

BEYOND SCHOOL PROJECT

LESSON ACTIVITY PLAN DRAFT

ACTIVITY	Let's Explore the Azores Native Forest!
The aim of the activity	To promote endemic species as Azorean Natural Heritage Know the main species of the native azorean forest, the “Laurissilva” Distinguish between exotic, native and endemic species Aware to the biodiversity loss Understand the importance of protection of our forest Identify some ecological services
Places where the event can be held	Laurel forest area (ex. Tronqueira in S.Miguel Island, Sta Bárbara in Terceira Island)
Age group for the activity	6-14

A. BEFORE OUT-OF-SCHOOL LEARNING ACTIVITY	
Educational tools	Photo Exhibition “Azoreans for millions of years” from CE3C/Cibio-University of Azores
Method, technique and strategies	Photo Exhibition
PRACTICE	
Introduction of the activity	Presentation of an urban outdoor exhibition of large banners of close-up (focus stacking extreme macro) photographs of Azorean endemic insects. Since the exhibition is no longer in the city streets we can show the Photos in a digital version, in a TV or Data Show.
Development of the activity	Besides providing accurate scientific information on the particular species, the exhibition sought to defy the dominant representations about insects in order to: draw attention to the existence of species that can only be found in the Azores; raise awareness for the need to protect endemic species; and bring these species to the city/School, giving the general population a chance to see them, as these insects are difficult to observe in their natural habitat. Key ideas to convey concerning the selected Azorean endemic insect species: 1. They are unique and only exist in the Azores;

	<p>2. They are special, all having important ecosystem functions (insects are useful): Pollination; Regulation of natural populations; Forest structure; Decomposition and nutrient cycling and Food source;</p> <p>3. They are true Azoreans, they were on the islands long before Portuguese settlers arrived in the 15th century:</p> <p>4. They are "under siege" on the islands and their existence depends on the conservation of their natural habitats (native Azorean forest), which currently is reduced to about 2.5 % of its original area.</p> <p>5. They may and should be celebrated for their eccentric and idiosyncratic beauty;</p> <p>6. They are not a threat!</p>
Evaluation of the activity	N.a.

B. IN THE OUT-OF-SCHOOL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT	
Educational tools	Cards with plants' photos
Method, technique and strategies	Field Trip
PRACTICE	
Introduction of the activity	Visit to "Centro Ambiental do Priolo" where the azorean endemic bird Priolo is introduced, and all the work to the conservation of the species that is totally dependent on the protection of their natural habitat, the "Laurissilva".
Development of the activity	<p>Guided visit through the native forest, showing the native and endemic plants from Azores.</p> <p>It is also possible to see some of the exotic plants that are a threat to the native species.</p> <p>To better memorise the name and characteristics of the plants, during the visit a game is applied, where each student should find the plant that they have in a card picture.</p>
Evaluation of the activity	N.a.

C. AFTER OUT OF SCHOOL LEARNING ACTIVITY	
Educational tools	Small plants

Method, technique and strategies	Field work
PRACTICE	
Introduction of the activity	Awareness of the importance of each of us being responsible for the protection of our biodiversity.
Development of the activity	Each student receives a small plant of an endemic species that they should plant in their house or school garden. They should take care of the plant to guarantee their survival.
Evaluation of the activity	N.a.

APPENDIX-1:



