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the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe*

LANDSCAPE CULTURE: EDUCATION IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL

**Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on
promoting landscape awareness through education**

**Draft Recommendation CM/Rec(2015)... of the Committee of Ministers to member
States on pedagogical material for landscape education in primary school**

Council of Europe
Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg
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*Document of the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe
Directorate of Democratic Governance*

Summary

The European Landscape Convention and the Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention state:

European Landscape Convention

“B. ... and education

Each Party undertakes to promote: ...

c. school and university courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning.” (Article 6 of the European Landscape Convention – Specific measures)

Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

“D. Education

While schools in certain states already offer landscape training, such training should be strengthened so as to develop children’s sensitivity to questions which they are likely to experience when looking at the quality of their surroundings. Furthermore, this is a way of reaching a population through the family.

This can come about through education in several disciplines, whether geography, history, the natural sciences, economics, literature, arts, architecture or engineering disciplines, or civics education.

School curricula at various levels should foster an awareness of landscape themes through learning to read landscapes and through sensitisation to relations between cadre de vie and landscape, to relations between ecology and landscape problems and to social and economic questions.

Landscape constitutes a teaching resource because, when reading it, pupils are brought face to face with visible signs of their surroundings that relate to spatial-planning issues. Landscape reading also makes it possible to understand current and historical approaches to landscape production as an expression of a community’s identity.”

* * *

At its 6th Meeting (Strasbourg, 4-5 November 2014 - CDCPP-Bu(2014)19), the Bureau of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP):

- took note of the adoption of Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on promoting landscape awareness through education, by the Committee of Ministers, on 17 September 2014 and asked the Secretariat to disseminate it among CDCPP members, participants in the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention and Ministries of Education;*
- supported the work of the Working Group on landscape and education for the preparation of a Draft Recommendation on landscape education pedagogical material for primary school chaired by Mrs Mireille Deconinck (Belgium).*

The Conference is invited to:

- take note with appreciation of the adoption of Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on promoting landscape awareness through education, by the Committee of Ministers, on 17 September 2014 (Part 1) and to invite the Parties to the Convention to disseminate it among different Ministries and notably the Ministries of Education;
- take note of the work of the Working Group on landscape and education for the preparation of a Draft Recommendation on landscape education pedagogical material for primary school chaired by Mrs Mireille DECONINCK (Public Service of Wallonia, Belgium) - See Report of the Meeting: CEP-CDCPP (2014) COE/WG-EP 1; Link to the Report of the Meeting: <http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/Landscape/ReunionGroupe/CEP-CDCPP-2014-WGEP1-REPORT.pdf>

Note that the Working Group was composed of national representatives for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention who took part in the 3rd Meeting of the CDCPP, Strasbourg, 19-21 March 2014 (CDCPP (2014) 18), and of a Representative of the Steering Committee for Education Policy and Practice (CDPPE) of the Council of Europe: Mr Stefan DELPLACE, Honorary Secretary General of the European Association of Institutions in Higher Education (EURASHE). The working document was prepared by Experts of the Council of Europe: Mrs Maria del TURA BOVET PLA, Professor, Faculty of Geography and History, University of Barcelona, Spain, Mr Jordi RIBAS VILÀS, Researcher, Faculty of Geography and History, University of Barcelona, Mrs Rosalina PENA VILA, University of Barcelona, with the cooperation of Mrs Annalisa CALCAGNO MANIGLIO, Professor of Landscape Architecture, Genoa, Italy. Secretariat of the Council of Europe: Mrs Maguelonne DEJEANT-PONS, Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention/CDCPP.

- consider the draft Recommendation on pedagogical material for landscape education in primary school as (Part 2) prepared by Working Group, in order to transmit it to the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) for submission to the Committee of Ministers;
- decide to continue the work on preparing pedagogical material for secondary school.

PART 1



Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on promoting landscape awareness through education

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 17 September 2014
at the 1207th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, under the terms of Article 15.b of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve greater unity between its members for the purpose of safeguarding and realising the ideals and principles which are their common heritage;

Having regard to the European Landscape Convention (ETS No. 176), adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 19 July 2000, opened to member States for signature in Florence on 20 October 2000 and entered into force on 1 March 2004;

Concerned to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between environment, social needs, culture and economic activity, for a better quality of life;

Noting that landscape has an important public interest role in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields, and that it constitutes a resource favourable to economic activity whose protection, management and planning can contribute to job creation;

Aware that landscape contributes to the formation of local and regional cultures and that it is a basic component of European natural and cultural heritage, contributing to human well-being and consolidation of the European identity;

Acknowledging that landscape is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere: both in urban and rural areas, in high quality or in degraded areas, in areas recognised as being of outstanding beauty and in everyday areas;

Noting that developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, the expansion of urban areas and of infrastructure networks, the increase in transport, tourism and recreation activities and, at a more general level, changes in the world economy are in many cases accelerating the transformation of landscapes;

Wishing to respond to the public's demand to enjoy high-quality landscapes and to play an active part in the management of landscapes;

Believing that the landscape is a key element of individual and social well-being and that its protection, management and planning entail rights and responsibilities for everyone;

Acknowledging that the quality and diversity of European landscapes constitute a common resource, and that it is important to co-operate towards its protection, management and planning;

Considering the aims of the European Landscape Convention and wishing to encourage its implementation;

Referring to Article 6.B of the European Landscape Convention on specific measures for training and education, which states that “Each Party undertakes to promote: [...] school and university courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning”;

Recalling the principles laid out in the Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, regarding how school curricula should foster children’s awareness of and sensitivity to landscape;

Having regard to its previous recommendations:

- concerning the promotion of an awareness of Europe in secondary schools (Recommendation No. R (83) 4);
- on the role of the secondary school in preparing young people for life (Recommendation No. R (83) 13);
- on aid for artistic creation (Recommendation No. R (85) 6);
- on teaching and learning about human rights in schools (Recommendation No. R (85) 7);
- on the role of museums in environmental education, information and training (Recommendation No. R (90) 18);
- concerning heritage education (Recommendation No. R (98) 5);
- on ensuring quality education (Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)13);

Considering that one of the aims of education is to train young people and equip them with a set of skills necessary for citizenship and democracy;

Asserting that educational activities in the landscape field are an excellent way of giving meaning to the future;

Recommends that the governments of member States Parties to the European Landscape Convention adopt legislative, regulatory, administrative, financial and other appropriate measures to initiate or to develop landscape education activities and to promote landscape awareness among the young in accordance with the principles set out in the appendix to this recommendation.

