nearby wetland. Afterwards, they are invited to join a visit to the nearby wetland for bird-watching. So, boat-owners, during their visit, will enjoy nature beauties as much as bird-watching.



- **MATERIAL:** A poster with pictures and names of the birds met in the wetland, goggles and boots.
- **POTENTIAL PARTNERS:** The wetland guide.
- **COMMUNICATION:** The visit to the wetland can be posted on the information board of the marina. It can also be announced at the presentation about the birds.
- **TIPS:** Remember that recorded sounds of the birds met in the wetland may be heard during the presentation. This can make it more lively and interesting. It could be even more interesting if each bird presented was matched with the sounds it makes.

The first version of this brochure has been produced by a Blue Flag working group composed of Blue Flag National Operators, Environmental Education experts and the International Blue Flag Coordination.

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