

AZORES SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION

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 have a deeper understanding of sustainability and environment education with innovative indoor and outdoor learning practices.

The participants will start the course with many questions, but the one that all want to know it's: Humans can still help the planet in time? What can I do more to help?

For this answer we chose the most adventurous week in São Miguel Island on the archipelago of the Azores. This archipelago it's formed by 9 islands and has recently received Silver status of international certification as a first archipelago sustainable destination in the world. So it's the best place to learn with them what we can do, to be more sustainable people in the world today. For that we are going to think about our behavior and the way that we communicate with other people, every day, doing some experiences alone, in groups with cooperation, sharing knowledge, fun and respect.

So in this course one of the main goals is create strategies that will help the participants to teach other teachers, the community and children in the school, the best way to preserve the future human life, the ecosystem and the most important thing preserve our planet, for all of us to live.

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 on sustainability and environment. But the best thing is understanding that we can do it, all together. We are almost 8 billion, so 8 billion actions can be done. LET'S SART.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Participants to the course will learn to:

- Deep understanding of sustainable education in the environment
- Learning how to teach students, community and also family, to improve the idea of sustainability
- Including dynamics teaching forms
- Creating innovative outdoor teaching activities that promote green action
- Understanding the causes of not sustainability vs. sustainable
- Inventing new techniques of sustainability environment education
- Introducing new strategies in the school areas
- Intercultural competences and enhanced cultural awareness

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Monday

- Introduction of the course and the participants
- Ice break group energy
- Setting goals for participants
- Presentations of the participant's schools
- Discussion and sharing experiences about group dynamics, deconstruct sustainability
- Approaches to outdoor education: fear-based/risk discourse vs positive approach
- Reflection - **Humans can still help the planet in time?**

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 (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 are the red flags of sustainability?**

PROGRAM

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

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 florest
- 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