Appendix to Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)8

I. Principles and proposals

a. General principles on teaching and learning processes

The subject of landscape as defined by the European Landscape Convention provides many advantages for pupils’ education and is an important means for them to become familiar with the surroundings considered as their living space and to understand them. It should provide an opportunity for pupils to discover the role of each individual in his or her role as an inhabitant of the landscape surrounding them, as a guardian of its identity and its culture and as a protagonist aware of its future development.

Children, the citizens of tomorrow, should be able to develop the knowledge and understanding necessary to take care of this source and resource and understand the best ways to contribute to landscape protection, management and planning for present and future generations.

It is therefore necessary to gradually provide pupils with a basic knowledge of the landscape at all school levels in order to show them that the landscape is not just the visual aspect of a place, but a territorial entity where numerous natural and human factors interact. The landscape should consequently be studied in all its complexity through the developmental processes that modify it.

Educational methods should be primarily based on direct observation and on active participation involving pupils' research into, and discovery of, the landscape. School outings should be encouraged to enable pupils to understand, through direct observation, that the landscape means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.

Pupils at all levels of education should be offered educational opportunities in landscape-related themes adapted to their age and experience.

b. Proposals to public authorities for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention through the promotion of landscape education

The competent authorities should be invited to:

- introduce landscape education into primary and secondary school curricula to enable school pupils to acquire a knowledge of the landscape and an understanding of its values, features, importance and role with regard to the quality of people's living environment;
- to promote school teaching that involves activities which will foster understanding and knowledge of the landscape;
- to encourage school pupils to acquire knowledge and understanding not only of the landscape in which they live, but also of other landscapes with different characteristics and features;
- to encourage school pupils, as early as secondary school, to participate in and present proposals for projects and plans for the protection, management and planning of the landscape in which they live;
- to promote capacity-building training for teachers in order to develop their ability to transmit to school pupils the basic knowledge they need to understand the landscape.

II. Implementing landscape awareness through education

The competent authorities should be invited to promote landscape education, which is interdisciplinary by its very nature, in the framework of different school subjects at all levels and in all types of teaching, be it formal, non-formal or informal, considering the following provisions:

- encourage the setting up of educational departments in organisations responsible for landscape;
- organise workshops and training, both theoretical and practical, in which teachers could, wherever possible, involve professionals;
- set up a partnership for landscape education activities on an official basis between the relevant ministries, if possible within existing structures;
- encourage and facilitate initiatives taken by schools, landscape professionals and associations, in so far as they correspond to the definitions and goals of the European Landscape Convention;

- undertake assessment of landscape education activities or initiatives by the relevant ministries and/or partners, especially considering the educational results.

III. Documentation and material

The relevant authorities and ministries in each State should be encouraged to produce or commission teaching material relating to landscape if it does not exist already. It would be useful for landscape and education specialists to produce together a handbook of teaching methods that would be helpful to teachers in this particular field.

The most up-to-date information and communication technology should be available for landscape education activities. It would be useful to provide schools with materials and audiovisual equipment to help them develop and update their knowledge of landscapes.

Exchange of experience and a better multilateral dissemination of information on landscape education should be ensured through the European Landscape Convention Information System of the Council of Europe.

PART 2

COUNCIL OF EUROPE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS

Draft Recommendation CM/Rec(2015)... of the Committee of Ministers to member States on “Landscape Education Activities for Primary School”

(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on ... 2015 at the ... meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, under the terms of Article 15.b of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve greater unity between its members for the purpose of safeguarding and realising the ideals and principles which are their common heritage;

Having regard to the European Landscape Convention (ETS No. 176), adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 19 July 2000, opened to member States for signature in Florence on 20 October 2000 and entered into force on 1 March 2004;

Believing that the landscape is a key element of individual and social well-being and that its protection, management and planning entail rights and responsibilities for everyone;

Considering the aims of the European Landscape Convention and wishing to encourage its implementation;

Referring to Article 6.B of the European Landscape Convention on specific measures for training and education, which states that “Each Party undertakes to promote: ... school ... courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning”;

Recalling the principles laid out in CM/Rec(2008)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, regarding how school curricula should foster children’s awareness of and sensitivity to landscape;

Having regard to its Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on promoting landscape awareness through education which considers that one of the aims of education is to train young people and equip them with a set of skills necessary for citizenship and democracy;

Asserting that educational activities in the landscape field are an excellent way of giving meaning to the future;

Recommends that the governments of member States Parties to the Convention make the “Document on landscape education activities for primary school” as it appear in the Appendix to this recommendation, available as a source of inspiration;

The governments of member States Parties to the Convention are also invited to facilitate its dissemination and translation into other languages as appropriate.

Appendix to Recommendation CM/Rec(2015) ...

“Document on landscape education activities for primary school”

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1 Preamble

1.1 Presentation

The document “Landscape teaching activities for Primary Education” is developed as a teaching material for teachers of primary school, who work landscape in education. Based on the principles of the European Landscape Convention presents a series of activities applicable to any landscape and specifically aimed at elementary school students.

Content is distributed, besides in this preamble, in two distinct sections: one theoretical and the other practical.

The concept of landscape as a system and methodology for its study, on which this proposal is based, is presented in the theoretical section. It also contains a list of basic pedagogical guidelines for the implementation of the program that is proposed.

The practice section describes the programme of landscape that includes a series of activities distributed into five sections corresponding to the methodological stages referred to the study of landscape as a system.

