



## Once upon a time the... sea. The story continues

Anna Maria Durante

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### Premise:

As a school, we have the privilege to be located inside the Natural marine reserve of Isola delle Femmine Capo Gallo – Palermo Sicily. It is one of the recognized 47 marine reserves in Italy, and of course it is necessary to involve students and community about this privilege.

The educational-didactic project aims to make children perceive the importance of the marine ecosystem, to deepen their knowledge of the sea and its riches, to promote positive behavior towards the environment and in the use of resources. Furthermore, educational values are linked to it: training and interdisciplinary values that can restore to our students the sense of the uniqueness of knowledge. These are profiles that substantiate the institutional purposes of the M.I.U.R. and which can also offer skills and abilities in view of specific professional placements in adulthood. After the school participated in the Erasmus project "Once upon a time there was... the sea" and was included among the "European Blue Schools" from 2012/1 and, it is therefore considered appropriate to continue the project as a theme that is part of a process that has already begun involving pupils, parents and local actors. The project is included in the educational didactic path of the school - the project will be supported by the University of Palermo - faculty of earth and sea sciences - and shared with the community of Isola delle Femmine. This year the school will collaborate with the local community for conservation of the flora and fauna on the islet, will participate at the project ECOPLAST: recyclable plastic, <https://ecoplast-srl.it/>, students will produce a podcast participating at the contest Rizzoli education, and cooperated with local fisherman community. Specific courses regarding marine environment will be conducted by the science department of our school. This year, the project will participate in an Erasmus project involving a school from France – province of Marseille, this will be an occasion to compare educational methods and share the Mediterranean blue education. Visiting the ports and the sea area will help to organize activities and will help to focus on "Blue Economy" considering that "fishing" is one of the most important activities in Isola delle Femmine.

**Purpose** Raise pupils' awareness of respect for the sea and its marine ecosystem considering that the school is located within a marine reserve (Capo Gallo Isola delle Femmine SICILY). It is necessary to involve the pupils in acquiring awareness of the environmental good that the territory offers. The sea as a source of work, the sea with its resources, its history, its fragile ecosystem threatened by pollution and climate change. The sea and fishing are fundamental in a process of education for sustainability. The marine ecosystem and the organic and inorganic elements observation of flora and fauna; classification and seriation of the material collected during the field trips;

The theme of the Project will be dealt with in the curricular workshops, in the individual disciplines or in activities. Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary paths (linguistic, literary and artistic, musical, scientific, geographical,.....) will be launched, in order to create, using all expressive languages, an overall picture as broad as possible –

The project is interdisciplinary: science, literature, music, art, social study, civic education and will be conducted by the departments of science, literature, arts.

### Educational didactic objectives

The theme of the sea offered to children who live in a marine reserve offers considerable educational cues, both from a disciplinary and an educational point of view and becomes an integral part of "one's own experience" Grasping the relationship between the individual, the sea and life, through experiential knowledge becomes a task of reality in which the pupils themselves become protagonists

- Understand how the three elements of the relationship influence each other.
- Identify the sea as your own "country", with its characteristics, traditions, culture.
- Considering the sea as a heritage to be known, cared for and safeguarded.
- Knowing how to respect the fragile marine ecosystem
- Promote sustainability through the correct use of marine resources
- Know the problems affecting the maritime environment;
- Reflect on the medium and long-term consequences of sea pollution;
- Knowing how to identify sustainable behaviors and put them into practice;
- Knowing how to spread greater awareness of sustainability within the family and community.
- Recognize the sea as a fundamental element for the development of life forms

## disciplinary scientific objectives

- Recognize the main characteristics and ways of life of animal and plant organisms.
- Develop the first elements of plant and animal classification on the basis of observations and/or descriptions.
- Recognize the importance of marine Posidonia in the marine ecosystem of Isola delle Femmine
- know what a protected marine reserve is
- recognize the importance, the purpose, the legislation of the marine reserve
- recognize the effects of climate change on the marine ecosystem
- propose contrasting actions for the protection of the territory of Isola delle Femmine
- recognize polluting elements of the marine system in particular of the territory of Isola delle Femmine

## Transversal training objectives

- Development of language skills
- Deepening of scientific knowledge
- Development of multimedia skills
- Deepening of the concept of active citizenship
- Developing your own self-control
- Enhancement of socialization skills

## Students involved :

all the students from the different levels of education: Kindergarten, primary, secondary.

