Udeskole Outdoor learning in Teacher Education

Karen Barfod,
VIA Teacher Training Institute



Education and Culture DG
'Youth in Action' Programme

Karen Barfod









Teaching Biology, Physical Education and teaching and developing ”Udeskole” in regard to the Danish curriculum in Teacher Education. Coordinator of the Outdoor Learning program in VIA UC







- We are looking for a key-note speaker who will deal with the concepts and ideas of taking school children into nature, and who will address questions like: Why should we do this? What are the more recent experiences by doing this? And what can we learn from recent practices from across Europe?
- Since we know that you have studied these issues in a European Context, we would kindly ask you to be a key-speaker of this conference.

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Outdoor learning and me

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The most important in School is to sit on your Chair

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Why?

- Children of today are going to solve problems, that we even don´t know exists
- Children of today need to deal with different values according to future work





Why?

European childrens suffers from

- Growing obesity
- More sedentary lifestyle
- More pressure on the academic litarcy

And is going to show more

- Initiative
- Innovation



Strategies to get the golden apple of wisdom





We want to

- Get the children to reach out for the apples of wisdom
- By using all aspects of life



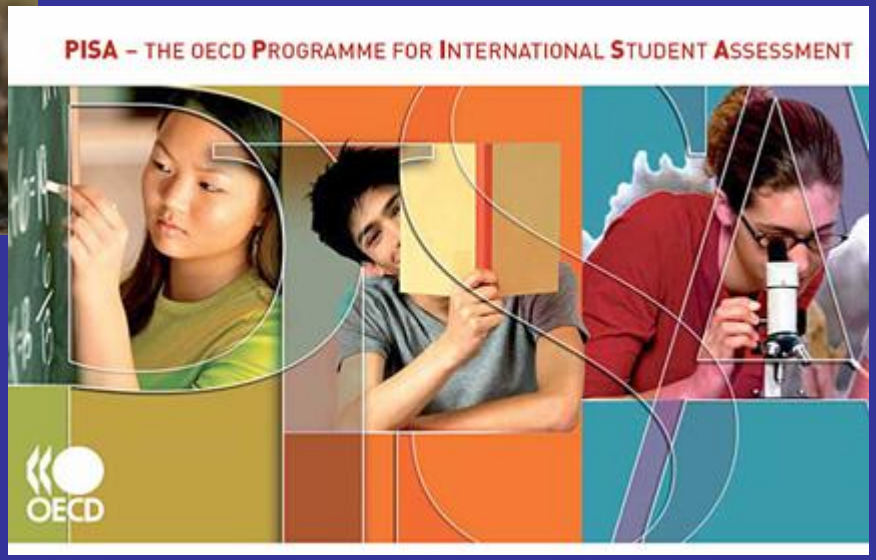


Me the Mole

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Let the children out during everyday schooltime



Getting Outdoor Learning into the Teacher education and by that into the primary School

Outdoor learning is a working method, where parts of the everyday life in school is moved out of the classroom – into the local environment. Outdoor learning implies frequent, purpose driven and curriculum based learning activities outside the classroom.

Inspired from

Arne Nikolajsen Jordet



All Subjects

”Udeskole” adresses all subjects in elementary Scool, that is:

- Mothertongue
- Mathematics
- Science
- Physical education
- Art and Handcraft
- History
- Religion
- etc

