



LESSONS IN GRASS

10 + 1 TIPS TO START LEARNING OUTSIDE

1 START SLOWLY AND BUILD UP GRADUALLY

Repeat some simple activities the first few times you go out. You and the students must get used to learning outside. Gradually you can add more activities and go out more often for longer periods of time.

2 USE SCHOOL LAND AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Explore the learning opportunities offered by the school grounds and in its immediate vicinity. Look for more natural environments but you can always learn in the “concrete jungle”.

3 DON'T HAVE SPECIAL EQUIPMENT, YOU DON'T NEED IT

Equipment like microscopes would certainly be useful but you can do without them. Most learning aids can be made easily with the students' help. Detailed instructions can be found at: www.lessonsingrass.com/diy

4 THERE IS NO NEED TO DO IT ALONE

You can either form a team of like-minded teachers or involve the whole school if you are ambitious enough. Share and help each other regularly. Try to get the support of the school management.

5 CONNECT YOUR LESSONS INSIDE AND OUT

Use the outdoor experiences to enrich what is learnt in the classroom. Get the students to help you bring stimuli from the outside in to make subsequent lessons livelier.

6 FIND RESOURCES TO GET INSPIRATION AND CREATE OPPORTUNITIES

Try what has worked for others. Many ideas, prepared lessons, and guides to other programmes and seminars can be found at www.lessonsingrass.com

7 CREATE A SUPPORT NETWORK

Work with people outside the school. Parents, local nature and environmental experts, specialized organizations (eco-centres, forest administrations, farms, etc.) can all be involved in your teaching.

8 MAKE OUTDOOR LEARNING OFFICIAL

Plan your outdoor learning in advance and make time for it in the schedule. Incorporate it into your lesson plans and school documents. Explain the benefits to parents.

9 ALLOW PUPILS OUTSIDE DURING BREAKS

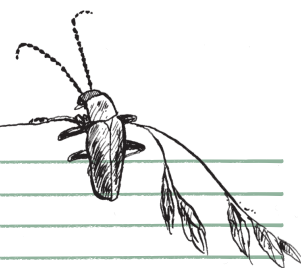
Or at least during big breaks and lunch break. This will help recharge students, make them more open to learning, and create a positive atmosphere in school.

10 EVALUATE PROGRESS AND SHARE SUCCESSES

Document your outdoor activities. Show others what your students have done outside (photos, students' work, etc.). Reflect on what you are doing well and where you need improvement.

+1 BE PATIENT AND CONTINUE TO ENJOY LEARNING OUTDOORS

It takes several years to fully integrate outdoor teaching into teaching practices and school life. Don't rush yourself or others. Celebrate every victory, no matter how small.



www.lessonsingrass.com