The activities, of interdisciplinary nature, are described to follow all the same structure and have been experienced and evaluated for elementary education. The activities enhance the awareness of the landscape and allow a literacy of the landscape. The titles of the activities have been chosen in such a way that will be attractive to students of this age. Sometimes they are taken from already known games. Teachers can change these titles and adapt them to the local and linguistic peculiarities in each case.

Finally, the text is completed with a glossary, which defines the landscape science words or other technical terms.

1.2 Preliminary considerations

The first sign of approaching the concept of landscape, as we understand it today, is detected in ancient Rome (First century). The text of Petrarch “climbing Mont Ventoux” in the 14th century (1336) is considered the first document that shows an interest in a European landscape. He briefly describes what he sees and what he feels. But it was not until the 17th century when the concept Landscape is accepted. It emerges from the field of art, and from that moment the word appears in dictionaries.

In the 20th century the word landscape begins to be used extensively not only in various professional fields, but it becomes part of the everyday and colloquial language as well. One can speak of beautiful landscapes, scenery construction, political, cerebral landscapes...

In its beginnings the landscape was elitist because it was enjoyed only by some small groups of the society and landscapes were only considered some specific places. At the beginning of the 21st century, the European Landscape Convention democratizes the concept landscape and brings it to all citizens. Since then the territory becomes landscape. All we are born, live and die in one or some landscapes.

The European Landscape Convention defines “Landscape means an area, as perceived by people, and whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”. The fact that it is defined as a result of natural and/or human actions means to accept the dynamics of the landscape, which is tied to these actions change: day to night, seasonally, and above all in the course of the years.

The Convention is an international treaty, which is dedicated to the protection, management and planning of European landscapes. However, the protection, management and planning of the landscape is inevitably linked to the interests of the population or the prevailing cultural pattern in a determined historic moment and they depend on the dominant ideology and policies applied.

When we talk about recovering the European landscape, to what landscape do we refer? The landscape before or after the black plague, before or after the industrial revolution, before or after the world wars ... For example, in the Middle Ages after the epidemic of the black plague, the landscape changed dramatically. By reducing labour by big loss of the population the fields were abandoned and forest regained much of the territory. Therefore the landscape is dynamic and as it is a system with its interrelated elements, the modification of one of them affects the whole and therefore the landscape in itself.

Very often, notable changes in the landscape are now analysed in the light of present knowledge, which we didn't have previously. Last century industrialists' aims were not designed to contaminate water, soil and atmosphere to get the climate change. They just wanted basically "to produce". The ignorance that the landscape works as a system and for example, the dumping of certain products in the waters trigger a cluster of events that may affect not only near landscapes but other more distant and with long-term consequences. These facts lead us to present situations that endanger the landscapes as we know them.

For this reason, it is essential to deepen the knowledge of the landscape as a system so we can act on it properly, depending on the needs of the population. The ability to forecast developments in the application of regulations and policies for the management of the landscape will be essential to achieve the objectives demanded by the society.

Therefore, and for this reason, the concept of landscape and its knowledge must be present at all educational levels. The population has to participate and give the opinion being well informed about actions in the landscapes, because landscapes are people's life framework, sign of identity and generational patrimonial legacy. And as all types of heritages, they are in the hands of the present owner to improve them, maintain them or perhaps worst squander it.

We are all owners referring to landscape. We must democratically decide how we are going to act on our landscape. To take a decision on the matter, we should act with knowledge of the facts, and that is only achieved with real good information and knowledge.

However the final decision on the action in the landscape, as with any heritage, will depend on a number of factors: economical, social, and emotional. Sometimes we can strive to maintain an old house, whose economic value is little and very often costly, to keep it, because is the home of our ancestors and it we want to bequeath to our descendants. Emotional and cultural tradition factors prevail in this decision.

The same goes for landscapes, its maintenance can be costly at times, but we will defend them at any cost because we feel identified with them. The philosopher Ortega y Gasset said: "a man with no landscape is nothing".

On other occasions, and sometimes also by emotional issues, we want to get rid of a landscape that brings back bad memories and in that case we can abandon it carelessly or we can transform it completely. This illustrates that landscape is the result of many individual and also collective actions.

Economic factors are also crucial and sometimes a priority because they are necessary to meet the basic physiological needs of survival, which is the first stage of welfare. In this sense the exploitation of resources can significantly alter landscapes. Types of crops, deforestation, mining... Currently the

tourist exploitation changed dramatically many Mediterranean coastal areas with buildings in front of the coast causing serious ecological aggression and visual pollution and as a result damaging the landscape.

On the other hand the kind of society and key policies in every historical stage cause a style of construction in urban areas, a certain distribution of agricultural plots (large landed estate or small), deforestation, types of cultivation, road networks, centralized or not, to name a few of the many anthropogenic activities.

Especially technological and scientific advances allow travelling great distances in short periods of time and new technologies of communication approach us distant landscapes and, according to the interconnectivity, next landscapes become far away.

This facility of displacement also modifies our everyday landscape. Historically, in general, work and family life unfolded in a landscape. People would walk to work, the market and festive or religious activities that allowed the social relations. But currently we can live in a coastal landscape, work in a continental one and rest during the holidays in an exotic landscape. In this sense, what is our landscape? Probably all in which we operate, but emotionally we will surely be more linked to one of them, where we feel most identified, and with which we are going to get more involved.

Climate change challenges the weather forecasts and increasingly often weather events, more or less devastating but unpredictable years ago, put in extreme danger our landscapes. Some of them can recover, other must redo it again, and in that case it will require effort and the participation of all citizens.

Current technology allows a capacity of transformation of the landscape which was unimaginable a few decades ago. Because of this, in this era the Anthropocene, so called due to the high degree of change thanks to the technological artefacts, people can cross a sea by train, make disappear hills, turn deserts into orchards or vice versa, change the course of rivers and practice many modifications that dwarf the most daring futuristic predictions from a few decades ago.

