



Workshop 7

on Thursday, 21st September 2023
2.30 p.m.

at the

17th European Forest Pedagogics Congress 2023

**“Learning to create together –
How can Forest Education for Sustainable Development
build partnerships and empower people?”**

TITLE: Sensory Woodland Stories

PRESENTERS: Eilidh Malcolm, Education Programme Manager, Scottish Forestry

Sensory Woodland Stories is a newly published resource by *Outdoor and Woodland Learning (OWL) Scotland*. This resource includes a range of simple and inspiring education story resources for children with complex additional needs.

DESCRIPTION: The subject of the workshop is Sensory Woodland Stories- **increasing inclusion through connections with nature**. This workshop will provide training on the new resource ‘Sensory Woodland Stories’ to workshop participants so they are able to deliver more inclusive sessions to participants in the future. Through the group activity section of the workshop participants will work in teams to create new stories and related props that are suitable for children with complex additional needs and can therefore be used as new resources in the future.

With regards to forest-related Education for Sustainable Development, this workshop will help provide ‘inclusive and equitable quality education’. This resource enables practitioners working with children with complex additional needs to engage with nature in an easy and interactive way. Props are simple yet stimulating and therefore should be easy for most settings to create or source. Stories are short and simple and therefore do not require much training to deliver sessions, again keeping costs down and not requiring much preparation time ahead of sessions. Therefore, more children should be able to experience the resource in its full and connect with nature in a way that has possibly not been achievable in the past.

OBJECTIVE: During this workshop we will explore this new resource and how it encourages inclusion through scripts and suggested props. This allows for extra engagement and flexibility to suit the children you work with.

Inclusive practice is important whatever the setting, whether it be within a mainstream or special school. There are four key features of inclusion which can be used to set expectations and evaluate inclusive practice in schools and early learning and childcare settings. These are present, participating, achieving and supported. Together these four features support the delivery of inclusive learning environments for all children and young people that enable them to reach their full potential. Through this new resource we are primarily encouraging inclusion through participation in outdoor learning.

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FORMAT: This workshop will be **held outside** and will include a range of activities from exploring the new resource to working in teams to **create** new, interactive, **simple stories or poems**.

NO. OF PARTICIPANTS: min. 6 – max. 22

DURATION: 120 minutes

CONCLUSIONS: Feedback will be gathered throughout the session by taking time to reflect with the group at each stage of the workshop. The workshop leader will take notes during this time of reflection. At the end of the workshop a short **evaluation form** will be provided to each participant.

In addition to this, **simple stories** with props will be created by small groups in the workshop. The stories and associated prop ideas will be captured either on film or paper and then shared on the Friday and after the conference (time dependant).

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Workshop 8

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**“Learning to create together –
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TITLE: Difference helps us to find a better solution

PRESENTERS: **Anna Petrakieva** – presenter, Vitosha Nature Park Directorate
Mariya Chambova – co-presenter, Executive Forest agency

DESCRIPTION: The workshop will start with questioning the participants about their opinions on different silvicultural topics. On the base of the received answers, they will be separated in different teams, as each team will be composed of participants with contrary point of views on the asked questions. Each team will have to find and solve a common task and they will be introduced to various alternative ways of achieving the given task. They will be able to choose their solution and try to defend it against participants with opposite opinions. They will learn to work in a team with people with different thinking. The idea is to motivate each participant to try to understand the point of view of others and to find a way to work together for the achievement of a specific goal. Through the activities, proposed in the workshop participants will be able to create partnerships with people with different thinking.

OBJECTIVE: The aim of the Workshop is to stimulate people with different opinion to solve a common task. Quite often today, there are people who can't understand the idea and the necessity of the silvicultural activities. That is why it is important to find a way to make people to understand what is hidden behind forester's work. On the other hand, foresters should understand and accept the current contemporary understanding and attitude to nature.

In this workshop we propose a way for people with opposite opinions to work together.