## Activities to be carried out with the class group:

Scientific research

Observation of the sea and the surrounding area

Graphic processing

Verbal processing

Educational didactic games

Experience on the field

Vocal and instrumental performances  
Data collection and processing  
Reading and analysis of texts  
Multimedia production  
workshops  
Laboratory activities  
paper graphics  
Guided tours  
beach activities (data collection)  
participation in coastal clean-up activities  
slogan against pollution and environmental protection

steps and activities

- 1 presentation to the classes of the topic
- 2 activities - the story from the sea
- 4 Isola delle Femmine... the legend. Historical course
- 3 photo contest Island of females -- different points of view
- 4 recycling activities
- 5 graphic activities
- 6 marine ecosystem - organic and inorganic elements of the Isola delle Femmine area  
laboratory and analysis activities
- 7 we love the sea--- promoting the marine protected area
- 8 we clean up the coasts
- 9 the sea and... the music, the colors, and the arts
- 10 video -reels

## Learning environments

The classroom becomes a laboratory-space in which a "research community" lives and operates; where certain behaviors, both of a social and cognitive nature, are put into practice in a reflexive way; in which we discuss - in the sense of seeking together - to clarify implicit premises and prejudices, to become aware of the possible consequences of speaking and acting, to identify "good reasons" and distinguish them from "causes" or "purposes" ; in which exercises of generalization, classification, logical inferences, analysis of the functions and nature of language are performed while speaking and acting-

Even open spaces, the beach, and the sea itself will become "learning environments" where direct sensory experience will allow pupils to make new acquaintances and acquire new skills. Emotions, expressiveness, contact with nature in search of well-being and the enhancement of activities and environments often set aside for educational purposes.

## Methodology

Students will have the opportunity to approach the sea, an element very close to them as part of their experience, in a critical way and will try to identify the critical points that currently afflict the ecosystem. Living in a marine reserve means becoming aware of importance and privilege.

Direct and laboratory experience will be privileged where the pupils themselves will have importance and will be placed at the center of the educational path.

moments of collective study will help students to socialize , and see the things from different point of view individual and collective reflections will give the opportunity to watching around and see the they lie, probably some of them will be fisherman so the must be aware of the place where they live.

Field research (to enter the environment, perceive it, explore it, collect data, preserve it) give the opportunity to leave the school in different way , school no far from normal life but integrated in the long life educational path

problematization (formulation of hypotheses, search for solutions, verification, identification of positive and negative aspects in relation to a context) will stimulate the children to acquire a critical thinking role-playing games and simulations will help not to forget the joyful and playful educational path artistic – expressive activity;  
search for tools to communicate the final product to others (exhibition of works and works, themed theatrical performances, hypertexts, multimedia works, ...)it will strenghtn the self consideration Cooperative learning Group work the comparison of ideas and the cultural exchange between the boys will lead to better production and the enhancement of the capacity for socialization Use of ITCs will help to develop their digital skills.

### Means and tools :

use of computer resources, collection material, stationery, books.

### Results :

production of papers (graphics, multimedia, literary, scientific, artistic productions)  
dramatization activity  
enhancement of digital capabilities through the use of ITC  
enhancement of language skills  
improvement of English language skills  
raising awareness of the concept of active citizenship  
Awareness of the sea as a fundamental element in the growth path.  
Knowledge of specific language  
awareness of the changes that the sea is undergoing in recent times due to pollution  
awareness of the positive action of man to protect the environment

### Evaluation of the success of the project:

The project may undergo changes during construction or  
but the evaluation will take into account the participation, the commitment to carry out the planned activities which may in any case undergo variations.

Francesco Riso school is located inside oriented marine reserve of Isola delle Femmine Capo Gallo, therefore the need to stimulate students to have a sense of belonging to a natural environment such the need to preserve it and use it in a respectful way becomes fundamental. The project aims to make children perceive the importance of the marine ecosystem, to deepen their knowledge of the sea and its riches, his history, to value the importance in wellbeing to promote positive behavior towards the environment . Sporting and educational values are also linked to it. The theme of the sea offers considerable educational cues, both from a disciplinary and an educational point of view and becomes an integral part of "one's own experience" Grasping the relationship between the individual, the sea and life, through experiential knowledge becomes a task of reality in which the pupils themselves become protagonists; objective :Understand how the three elements of the relationship influence each other.

Identify the sea as your own "country", with its characteristics, traditions, culture; the sea as a heritage to be known, cared for and safeguarded.

Knowing how to respect the fragile marine ecosystem

Promote sustainability through the correct use of marine resources

Know the problems affecting the maritime environment;

Reflect on the consequences of sea pollution;

Knowing how to identify sustainable behaviors and put them into practice sharing with community.

Recognize the sea as a fundamental element for the development of life forms.

Activities: field research: entering,perceivibg, exploring the environment, collecting data;

educational activities within the marine reserve (coast cleaning);

problematization (formulation of hypotheses, search for solutions, verification, identification of positive and negative aspects in relation to a context;

role-playing games;approach (interviews, videos, workshops) with those who experience the sea, fishermen, tourist facilities, sailing schools expressive activity;

exhibition of works themed theatrical performances, hypertexts, multimedia works