This technological armed wing, now available to society, can accelerate changes in the landscape and favour or harm its dynamic. Hence appears the convenience of knowing its functioning to avoid losses that we may regret in the future.

Communication technology, on the other hand, brings closer to us distant landscapes and can show us only some visual aspects, sometimes spreading landscape stereotypes that rooted in the collective cultural heritage.

Video games, TV or films spread among young people images of virtual landscapes which can be completely fantastic or show more or less the reality, and if there are no criteria to discern the border between the real and the virtual, it can be accepted reality from what is not and lead to attitudes of rejection against the own reality.

Tourist enterprises and travel agencies, a business on the rise around the world, comes to create stereotypes of landscape of consumption. Using audiovisual technologies they sell clichés of landscapes, later tourists try to capture them with their cameras and modern communication technologies.

Tourist consumption of landscapes throughout Europe, because of its great cultural heritage, can transform in the long run some areas become in thematic parks. It may happen if only the priority to satisfy the needs of the visitors (economic factor) is considered. Then appear massive influx of tourists and favouring artificial frames to take “pictures” that instantly can be anywhere in the world. But it is necessary to take into account that the landscape is not only what you see in the foreground, but there

is also the back yard, and that the functioning of the landscape comprises not only the stage but all the background.

A characteristic of the European landscape is its variety and diversity by various natural and cultural conditions. From the landscapes of northern latitudes to the Mediterranean, from the clearly influenced by the ocean proximity to the far mainlanders. Wastelands, forests, tundra, bogs, xerophytic shrub lands, deserts, coasts, cliffs, lake areas, moors, steep forested foothills, rounded by erosion... The enumeration of different physiognomy landscapes could be tedious for extensive. If we also add cultural diversities the list is multiplied exponentially. For millennia the European continent has been visited, occupied, and has received the influences of more distant cultures. It can be said that Europe is a melting pot of cultures. Arab culture has left a deep imprint in the Mediterranean, the Asian in the East, the Celtic in the West and the Viking in the North to name a few. These cultures have intervened in the natural landscape in a way consistent with their idiosyncrasies and this has resulted in anthropic landscapes with peculiar characteristics, very particular and localised.

This great diversity of landscapes could create a landscape chaos with few elements in common, but is not so. There is a proper and indisputable peculiarity of the European landscape and is its high degree of anthropisation, intensity of occupation of the territory and temporary chronicity. We could say that Europe suffers a chronic human occupation.

Practically in any European area we find remains of previous civilisations. That is why heritage is inseparable from our landscapes. And although every country or nation presents its cultural differences with the neighbours, due to share a common history, in certain cases and areas, features in common are detected. For example as a result of feudalism there was a distribution of populations on the territory so from each population people could walk to work their lands in a day. Hence the distribution of towns and cities to respond to same patterns in different countries.

Landscape is understood according to the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe: “as an essential component of the framework of life of the populations, expression of the diversity of their common cultural and natural heritage, and basis of their identity”. It is also considered “essential element of individual and social well-being”. It is therefore essential to form part of the education of its citizens in all educational stages, formal as well as in non-formal and informal education, and during all stages of life. Generational exchanges between grandparents and grandchildren are highly productive and enriching to the interpretation of a landscape. Experience and historical knowledge of a few and the creativity and knowledge of others make the activity very rewarding for each other and very beneficial for the landscape in particular.

Any European citizen, regardless of their age, condition and training, should participate in intergenerational meetings and interdisciplinary interpretation of the landscape. In this way their involvement and acceptance of standards for the management, conservation and planning would be more positive.

More and more often, movements involving different agents and groups concerned by the accelerated transformation of the landscape are detected because of negative anthropic actions. Associations of landscape defence, politicians, entrepreneurs, technicians, teachers and other professionals associated with the landscape participate jointly and propose activities for rational planning of the territory.

The landscape is subject to protection, management and planning and it is evidenced the need to sensitive and educate the population about this topic. This will enable citizens to participate with criteria in discussions and queries that arise as a result of the frequent and striking activities in the territory.

1.3 Landscape in education

European landscapes are different. The organisation of the school and university institutions in the various states is also different and different are the methodologies and approaches that can be used for the understanding of the landscape.

This document proposes a methodology that can be used in different landscapes and can harmonise the pedagogical guidelines promoting exchanges and cooperation among various schools of primary, secondary education and in the university.

With regard to formal education, education of the landscape must start from kindergarten up to primary and secondary education schools, introducing concepts and strategies for the interpretation of the landscape according to different ages, and to be continued at the college level.

We will specify in this report a series of activities on landscape based on the methodology proposed, aimed at primary school as a first step to lay the foundations of knowledge and interpretation of the landscape, although the methodology is useful to any level of education.

The proposal of the “Landscape” program is intended to provide a basic methodology for knowledge of the landscape and some examples of specific activities for students of primary education

The goal is to provide the basic box of educational tools that allow us to understand the landscape, as defined in the European Landscape Convention. Later, and depending on the local specific premises and the achieving of knowledge, some necessary tools to go forward in the understanding of the landscape may be added.

The landscape itself is educationally an object of study and at the same time a resource that allows to be treated from the perspective of different subjects or disciplines.

The methodology is based on the idea of landscape as a system in which all its elements are interrelated, which allows to understand its dynamics and the importance of anthropogenic actions that are carried out on it. This holistic, global landscape interpretation is the best way to contribute to landscape protection, management and planning for present and future generations.

If landscape literacy is pretended, it should begin in the early formative stages. The conceptual bases are established and strengthened and increasing complexity in later educational stages as secondary or university. However the landscape education does not end at the end of the regulated studies but rather as citizens is convenient to maintain a non-formal or informal lifelong learning throughout life. We will live and will act in the landscapes and it is desired we will opine democratically on interventions that are to carry out in them.

“Landscape” programme facilitates educational resources for the knowledge of the own and near landscape. The paragraph “Report” invites to publicise it to other European pupils or of the world and at the same time to discover other European landscapes close or more distant, different, in which perhaps elements or common dynamics are identified.

