

# AZORES MISSION: HOW TO TEACH TO PRESERVE LIFE ON THE PLANET

**Teacher:** NEUZA SALVADOR

**Course Duration:** one week, from Monday to Saturday, 30 hours

**Number of Participants:** Min. 6 – Max. 20

**Course location / point of departure :** PONTA DELGADA City



## DESCRIPTION

This course has been created for teachers who want to teach others about life on the planet and who we can still preserve it. Also nature and sustainability will be together with us this week, during indoor and outdoor learning practices.

The participants will start the journey in one of the most beautiful places in the world - São Miguel Island on the archipelago of the Azores. This archipelago it's formed by 9 volcanic islands in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean and has recently received Silver status of international certification as a first archipelago sustainable destination in the world.

Teaching how to preserve life on the planet it's very important in the present, because we need all the forms of life together for us to live. To learn this, we are going to do some experiences alone, in groups with cooperation, sharing knowledge, fun and respect. We are also going to be in contact with wildlife, nature and people to observe, and understand the best points to preserve nature/life.

Participants will leave the course full of knowledge on how to make the learning process easier and more interesting based on the factors of mindfulness and positive education skills about preserving nature and life, in different places and times.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

### Participants to the course will learn to:

- Learning ways to preserve nature, ecosystem and planet;
- Instructing how to teach students, community and also family, to improve the idea of protecting the planet;
- Including dynamics teaching forms;
- Creating innovative outdoor teaching activities that promote green action;
- Inventing new techniques to preserve planet;
- Introducing new strategies in the school areas;
- Intercultural competences and enhanced cultural awareness.

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## PROGRAM

### Monday

- Introduction of the course and the participants
- Ice break group energy with yoga
- Setting goals for participants
- Presentations of the participant's schools
- Discussion and sharing experiences about group dynamics
- Approaches to outdoor education: fear-based/risk discourse vs positive approach
- Reflection - **Planet in the next 20 years**

### Tuesday

- Guided visit to Caldeira das Furnas and outdoor education about climate change
- Developing spontaneity, intuition and active listening
- Exercise in pairs: Eye-contact and expressing emotions
- Touching the wild environment by planting a tree and also doing a small walk trail around a lake (seen the traditional "Cozido das Furnas")
- Small approach to the Biology area and how this can help sustainability/preservation (visit a interpretation center)
- Visit Terra Nostra Garden, learning about flora and fauna
- Reflection - **How can I use outdoor learning and observation techniques in my work?**

### Wednesday

- Whale and dolphin watching
- Developing considerations about wildlife and conservation
- Learning efficient ways to teach students, community and also family
- Sharing experiences of outdoor education
- Reflection - **What can we do more to preserve wildlife?**

### Thursday

- Boat trip to the islet of Vila Franca do Campo (morning on the islet)
- Outdoor education around Vila Franca do Campo to observe/visit some museums and traditional shops
- Learning different ways to preserve nature every day in different situations
- Seeing the evolution of conservation of nature in the last 50 years
- Doing some practice exercises
- Reflection - What's the most important information to transmit?

### Friday

- Guided visit tour to Sete Cidades and outdoor education about preserving wild nature
- Pedestrian circuit of the "7 Cidades"/"Lagoas das 7 cidades" (walking tour)
- Developing spontaneity, intuition and active listening during the walk
- Exercise in pairs and alone in a middle of the forest
- Touching and observing the wild environment
- Reflection - **How can I use outdoor preserving learning in my school?**

### Saturday

- Outdoor Education" activity in the city of Ponta Delgada", which works on various areas of knowledge: STEAM; HISTORY & NARRATIVE; PROBLEM SOLVING AND CIVIC COMPETENCE;
- Summary of key learning points
- Open discussion on possible future collaborations and planning follow up activities
- Final course evaluation and feedback
- Validation of learning outcomes and handling certificates