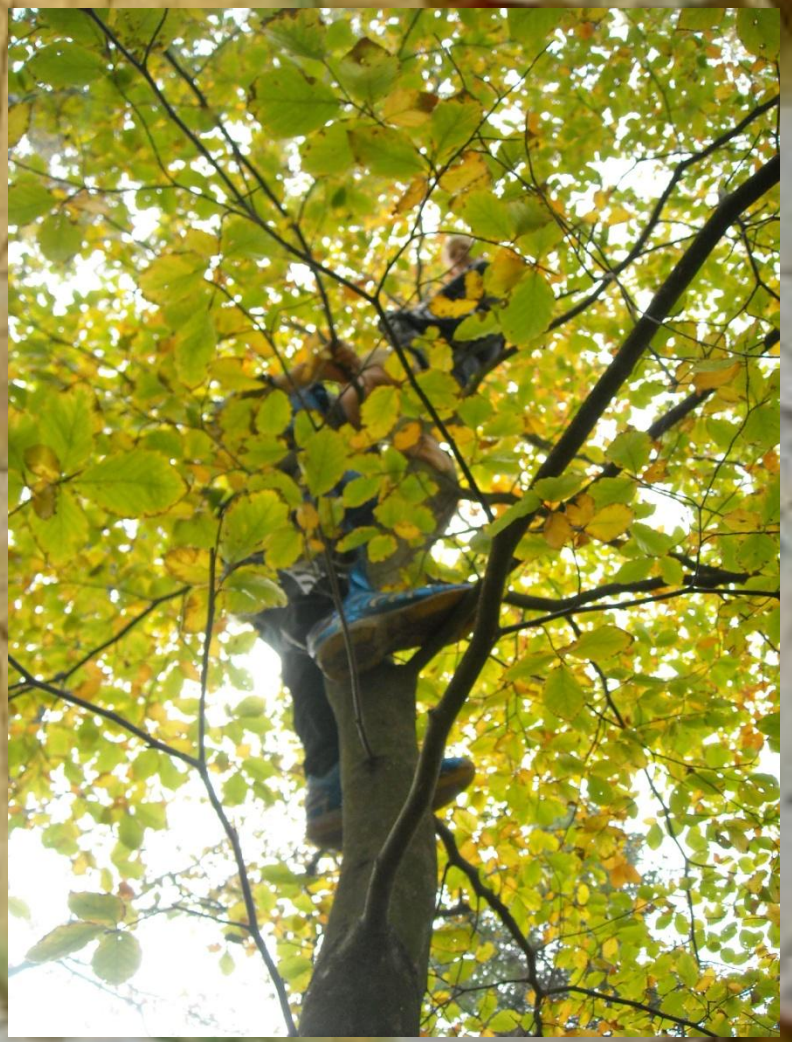


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The ways we do it

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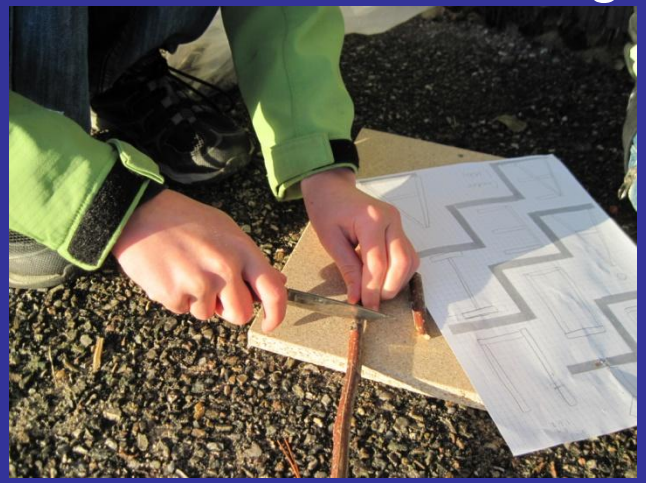




Somewhere between ”the purposeless wandering around” and just moving the classroom outside

Challenges
Comishin et al 2004

- Funding Constraints
- Insufficient support from administration and colleagues
- Time constraints
- Liability and risk management
- Inadequate skills and qualifications





The most important

Is the Teachers role:

- To work with the same subjects inside – outside – inside
- To be the teacher, not a turist
- To link whats experienced with whats in the curriculum



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Not only a place

- Outdoor learning is both about a place,
but indeed also about a way of and a under – standing of learning





To reach as many



Almost all children goes to School

All schools have teachers

Outdoor Education in Teacher education

- Local work in VIA
- Inservice (postgraduate) Teacher Training in Denmark
- Project OutLines in Europe (courses for teacher students)
  - University of Linkjøbing, NCU
  - University College Hedmark
  - Tallin University
  - Charles University, Prague
  - Riga University
  - VIA University College
- Project In and Out in (Coruses for Teachers and Rangers) 270.000
  - University of Linkjøbing
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  - VIA University College