Two cities may be different in physiognomy but as landscapes can operate in the same way, with its old town in the centre, its area of expansion, knots of communication and commercial or industrial periphery zones. Therefore these two seemingly different cities can apply similar development programs or conservation as their dynamic performance can be the same. This idea of landscape as a system can allow sharing management and planning and cooperation in projects and plans for the protection, management and planning of European landscapes.

Activities that arise for primary education can be in any European landscape, whatever their population's socio economical characteristics are. Each teacher can adapt them not only to age and knowledge of their students but to the nature of the landscape in question and to the teacher resources. If the section "Explore", as its name suggests, invites to go out and discover the near landscape mainly through the senses, "Classify" already requires to identify the elements and fluxes that characterise every landscape, while "Investigate" deeps more into the particularities of the elements and their interactions, and "Act" allows to reflect on the impact of actions on the landscape according to their dynamics. Finally "Report" requires an exercise in communication of the knowledge acquired on the own landscape and exchange with other students who live in other landscapes.

This education in the landscape "should provide an opportunity for pupils to discover the role of each individual in his or her role as an inhabitant of the landscape surrounding them, as a guardian of its identity and its culture and as a protagonist aware of its future development" (Appendix to Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)8).

The proposal of Landscape Programme does not make any references or specific material to be used since that every village, city and European State, especially those who ratified the European Landscape Convention, they currently have multiple resources.

In many countries there are already landscape atlases available for consultation via the Internet. Different regions have specific information (programmes, brochures, publications, audiovisuals...) on the landscapes of the area. Official and private environmental organisations publish information, studies and routes of their landscapes. Municipal, regional or national websites often also provide varied information about the features of its landscapes.

In primary the use of the mapping is still premature, at least in the early stages. After 10 years old, when the sense of abstraction is more developed, they may start using thematic, schematic maps, aerial photography, orthophoto maps, mostly for learning and become familiar in this two-dimensional representation of reality and place landscapes territorially. Currently vision 3D landscapes via the Internet provide us an easier approach, although sometimes more distorted from reality, but students learn to handle with relative ease. All this cartographic information even photographic information can be achieved in official cartographic services of each region or country.

It must not be forgotten the important information seniors may offer on landscapes and on their evolution along the time. They may have got written or photographic documentation as well as the important oral transmission. This relatively recent historical memory can provide much information on the dynamics of the landscapes. It is also very interesting the intergenerational relationship that can be set with the students who may have with certain ease of these valuable sources of information.

It would be of special interest that each State had a number of official resources on landscape that could offer to schools.

The development of this program can also provide much useful information to educational level. The different experiences that are carried out in primary schools can be collected and disseminated to share them, comment on them, and put them into practice with the corresponding adaptations in each place and thus increase knowledge about the educational practices in landscape.

2 Theoretical and methodological bases

2.1 The concept of landscape as a system

At the beginning of 20th century, the science recovers the Aristotelian idea that "the whole is more than the sum of its parts" and the concept of system is defined from the deterministic to the systemic paradigm, which implies establishing structures and dynamics and accept principles of uncertainty,

chaotic systems, indeterminacy and complexity.

In this new scientific context it is necessary to understand the interrelationships between elements and fluxes and learn how to predict the possible evolution of the landscape, which is not static but dynamic. Men are part of this environment as another element more. Not only are the natural elements taken into account but also the socio-economic and the cultural ones as well.

For the first time in the history of humanity, the technological advances that also allow a rapid transformation of the environment, offer to take consciousness of the capacity of transformation and at the same time also of conservation. Nowadays, more than domain to exploit, it is tried to relate, understand and preserve.

Following this revitalising power of science, the concept of landscape is also affected and defined scientifically as a portion of the Earth's surface, structured by the interrelations of its elements (abiotic, biotic and anthropic) which evolve into block, and its dynamics are due to anthropogenic and natural energies.

The landscape, understood as an open system, exchanges matter and energy with the outside. It can be studied from a theoretical model of landscape, the geosystem. Similarly to how the ecosystem studies the interrelationships between living beings that occupy a territory, the geosystem, as a reality model, is the landscape. Geosystem studies the interrelations between the elements and fluxes that shape this real landscape, located spatially and temporarily since “the landscape is not more than the geosystem in a given space and time” (M. de Bolòs, 2001).

The functioning and features of a landscape are not determined by the sum of the characteristics and properties of its elements and fluxes but it must be approached holistically, as a whole. Linear and reductionist methodologies are not enough. A systemic study is required, which foresees non-linearity, the complexity and therefore the emergent properties.

The landscape is not something static, it is in continuous evolution. Works or constructions of men once finished, start a process of degradation that requires constant maintenance and a considerable contribution of human energy. It is so because they have no ability to evolve naturally. Once finished, they no longer live, are dead. On the other hand a forest will suffer storms, fires and will change, but its adaptive capacity and the contribution of free and unavoidable natural energy will perhaps allow it to move towards other forms and dynamics, but it will continue its process.

The historical study of most of the European landscapes confirms this ability to innate regeneration of the landscapes. We can see how ancient cultivated areas are abandoned and the forest returns to occupy that space that already occupied previously. Climate change, pests, fire, clearing for farming, construction of terraces to fight erosion, occupation of peat bogs, marshy areas or wetlands, even from the sea, are happening in our territories. Generations follow each other, cultural traditions are adapted to the new times and the landscape continues to evolve recording this close and changing human species and environment relationship.

When we want to study the landscape, we must start from this idea of open system, but somehow we need to structure its study for a better understanding of the landscape and thus to intervene consciously and properly in its conservation, planning and management.

A practical way is to consider the elements that make the landscape by definition and the fluxes responsible for its dynamics.

2.1.1 Elements

The elements that structure the landscape can be classified first according to their natural or anthropic

origin. Within the natural elements also it will be distinguish the abiotic or lifeless elements and the biotic comprising all living beings. Anthropic elements include all those artefacts created by the human species.

Abiotic elements (natural elements, inert, without life): rocks and its erosion products (gravel, sand, silt,), water courses or standing water; depending on its scale, the relief is considered an abiotic element.

