



## **Building awareness of their origins from the knowledge of the territory**

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Brindisi (main town in the Salento peninsula, Puglia, Italy) is an important natural harbor known for centuries as the “Valigia delle Indie”. The whole coast that develops in NW and SE deserves great attention to structural characteristics, values, physical-environmental relationships, nature, history, settlement and landscape. An increased sense of citizenship in young people of 11-13 years of age range is built starting from the knowledge of the territory understood as a set of experiences and climbing habits from individual perception to the collective. The 3 years of junior high school is proposed to the students with a general overview of the landscape of the province: the study of the coastal environment as a result of geological processes and ecosystem relationships is a key part of the curriculum.

This specific comprehensive teaching programs in the 2nd and 3rd year include the study of ecosystems and a general overview of the geology of the planet Earth.

The extracurricular part of the program consists of projects aimed at the knowledge of the area by hiking the sites and use of various technologies, both physical-chemical (environmental analysis) and computer (for the geographical classification). In particular in the coming months they will be examining the lagoon environment analysis of the biotope Torre Guaceto, a wetland safeguarded according to the Ramsar Convention 1972. For the computer part every year a literacy course is organized which includes the knowledge of the use of GIS and image processing.

During these winter months also some classes will prepare for participating in a race at the national level based on knowledge of ecosystems.