From the internship 21.9.2010

Courses for students

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2011 week 10









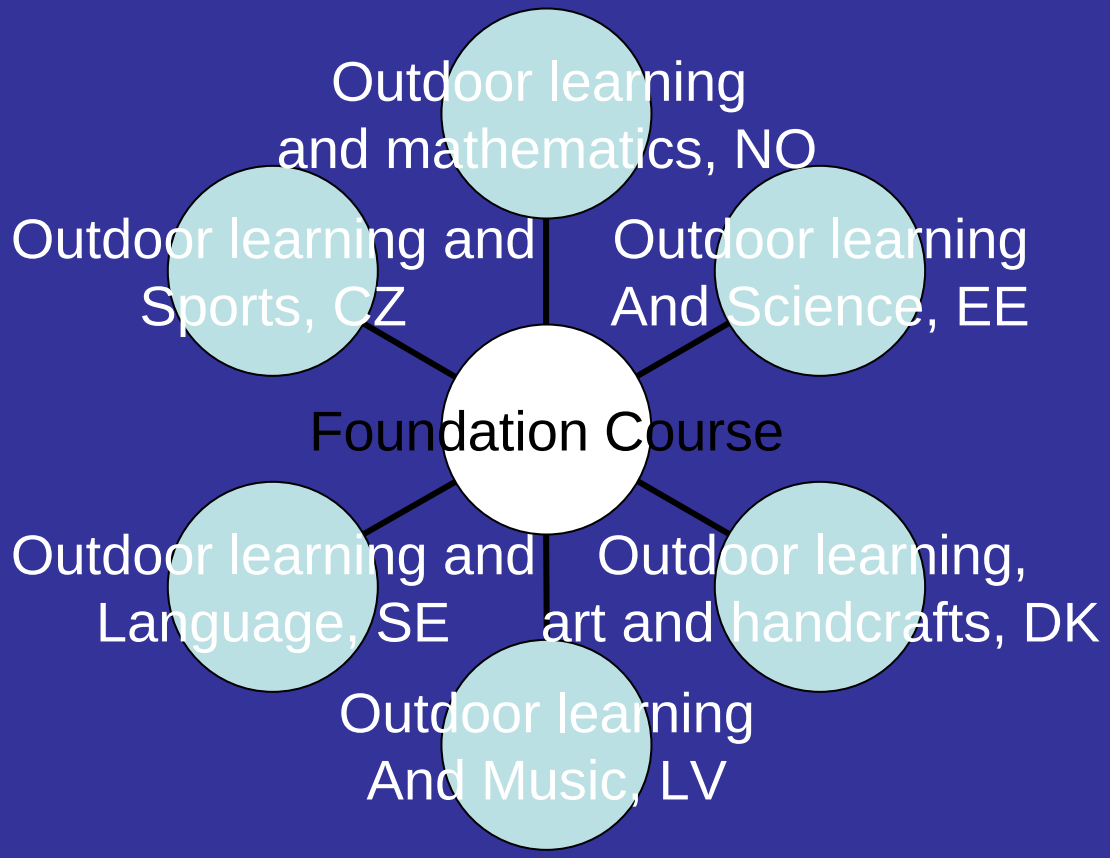

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Courses, 40 hours



To trust the concept

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AIMS of Foundation Course

The Foundation Course should give the students experience with, knowledge about and insight in using the landscape as a learning ressource in the educational process