Biotic elements (living elements that are born, grow and die): vegetation and fauna.

Anthropic elements (everything created by humanity): built artefacts and several infrastructures (buildings, dams, communications, airports...) urban or not, mining, agriculture and farm, tourism...

Men become part of the anthropic elements because they do not live like any other animals, since men create and use artefacts. Farms, where animals don't live in a natural way, but with the help of a major anthropogenic contribution (constructions, stables, feed from farm, cleaning...) are also considered anthropic elements. The remnants of vivid elements (wood, leaves, shells, etc.) are not considered alive but inert, abiotic elements.

A landscape may be formed by the three groups of elements in similar proportions or with clear dominance of one or more groups. According to that there are from desert landscapes to forests or big cities, rural landscapes, urban landscapes, etc.

2.1.2 Fluxes

They continuously evolve as the man himself throughout life or society throughout history. The dynamic process that enables the change of scenery is determined by flows of different nature: matter, energy, money, information... Fluxes that change the dynamics of landscapes belong to two types: natural and anthropogenic.

Natural fluxes: They are those whose source is natural. The most important natural flux is received from the sun, which is assimilated through the photosynthetic process in the vegetation. This solar radiation also influences directly the climate processes. Climate as a manifesto of atmospheric circulation from weather changes, resulting in turn from the solar energy mainly, can also be considered a natural flow. Other natural fluxes are also considered: the gravitational (responsible mainly for erosive processes) and the energy coming from inside of the Earth which is manifest in volcanism and earthquakes leading to new geomorphologic formations.

Anthropogenic fluxes: They are those provided by humanity. They can be distinguished from manual work or mechanical work and the energy made from production processes, as well as the resulting from the exploitation of natural resources (hydroelectric power, natural gas, oil, biomass...). The economy and communication are types of fluxes that also influence the dynamics of the landscapes.

Changes in the landscape are determined by different possible combinations of fluxes. The anthropogenic and natural fluxes can act simultaneously or independently and with varying degrees of intensity. That is why the possibilities for changes are multiple.

Dominance or combination of the fluxes will define the type of functioning of the landscape. They are essential tools to establish landscape evolution forecasts.

2.2 Methodology: from the analysis to the diagnosis, prognosis and prevention

There are many methodologies that allow the study of the landscape. There is not a unique one, and they are not mutually exclusive, but rather all methodologies can be complementary.

The methodology we introduce below is intended to consider the landscape as an open system. It presents a series of phases: analysis, diagnosis, prognosis and prevention or synteresis.

This methodology is similar to that used in medical sciences. Landscape and human beings are equally open systems which interchange matter and energy with the external environment. The constant tension between order and chaos, in an open system, is called complexity and comes to be the result of two dynamic processes, on one hand the autopoietic need to preserve identity, focusing on the inside and on the other hand the vital need of change, grow, and focus on the outside. The interaction between these two trends marks the dynamics of the system, in this case of the landscape.

Taking into account the analogy with the medical sciences, the landscape comes to be the patient and physician the expert in landscape. First of all they face an exploration, recognition, an analysis of the different elements that compose the system, and this study will allow issuing diagnosis, or what is the same, to define the current state of the system. According to the dynamics of the system, a prediction of the future evolution of the system, a prognosis, can be made. And finally it can also be set a plan of prevention or synteresis to avoid unwanted consequences of certain actions on the landscape.

The stages of analysis and diagnosis allow us to know the landscape, its nature and its current dynamics. The prognosis and the synteresis are projected into the future and present different scenarios of evolution of the landscape, which are very interesting to take into account in the planning and management of the landscape.

2.2.1 Analysis and classification

First phase of the methodology of the study of landscape as a system is analysis. A landscape can be composed of multiple and diverse elements. The most significant ones, those whose influence is most relevant in the functioning of the landscape will be analysed.

Once the characteristics of a landscape are well known it can be classified. There are many types of classification, depending on the scale, and on the criteria that apply to the classification, which can be based on some specific objectives. Landscape can be classified with political, economic, social and cultural objectives, or according to the capacity of the landscape for a particular use. They can be classified by size, functionality, time scale and by the description of one or several of its elements.

The classification we propose and applicable in this educational proposal is based on the analysis of the structural elements of the landscape and in the study of the dynamics that generates the geosystem. Therefore it is based on the dominance of elements and fluxes.

This classification by dominance is applicable to any type of landscape and can be used at different spatial scales and in different geographic areas.

We can classify surfaces of 100 Km² or 10 Km². But keep in mind that a landscape according to the spatial scale at which we are working may present different qualifiers ranges. The characteristics of the landscape, if the scale is modified, are also altered, as well as its classification. It is important to learn how to work at a certain scale and define what elements we are going to consider.

To carry out this classification it must be taken into account three main premises:

1. Landscape is made up of three types of elements: abiotic, biotic and anthropic. The proportion of dominance among them, including its possible absence, can be different and depending on them we get the variety of existing landscapes.
2. Landscape is a system, so all the elements are interrelated and the modification of one of them affects the rest. Natural fluxes, and/or anthropogenic fluxes lead the dynamics. The dominant flux that keeps the landscape into operation confirms the previous classification from the dominance of

elements

3. The landscape evolves over time, responding to the entry, increase or liberation of different fluxes. Therefore the classification of the landscape is valid for a time T, since the landscape can evolve to time scale and change its position within the classification. This type of classification is also a dynamic classification.

Nomenclature basis of classification of the landscapes: Landscape elements are identified by uppercase, lowercase, and italics. The letters are F, f, *f* (for abiotic or physical elements), B, b, *b* (for biotic elements) and A, a, *a* (for the anthropic elements). Landscapes are classified with the association of the corresponding letters depending on the complexity with which the elements are presented in them.

