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Program Integrating Outdoor Learning Across Subjects (10 days), 10 days

Lisboa

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Program Description

Embark on an immersive journey into the world of outdoor education with our comprehensive 10-day training course. "Outdoors Education for Educators" is designed to equip teachers with the knowledge, skills, and practical tools to seamlessly integrate the outdoors into their teaching practices. The course is structured to cover a range of topics, from foundational principles to subject integration techniques, environmental literacy, adventure education, and conservation efforts.

Competences

Pedagogical Competence: Acquire a solid foundation in outdoor education principles, enabling educators to develop pedagogical strategies for effective teaching and learning in outdoor settings.

Interdisciplinary Integration Competence: Develop the ability to seamlessly integrate outdoor activities across diverse subjects such as language arts, mathematics, science, history, and geography, fostering an interdisciplinary approach to education.

Curriculum Design and Adaptation Competence: Cultivate proficiency in designing adaptable and engaging lesson plans tailored for various outdoor settings, promoting creativity and flexibility in curriculum development aligned with educational standards.

Methodology

Interactive Workshops and Theoretical Sessions: Engage educators through interactive workshops that blend theoretical discussions with practical applications, ensuring a deep understanding of outdoor education principles.

Practical Experiences and Hands-On Activities: Emphasize experiential learning with hands-on activities such as nature walks, reflective journaling, math scavenger hunts, and high ropes courses to reinforce theoretical concepts.

Collaborative Learning and Peer Review: Foster collaboration among participants through group activities, peer review sessions, and collaborative lesson plan creation, encouraging knowledge exchange and constructive feedback.

Experiential Learning and Reflection Competence: Embrace experiential learning through outdoor activities, reflective journaling, and field trips, fostering competence in using firsthand experiences to enhance teaching practices and student engagement.

Technology Integration and Project-Based Learning Competence: Gain proficiency in integrating technology into outdoor lessons and collaboratively design project-based learning experiences, enhancing educators' ability to leverage digital tools for effective and engaging teaching.

Results

Develop a Pedagogical Framework: Equip educators with a robust pedagogical framework for outdoor learning, providing them with the theoretical foundation needed to integrate outdoor education principles into their teaching practices.

Enhance Subject Integration Skills: Enable educators to seamlessly integrate outdoor activities across various subjects, including language arts, mathematics, science, history, and geography, fostering a multidisciplinary approach to outdoor education.

Cultivate Curriculum Design Proficiency: Empower educators to design adaptable and engaging lesson plans for diverse outdoor settings, encouraging creativity and flexibility in curriculum development that aligns with educational standards.

Promote Environmental Literacy and Sustainability: Inspire a sense of environmental awareness among educators, guiding them to design lessons that instill a commitment to sustainability. Explore hands-on experiences and field trips to local eco-friendly initiatives.

Facilitate Networking and Implementation: Foster a supportive community among educators by encouraging the sharing of success stories, challenges, and collaborative efforts. Equip participants with the skills and action plans needed to implement outdoor education effectively in their respective schools.

Day by day Planning

Day 1 – Foundations of Outdoor Learning

- 9:00-10:00 Introduction to outdoor education principles
- 10:00-11:00 Exploring the benefits of learning outdoors
- 11:00-12:00 Building a pedagogical framework for outdoor activities
- 12:00-14:00 Observing surroundings and documenting insights

Day 2 – Curriculum Connections I

- 9:00-10:00 Outdoor learning for language arts – storytelling, poetry, observation
- 10:00-11:00 Outdoor math – using nature for measurements, patterns, estimations
- 11:00-12:00 Adapting subject goals to outdoor settings
- 12:00-14:00 Practical Activity: Create and test a nature-based language or math activity

Day 3 – Curriculum Connections II

- 9:00-10:00 Science outdoors – observation, experiments, inquiry-based learning
- 10:00-11:00 History and geography in place-based education
- 11:00-12:00 Designing outdoor activities that align with national curriculum
- 12:00-14:00 Practical Activity: Group task – develop an interdisciplinary outdoor lesson

Day 4 – Outdoor Pedagogy & Non-Formal Learning

- 9:00-10:00 Principles of non-formal education in outdoor contexts
- 10:00-11:00 Student-centered approaches and inquiry outdoors
- 11:00-12:00 Creating engagement through storytelling and role-play
- 12:00-14:00 Practical Activity: Lead a non-formal outdoor micro-session

Day 5 – Lesson Planning & Peer Review

- 9:00-10:00 Step-by-step guide to creating outdoor lesson plans
- 10:00-11:00 Adapting indoor lessons to outdoor formats
- 11:00-12:00 Group peer review: assessing outdoor plans
- 12:00-14:00 Practical Activity: Collaborative refinement of plans for real-world testing

Day 6 – Environmental Literacy & Nature Connection

- 9:00-10:00 Outdoor education as a tool for environmental awareness
- 10:00-11:00 Exploring local ecosystems as learning spaces
- 11:00-12:00 Designing lessons that foster sustainability and responsibility
- 12:00-14:00 Practical Activity: Eco-walk and nature journaling for biodiversity awareness

Day 7 – Technology & Outdoor Education

9:00-10:00 Apps and tools for enhancing outdoor learning (e.g. AR, nature ID, maps)

10:00-11:00 Project-based learning using technology outdoors

11:00-12:00 Combining media creation with outdoor exploration (video, photo, audio)

12:00-14:00 Practical Activity: Create a short digital field journal or map-based lesson

Day 8 – Safety, Risk, and Inclusion

9:00-10:00 Conducting risk assessments in outdoor learning environments

10:00-11:00 Inclusive practices: adapting activities for diverse needs

11:00-12:00 Behavioral management outdoors – strategies and tips

12:00-14:00 Practical Activity: Create a risk-assessed inclusive outdoor activity plan

Day 9 – Outdoor Teaching Practice

9:00-10:00 Preparation and logistics for micro-teaching outdoors

10:00-11:00 Participant-led outdoor lessons (Session 1)

11:00-12:00 Participant-led outdoor lessons (Session 2)

12:00-14:00 Practical Activity: Feedback, group reflection, and teaching debrief

Day 10 – Implementation & Networking

9:00-10:00 Building action plans for school-wide outdoor learning

10:00-11:00 Sharing success stories and future visions

11:00-12:00 Creating a professional peer network

12:00-13:30 Practical Activity: Outdoor closing circle and celebration – presenting action plans

13:30-14:00 Goodbye session