

EU GO- EUROPEAN URBAN GARDENS OTESHA

IDENTIFICATION OF A GOOD EDUCATIONAL PRACTICE OR TOOL

Name of the community garden				Possible short title for the practice				
PHOENICURUS				"WEB OF LIFE" – A TOOL TO INTRODUCE PERMACULTURE				
Type of tool				Contact person	Name and role		GISELA MIR-VIADER; ORGANIC HORTICULTURALIST	
Activity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Phone		+34 66 33 59 493	
Methodology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Document			E-mail		hort.phoenicurus@gmail.com	
Other (specify):					Other contacts			
It can be addressed to...				It deals with the following topics...				
All	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	School		Intercultural dialogue		Intergenerational dialogue		
Children		Institution		Gender Equality		Fight against poverty		
Youngsters		Social service		Sustainable Consumption		Education to sustainable development		
Adults		Job service		Sustainable Urbanisation		Socio-professional training		
Women		Migrants service		Health promotion		Social cohesion		
Elderly		Neighbourhood		Horticultural therapy		Leisure activity		
Other (specify)				Other (specify) PERMACULTURE				
DESCRIPTION Please describe the practice you have developed.								
<p>TO INTRODUCE THE GENERAL CONCEPT OF PERMACULTURE TO A GROUP, WE USE THIS SIMPLE ACTIVITY WHICH CONSISTS OF ASSIGNING DIFFERENT "ELEMENTS" TO EACH PERSON, WHICH HAVE TO FIND LINKS WITH OTHERS (AND A REASON FOR THE LINK) AND PASS A BALL OF STRING ACCORDINGLY.</p> <p>AS EACH ELEMENT POTENTIALLY HAS LINKS WITH MANY OF THE OTHERS, THE FINAL RESULT IS THE EQUIVALENT OF A LARGE, CHAOTIC SPIDER'S WEB, BUT ONE WHICH DEMONSTRATES THE STRENGTH OF A DIVERSE INTER-RELATED SYSTEM.</p> <p>AS FAR AS THE "ELEMENTS" ARE CONCERNED, WE TEND TO USE ONES WITH A HORTICULTURAL SLANT – BEES, WATER, COMPOST, VEGETABLES ETC. – BUT THE SUBJECT MATTER COULD EASILY BE AMENDED DEPENDING ON THE GROUP E.G. A CITYSCAPE – SCHOOL, LIBRARY, TOWN HALL, SHOPS.</p>								
AIMS AND OUTCOMES Which are the main purposes tackled in a community garden with this tool? Which concrete results have been observed at short and long term?								
<p>WE TEND TO UTILISE THIS ACTIVITY AT THE VERY BEGINNING OF A COURSE, PARTLY AS AN ICE-BREAKER, BUT PRIMARILY TO DEMONSTRATE VISUALLY MANY OF THE KEY CONCEPTS IN PERMACULTURE, SUCH AS THE WAY IN WHICH ONE ELEMENT IN THE SYSTEM CAN FULFIL VARIOUS FUNCTIONS; AND LIKEWISE, THAT ONE FUNCTION CAN BE CARRIED OUT BY VARIOUS ELEMENTS.</p>								
WHAT MAKES IT A GOOD PRACTICE OR TOOL? Identify which elements make this action a good practice, for ex. Innovation, coherence, link with other projects or people, favours social mixing, simplify work, earn time or money, etc.								
APART FROM ENCOURAGING INTERACTION AMONGST THE STUDENTS RIGHT FROM THE OUTSET OF A								



COURSE, WE HOPE THAT THIS ACTIVITY PORTRAYS IN A PRACTICAL WAY SOME OF THE IDEAS WHICH OTHERWISE WOULD BE ABSTRACT THEORY. IT ALSO SERVES AS A GOOD FOUNDATION, AND IS OFTEN REFERRED TO IN SUBSEQUENT SESSIONS OF THE COURSE, FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN CONSIDERING ASPECTS OF DESIGN.

STEP BY STEP Please, describe how to put in practice, guiding with clear instruction and materials needed someone that would like to experiment your tool in a local community garden around Europe

- HAVE PREPARED SUFFICIENT NAMECARDS FOR EACH STUDENT. AS THE IDEA IS TO CREATE A STRONG WEB WITH MANY LINKS, IF THERE ARE SIX STUDENTS OR FEWER, EACH CAN HAVE TWO CARDS;
- SEAT THE GROUP IN A CIRCLE AND DISTRIBUTE THE CARDS;
- THE STUDENTS CAN BRIEFLY READ OUT THEIR ROLES, IN CASE ANY CLARIFICATION IS REQUIRED;
- GIVE THE END OF THE STRING TO ONE PERSON, AND ASK THEM TO FIND A CONNECTION WITH ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE GROUP, JUSTIFY THE CONNECTION, AND PASS THE BALL OF STRING TO THAT OTHER PERSON;
- (IF NECESSARY, ONE OF THE TEACHERS CAN ASSIST WITH THE PASSING OF THE STRING);
- THE ACTIVITY CONTINUES UNTIL THE BALL OF STRING IS EXHAUSTED. EVIDENTLY CONNECTIONS CAN NOT BE REPEATED, BUT OF COURSE THE STRING CAN GO TO THE SAME PERSON SEVERAL TIMES, IF IT COMES FROM DIFFERENT PLACES.

COMPETENCES Which are the previous knowledge and skills required to put in practice this tool?

SUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUBJECT MATTER TO BE ABLE TO FACILITATE THE ACTIVITY AND PERHAPS TO PROVIDE HINTS AND ASSISTANCE AS THE GAME DEVELOPS AND IT BECOMES MORE DIFFICULT TO FIND NEW CONNECTIONS.

EVALUATION How do you normally evaluate the outcomes of this tool?

EVALUATION TENDS TO BE INFORMAL, RELATING TO THE STUDENTS' UNDERSTANDING AND SATISFACTION WITH THE COURSES AS A WHOLE.

DISCLAIMING AND DECLARATION OF HONOUR	yes	no
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Putting an X in the previous boxes means that you are agreeing with the cited statements