Contents

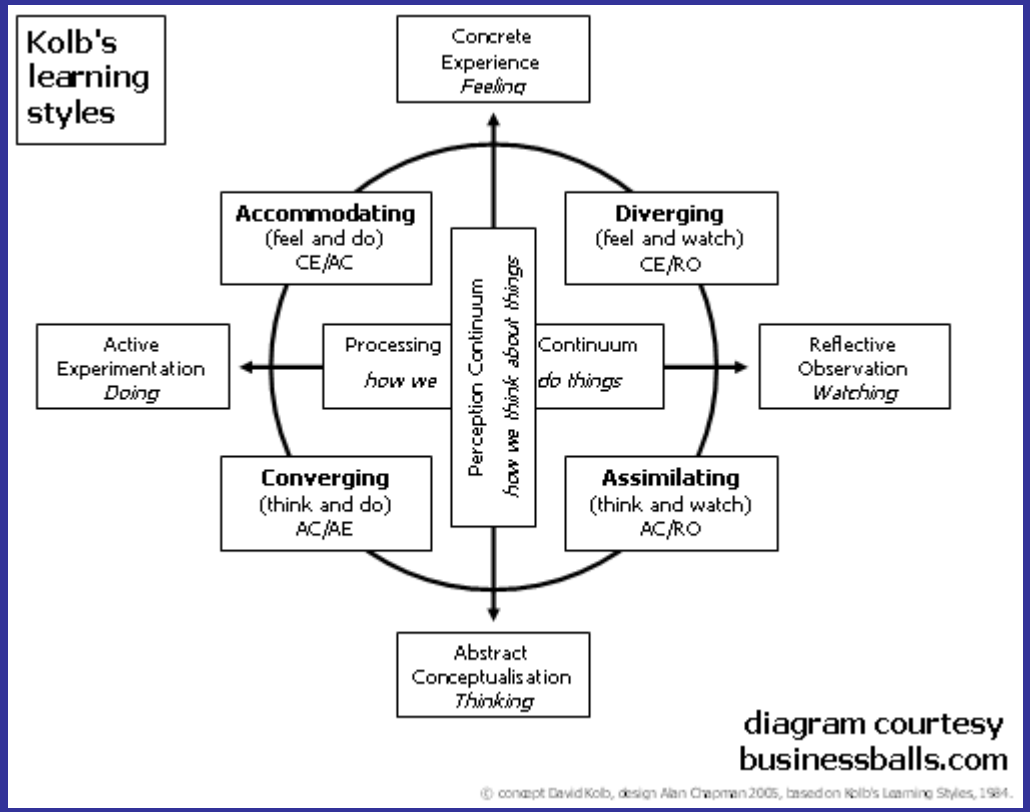
- Learning theories and backgrounds
- Excercises outside on learning approaches (sensory, physically etc)
- Schoolvisit
- Ressource persons
- Sleepover in nature
- Reflected logs







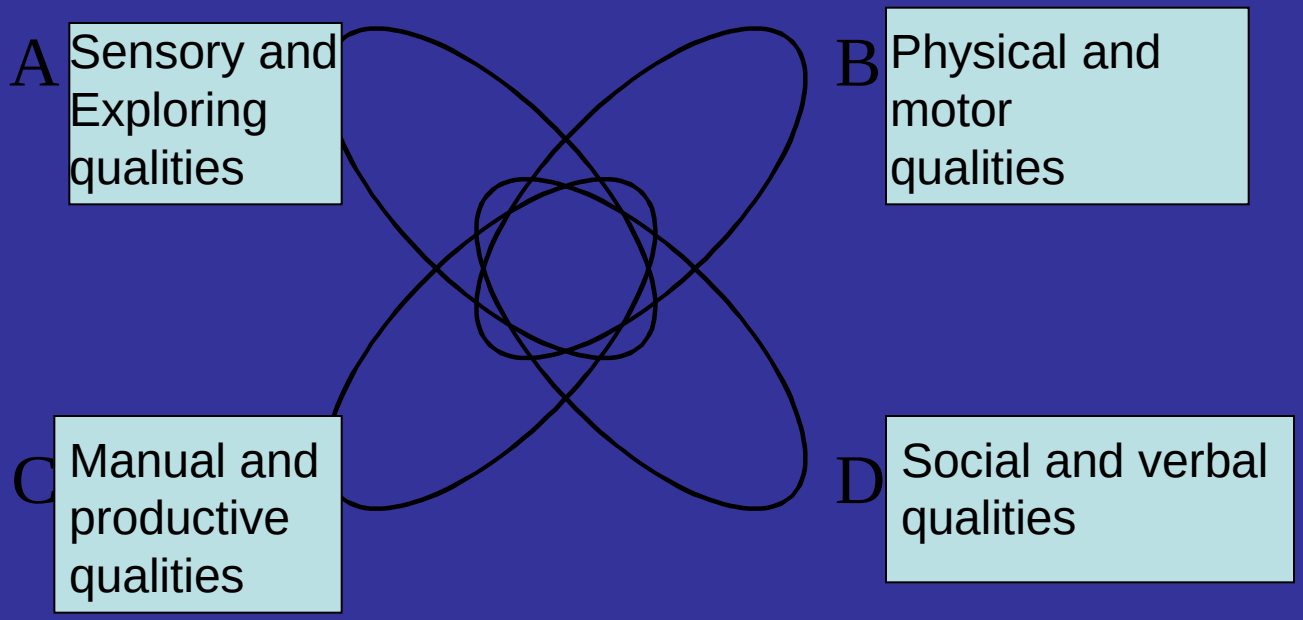
Experiental Learning



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Model of Qualities

- Peter Bjerg Jørgensen, NO



Geometrical Figures

What figure did you find?

