

Title: The Tree of the Future

Author: Fidelia APS Age: 7-11 Content:

In this activity, children learn how trees are essential for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> and combating the climate crisis. They create a "Tree of the Future" from recycled materials, adding paper leaves with personal actions and pledges to help the environment.

Trees help to reduce carbon dioxide (CO2) in the atmosphere by absorbing CO2 during photosynthesis and storing it as biomass, thus acting as natural carbon sinks to the atmosphere.

## **Development goals:**

-Self-competence: Children reflect on their actions and learn how they can contribute to CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, feeling like part of the solution.

-Factual-competence: Learn the role of plants in absorbing CO<sub>2</sub> and keeping the environment healthy. -Social skills: Collaborate to build the tree, discussing ideas for sustainable actions to write on the leaves. -Methodological-competence: Apply critical thinking to reflect on daily actions, exploring concrete and replicable solutions.

## **Planning:**

-Introduction (30 minutes): Discussion on how trees help combat climate change by absorbing CO<sub>2</sub>.

-Tree Construction (1 hour): Children create a tree from recycled materials (cardboard, bottles) and make paper leaves.

-Actions and Promises (30 minutes): Each child writes personal actions they can take to help the environment on a leaf and attaches it to the tree.

-Final Discussion (5 minutes each): Share their pledges and reflect on how small gestures can make a big difference.

## **Resources:**

-Cardboard

-Recycled materials (plastic bottles, etc.)

-Colored paper for the leaves or real leaves

-Markers

-Scissors

-Glue

-List of sustainable actions

## Feedback:

Positive: The activity encouraged children to reflect on personal actions, creating a collaborative and participatory atmosphere. Suggestion: Some children needed help coming up with ideas to write on the leaves; an initial brainstorming session could facilitate the process.

Funded by

the European Union

Needed: Provide a brief list of sustainable actions to help children develop meaningful promises.