FORMAT:

- The workshop should be implemented **outside in the forest**. There are no special requirements for materials and equipment. The whole workshop will have passive and active activities, participants will have to search around to discover and solve their common task.
- In the end of the workshop, they will have to propose a name for the workshop by which to stimulate other people to try it out.
- Each participant will be involved in each part of the workshop. They will have to act separately in the beginning and together as a team in the second and third part of the activities and to find a solution for their joint task.

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NO. OF PARTICIPANTS: 12 or 24 participants (2 to 4 teams)

DURATION: 90 – 120 minutes

CONCLUSION: In the end of the workshop, participants will be able to show how people with different points of views may and should cooperate and find a workable plan to solve a concrete task, to develop and implement jointly a project despite of their different opinions. We will prepare a short **questionnaire** to receive the feedback from the participants and collect their proposals for the improvement of the activity. The last part of the questionnaire will have an open question where each participant should describe their main experience. We will prepare a short **picture slideshow**, presenting the activity and the achieved results.

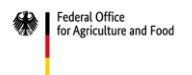
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Workshop 9

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**“Learning to create together –
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TITLE: “WaldMachtMut” (“Forest gives courage”) – A social program for participation and opportunities for young people from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds

PRESENTER: Dr. Marco Ieronimo, Head of WaldMobil Nord Baden-Württemberg, SDW Landesverband Baden-Württemberg e.V.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION: How do we want to live in the future? For the transformation of society towards more sustainability, ESD can help us find an answer as well as it is a path. It leads through the development of competence – self-competence, social competence and factual and methodological competence – thus enabling people to think and act. A sustainable future requires the participation of each and everyone. In Germany the origin, level of education and socio-economic status of parents are crucial for the educational and developmental processes of young people. About one in five young people experiences structural disadvantages, i.e. material but also educational poverty, and thus a lack of opportunities and alternatives. These structural disadvantages often negatively affect their course of socialization and life in general. The consequences for the transformation of society towards a more sustainable future should be obvious.

Because of this we present the social program „WaldMachtMut“, aiming at pupils from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds at the age of 12 to 15. The program’s purpose is to enable learning experiences that promote their self-efficacy and a positive self-perception and attitude and the feeling that they can change something about their own situation, if they believe in themselves and use their strengths. An important element of this three-day program is the forest as it serves as surrounding as well as means. „WaldMachtMut“ is a cooperation between SDW Landesverband Baden-Württemberg e. V. and the funding Nussbaum Stiftung gGmbH.

FORMAT:

This practical session provides insights into the background and concept of the program and presents selected activities. Please wear **suitable clothing for all weather conditions/walking in the forest.**

NO. OF PARTICIPANTS: Maximum 22

DURATION: 120 minutes

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**“Learning to create together –
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TITLE: «Learning to create together: Simple and effective thanks to the set of planning cards for nature-based environmental education»

PRESENTERS: **Rolf Jucker**, director SILVIVA Switzerland; **Verena Schataneck**, co-director Naturschulen von Grün Stadt Zürich, Switzerland

DESCRIPTION: The workshop shows an efficient and effective method for planning and evaluating projects and activities in nature-based environmental education with different providers. A coloured card system serves as a generator of ideas in order to set up projects that take into account the different demands on nature-based environmental education which generates an impact. In the workshop, this card system is presented with examples of how it can be used, and the participants will be able to test it for themselves. This card system supports different providers in constructively integrating their different perspectives on a forest, nature or environment-related topic into the planning and evaluation. Different perspectives turn into opportunities instead of risks. Participants will be able to apply this planning tool to their own projects by participating or guiding others.

FORMAT:

- The workshop can take place indoors or outdoors.
- A movement-oriented game at the beginning motivates to generate lots of ideas with the cards.
- Examples of teaching aids for school projects by various organisations illustrate possible outcomes.
- Workshop participants are asked to come up with their own ideas as they develop a fictitious project within a short period of time.

