



The CO₂nnect activities

MARCU EUGENIA

Constantin Brancusi Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges we face today. A first step is the understanding the problem, more exactly what is the challenge and the differences people can make. Pupils need a wide competencies to meet the challenges of sustainable development – including climate change. The CO₂nnect activities are designed to support learning which can provide pupils the abilities, skills, attitudes and awareness as well as knowledge and understanding of the issues.

The project “Together for a clean and healthy world” is part of “The Global Educational Campaign CO₂nnect-CO₂ on the way to school” and it was held in our school in the period between February and October 2009. It contained a variety of curricular and extra-curricular activities, adapted to students aged from 11 to 15. These activities aimed to develop in students the necessary skills to understanding man’s active role in improving the quality of the environment, putting an end to its degrading process and to reducing the effects of climate changes caused by the human intervention in nature, including transport- a source of CO₂ pollution.

The activity which I propose can be easily adapted to a wide range of age groups and linked to the curricula of many subjects:

- Investigate CO₂ emissions from travel to school
- Share the findings using an international database
- Compare and discuss CO₂ emissions
- Submit questions to a climate- and transport expert
- Partner with other schools
- Meet with people in your community to discuss emissions from transport

Intended learning outcomes for pupils who participate in the CO₂nnect campaign are:

Understanding of the interconnected mobility- and climate change issue

climate change, its causes and consequences

greenhouse-gas emissions from transport and mobility

the interlinking of social, environmental, cultural and economic aspects of the local transport system

how individual choices and participation can contribute to creating a more sustainable development

Skills and abilities

actively participate in local democratic processes

interact with local decision-makers

collaborate with researchers and generate reliable information

create innovative proposals and suggest alternatives for a more sustainable society

use ICT and the internet interactively for partnership and data analysis

act and think autonomously

Awareness

sensitivity and awareness of the effect of transport on climate change and the sustainability issues raised by climate change

awareness that each person has a role in climate change, including CO₂ emissions from transport

Attitudes and values

develop concern about the climate change issue, its causes and impacts

develop motivation to participate in decision-making for a more sustainable society

realize that they have opportunities to help create a more sustainable society, both as individuals and through common actions