Dominance degree of the elements: It is determined according to the letter font and order that the letter occupies. Range 1. Max (50 or >50%): capital letter. Example: F. Landscape with predominance of elements abiotic elements unit. It would be the case of a cliff or a bare rock mountain. 2nd rank. Intermediate (< 50 to 20%): lowercase letter. Example: Fb. Landscape with predominance of abiotic elements. Here the small letter indicates a secondary dominance of biotic elements. It would be the case of cliffs with some narrow land of forest, scrub or meadows. 3rd rank. Minimum (<20%): italics lowercase letters. Example: Fba. Landscape with predominance of abiotic elements. Here the lowercase italics letter indicates a small presence of anthropic elements. It could be a bare mountain, with some type of vegetation, and a country house.

2.2.2 Diagnosis

The result of the analysis allows establishing a diagnosis that is to define the state of the landscape. It is to describe its structure and functioning according to its elements and fluxes. We can distinguish two types of diagnosis:

- Descriptive diagnosis: it details the features of the landscape;
- Diagnosis of potentiality: defines the suitability or capacity of the landscape to host certain possible anthropic actions or activities.

2.2.3 Prognosis

This methodological phase presents the evolution and development of the landscape in accordance with its dynamic state and is directly related to the diagnosis since it provides the conditions of departure of the evolution of the landscape.

The forecast focuses on the study of the processes and conditions of the changes that are operated in the landscape, allowing to develop alternatives to evolution laid down according to the structure and dynamics of the studied landscape.

Forecast allows targeting current and future actions on the landscape. It may reduce the influence of natural disasters and the optimal use of natural resources. It also facilitates perform an optimal land-use planning, taking into account respect for the landscape and predict the secondary effects of anthropogenic actions.

The prognosis should be periodically reviewed since anthropogenic actions and needs may vary in a short space of time and in this case estimated expectations and trends forecasts also vary.

It is not intended to reach an optimal and stable landscape for a type of particular society; since the own culture and society evolve and the landscape with them. The forecast allows us to advance possible changes so that we can refocus the anthropogenic actions with criteria of respect and planetary sustainability.

2.2.4 Synteresis or prevention

It is the last phase of a comprehensive study of landscape. At this stage, in accordance with the established prognosis, it can be defined which management of landscape apply to avoid not desired potential impacts in the future and maintain the normal operation of landscape as a system. The basic objectives of the synteresis are the following:

1. Forecast future impacts;
2. Propose the proper management to avoid or mitigate predictable impacts according to the forecasted evolutionary trend of the landscape.

There are various methodological techniques for studies of synteresis but the most useful and employed are those of simulation using new technologies of information and communication, audiovisual multimedia which in turn feed the educational techniques and performances or shows.

2.3 Landscape in primary education

The European Landscape Convention makes specific reference to the need to raise awareness in the society and the commitment to promote training in all areas. It specifically advocates dealing with the values linked to the landscape and the issues arising from the protection, management and planning, from the relevant thematic areas.

This recognition has strengthened the educational landscape value since it implies to bring students to the study of socially relevant themes, which are also significant and participative themes at individual and collective levels.

Landscape conceptualised as a system in teaching, connects with the traditional study of the environment (the *Heimatkunde*) bringing new possibilities and advances by the comprehensiveness and complexity that implies, the methodologies that require and also because it is aimed at promoting participation.

The study of the landscape is integrated into education for citizenship as that brings knowledge and basic skills to reason and take position to face territorial problems, under sustainability criteria and common wellness.

The functional and structural character of formal thought that trains for the interpretation and prediction based on thorough knowledge of the reality is not developed until certain ages, when students arrive at the level of cognitive and moral development. This development allows taking the conceptual basis and the ethical projection which advocates the study of landscape.

In the process of evolutionary maturity of students act, in addition to chronological age, other factors to take into account when considering the different levels of learning. It is important that the great educational potential of the landscape be a joint purpose at all educational level. Objectives and activities are sequenced coherently from the earliest ages.

It is interesting to take advantage of the ability in the holistic understanding of elementary school pupils, to grasp the characteristics of the landscape as a whole. Later the methodology and structuring of knowledge in different subjects will determine global understanding. In upper stages mind can be prepared more for the analysis than for the synthesis.

At this stage, it is intended to provide the necessary tools to facilitate a literacy of the landscape. In the same way that children learn to read and understand simple texts, through this training, later they get the skills for reading, understanding and communication of more complex texts, the same can be

expected in landscape learning.

The language is innate. Spoken language evolves spontaneously. On the other hand verbal literacy, i.e. know how to read and write must be learnt through a progressive system. We first learn a system of symbols, abstract shapes that represent the letters of our alphabet and learn their combinations which are the words that represent the ideas and actions. The verbal literacy in a last step involves learning a common syntax which will allow reading and writing, expressing and understanding written information.

It is said about verbal and visual literacy. We can also speak of *a landscape literacy*. The landscape is seen, it is captured with all the senses, people live it innately. We learn to read the landscape, to act in the landscape, to write the landscape and to express, understand and communicate the landscape. This process of landscape literacy starts before even primary education. It is at this stage when the basic tools can be facilitated to acquire this literacy.

Children can realise the reality of their landscapes, perceive and learn to capture information and understand how they are also part of the landscape and the ability of our species to transform it. This process starts when children are 6 years old and they still own this global capacity. This is a basic educational objective at this stage. In this way, later, they can get deeper knowledge in different phases and in methodological techniques of knowledge of the landscape, when they are in secondary and higher education.

The technology and specifically the telecommunications have revolutionised everyday life and society. We have gone from mass culture to the network society and education is affected.

Before the rise of information and communication technologies, education was basically centralised and regulated by each nation, with programs and itineraries. Educational programs in general were rigid and based on instructions that were received passively by the student. Currently there are new trends and education is spreading with a reticular dispersion. Educational curricula are flexible and optional disciplines appear which are diversified and personalised. It is wanted interaction and participation of students with interactive and constructionist models and internationalised and globalised models, too.

This new approach and change trend requires interdisciplinary education. The landscape thus becomes an invaluable resource since its study and knowledge is essential to address this combination of subjects. The systemic complexity of the landscape requires applying holistic techniques with interaction and participation of the student and it requires also new open and interactive models that may be valid to a global level.

