

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

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A person's responsible environmental behaviour is based on different factors. The knowledge of environmental action strategies and intention to act give the person a sense of being able to make changes through his or her own behaviour. An organisational model for environmental activity was tested regarding its suitability at primary school level and the effects on environmental behaviour on the inhabitants of a small village. The results indicate that even young pupils can play a specific role as environmental actors and informants.

Different environmental educational programmes (field trips, hiking, camps, adventure activities) are, through personal experiences, aimed to develop student's affective relationship to the natural environment, their environmental sensitivity and outdoor behaviour, as well as their social relationships. The role and possibilities of outdoor education in environmental education and natural studies are emphasised in schools as well as teacher education.

Environmental education must be carried out at all levels of the Finnish formal and informal educational system.