Draw it :

Where did you find it ?



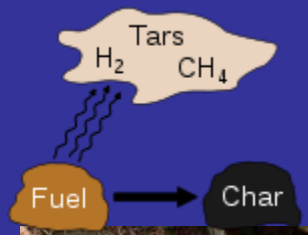
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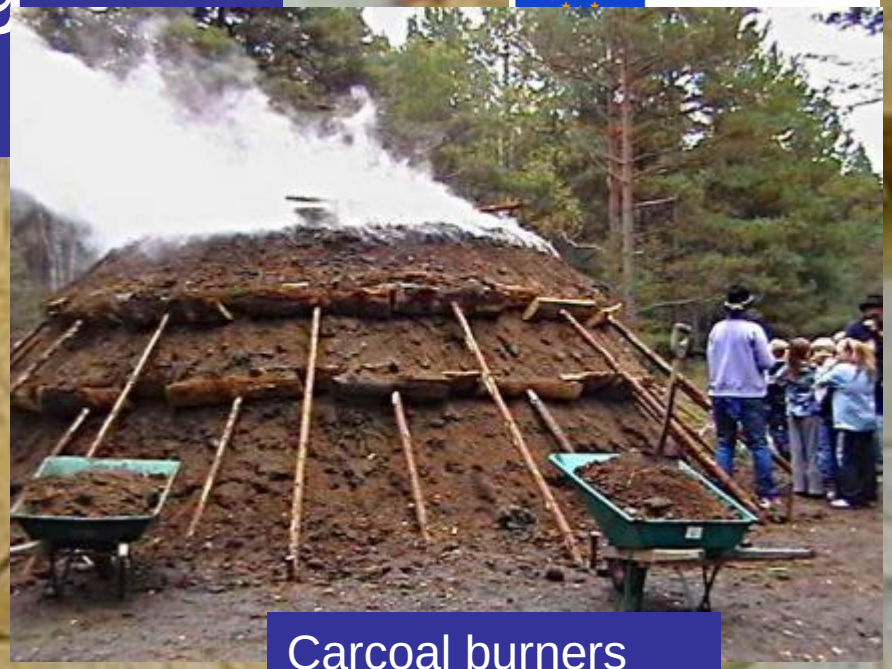
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Crossing subjects

- History
- Physics/ chemistry
- Handcraft

Pyrolysis





Carcoal burners

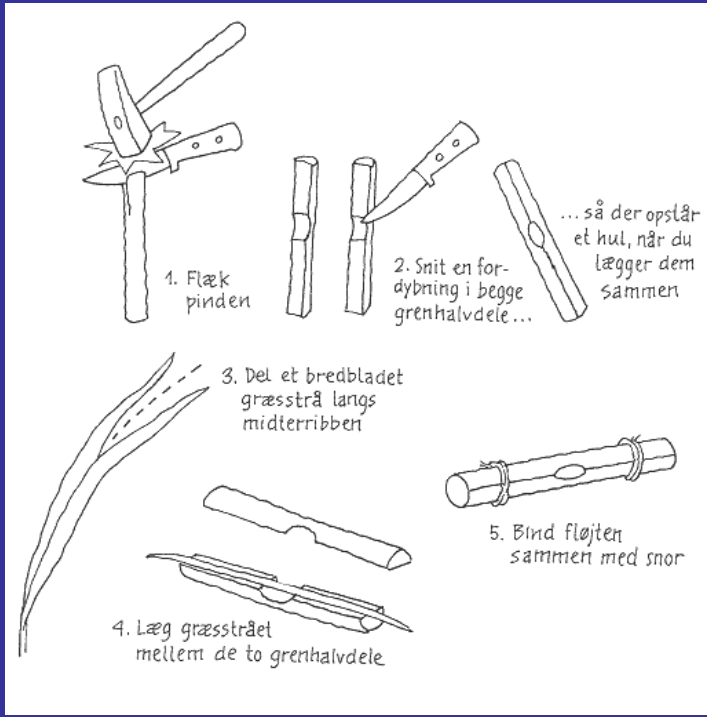






Poachers Flute

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AIMS

To reach as many children as possible

- Overcome the hurdles
- Work in public schools
- Work in teacher education
- Learning by doing, experiencing and reflecting



Thank you

- For Your attention
- Questions?