NO. OF PARTICIPANTS: Min. 5, Max. 22

DURATION: 120 minutes

CONCLUSION: Feedback is obtained in a playful way through various positional games. It should relate to whether the planning support is more motivating or demotivating. The main experience is to realise that in planning you can just go for it, without getting lost in all the demands and without losing sight of the goals. The results are presented by individual workshop participants, who playfully present the project they have developed in a very short time. The framework is provided by the workshop leaders.

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Workshop 11

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**“Learning to create together –
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build partnerships and empower people?”**

TITLE: How to create partnership – let’s learn from nature

PRESENTERS: Veronika Jaloviarová and Andrea Melcerová, National Forest Centre – Centre for Knowledge Transfer and Forest Pedagogy, Slovakia

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION: Learn about the sensory perception of relationships and partnerships in nature (between the different types of nature elements, plants, fungi, animals... and human beings). Are they bad/good, very effective or dangerous or even fatal? Hear about the legend of Svätopluk – a nice example of human partnership from history of Slovakia, there will be a very short reading/telling of a drama story. Give examples of partnerships in the nearby forest and name the attributes of the partnerships: activity at the basis of sensual perception. Step deeper into nature and let us show how nature can create partnership – learning by doing activities (on case of the tree, the animal – Tetrao urogallus, the animal families). The games have been originally created by forest pedagogues from Slovakia.

Reflection – what was the most important aspect in each case to make a good partnership? Writing on papers, discussion. Be creative! Invent/create and play the nature partnership with your own chosen elements of nature.

OBJECTIVE: In the Forest pedagogy activities, we put the stress on the nature especially the forest. The stabile forest ecosystem shows us how to be in balance, how to build and have good relationship and partnership between the elements of nature. We can learn from nature how to create different partnerships. Therefore, there could be the parallel between the nature and society, between the forest and forest pedagogy.

FORMAT: outdoor workshop, no specific material needed (in case of very bad weather there is the possibility to make the workshop as indoor format) **Teaching aids:** paper, markers, special cards/picture, and nature material

NO. OF PARTICIPANTS: 20-40 people

DURATION: 90 minutes plus the time for walking to/from the forest

CONCLUSION: The feedback from the workshop will identify the factors that are most important for creating good partnerships. Participants will be motivated to reflect on the topic, find the factors and develop solutions. Workshop results will be presented for the rest of the participants on the next day.

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Workshop 12

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**“Learning to create together –
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Title: Forest-Honey - an individual harvest

The forest as a place to reflect personal empowerment, inner resilience and professional transition

PRESENTER: Michel Grevis - teacher, trainer, expert for non-formal education in the fields of nature, environment, transition and education for sustainable development and honeybees.
From 2002 - 2020 head of the Center SNJ Hollenfels - Education for Sustainable Development, Service National de la Jeunesse, Luxembourg

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION: Honeybees are originally animals from the forest and have adapted their behaviour to this environment – such as social behaviour, democratic decision-taking, cooperation and coevolution. Can we, as human beings, learn from their behaviour and reflect about our own personal and professional challenges?

The workshop will tackle some of the topics of the motto of this conference (regarding empowerment, transformation, participation) and should help the participants to encounter personal answers to questions related these topics.

The workshop explores the possibilities to go further in the personal reflection of the participants and thus go beyond a simple nature activity by understanding how a forest environment works and what evolutionary responses of one forest species (honeybee) were given.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the workshop is to explore how nature and especially the forest can be a social and personal asset during a post-pandemic area and in a multi-crisis environment. The participants would acquire new tools for their personal resilience-toolbox by using the natural environment as a resource for reflecting and solution finding.

FORMAT:

The workshop will be held **outside in the forest** and will combine **walking**, common **reflexion** and is supported by **games** and challenges.

NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

Minimum 8, maximum 22

DURATION: 120 minutes

CONCLUSION: Each game will be reflected and documented immediately - by the end of the activity an individual translucent multi-layer and very **individual booklet** will thus document each participant’s journey.

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