2.3.1 Landscape program proposal

The landscape programme, which is based on the methodology of the studies of landscape as a system, is presented with the aim of achieving a landscape literacy of the population and starting from the formal education at Primary level. The program establishes five sections of activities: explore, classify, investigate, act and report.

Activities, from perception to the analysis, classification, diagnosis, prognosis and synteresis are presented. They allow students and teachers to advance gradually in the understanding of the landscapes and the importance of landscapes as indicators of quality of life.

It should be noted that all the activities of this didactic proposal for primary pupils respond to a global proposal that should prevail in school for their full development and attainment of objectives and contents of the study of the landscape.

Being primary education, as it has been said, a key stage to lay the groundwork in the training of students, it is important that teachers share the model to avoid to undermine its globalism, so that the activities are not isolated from their purpose.

In educational practice, we consider the study of landscape as a project research on the territory from an interdisciplinary, communicative and emotional perspective. Therefore we must ensure the meaning of learning, through the assimilation of knowledge linked to near realities, and also through the generalisation of knowledge and their application to different situations as well.

This comprehensive proposal should be understood, as a whole, as a project of action research in an innovative concept intended to enhance problem solving. It is necessary learning how to read and interpret the landscape, predict its possible evolution and become aware of the importance of prevention to get land use alternatives depending on its potentiality and what is desirable. The motivation must be constant and be accompanied by those more subtle and useful learning strategies. This didactic proposal is established from the methodological sequence of landscape studies in the context of the scientific implementation, adaptable for each educational stage. In relation to the different phases, all procedures and relevant techniques that will materialise in different learning activities are highlighted.

Landscape study	Procedures	Techniques
Analysis	Perception	Intuitive
	Observation	Organoleptic (sensitive)
	Collection of information	Field work
	Treatment of data	Office work
Diagnosis	Interpretation of the information	Descriptions
	Issue conclusions	Graphic representation
	Problem identification	Numerical
	Impact detection	Communication
Prognosis	Prediction	Simulation
	Asking questions	Communication
	Develop answers	
Prevention	Elaboration of proposals	Creative
	Argumentation	Simulation
Synteresis	Debate	Communication

The majority of procedures and techniques can be recurrent and useful in several of the methodological stages, but they have been applied according to the relevance acquired in each case and therefore according to the need of promoting them.

For the analysis phase, it is important to foster the overall perception and lead to direct and indirect observation of the elements and the dynamic processes to understand the interrelationships and, progressively, reach its complexity.

It is not expected to reach a full knowledge of the network of relations established between the geo-ecological and the geo-economic structure of the landscape with elementary school students; however it can be strengthened the understanding of some basic interrelationships among biotic and abiotic elements, as well as the incidence of human action in the physical environment. Thus, the conceptual map that will be extended in upper stages will be forming.

The analysis of the landscape should also be directed to understand how and why the landscapes change. Direct observation of certain indicators in determined processes is feasible where they can be “seen” and deduce what happened in the landscape. It is also important to introduce the idea of continuity or its occasionality in some processes. The assimilation of these key ideas in primary education will facilitate later to understand the concepts of dynamics and evolution of the landscape in all its dimensions.

Next to the innate ability of students at this stage for the holistic vision that requires the study of the landscape, we should also seize the interest aroused in them both the detail and the grandeur of the phenomena. The curiosity to learn and discover, channelled properly, is the principle of interest in scientific research. In early ages the students are often great collectors of information, tireless explorers to search insatiable data. In the Primary education it is necessary to drive students towards meaningful and sufficient information for the analysis of landscape, which is at their reach and it is liable to be interpreted according to their cognitive level.

The assimilation of new knowledge from the proper interpretation of the information to define the diagnosis, must be ensured through the ability to formulate conclusions about how the landscape is studied.

Communicative competences are fundamental to the understanding and construction of knowledge. In this way, the oral and written expression or the use of arithmetic and geometric tools will be the key in the study of the landscape. We also know that graphic representation techniques are particularly relevant in relation to the description of the landscape reality.

Drawing as a means of expression has a decisive role in this stage. Elementary students develop the ability to be more objective in their creations and find a more faithful reproduction of reality. Therefore, they especially appreciate the more realistic works, and for example, they are really impressed by naturalistic drawing. This feature can be used for didactic use in relation to the importance of the detailed observation of the landscape and its scientific value in history.

At the primary stage we must limit the degree of abstraction of the maps, by not selecting the use of those maps containing too much information and a coded language too complex. On the other hand at this stage, it is important to initiate students into the possibilities of representation and how, by means of symbols and signs in a clear and simple manner, relevant information can be transmitted and make communication easier.

In the description of the landscape, we can initiate elementary students in the assessment of the suitability of the landscape (agricultural, extractive, urban development or conservation activities), to strengthen previous ideas that later can be useful to work the concept of potentiality.

We can also introduce the identification of certain environmental, ecological or aesthetic impacts about environmental degradation. Thus, we can act through guiding the reflection, without imposing preconceived or catastrophic visions, so that they reach to formulate their own opinions.

A complex but key phase in studies of landscape is the prognosis. The prediction in landscape requires an advanced knowledge of interrelations between elements as well as spatial temporal dimension of the process. In Primary education we can initiate the predictive approach posing simple questions which relate cause and effect, both of them over time and in specific situations.

With the teaching of the prognosis, adapted to the possibilities for primary school pupils, somehow it is embodied the value of prediction in scientific practice, and, as in research, this helps to know what it may occur in the future, and in this way to be able to act accordingly. In this sense, reflection must be directed not only to how the landscape will look like, but also how we wish it to be, to introduce to the students the importance of prevention.

Act to prevent, depending on certain values that integrate landscape quality objectives, is the great purpose of landscape studies. Educate students on the capacity to act to preserve or improve our landscape should be a common goal of society. The preparation of concrete proposals for action, its argumentation and debate, connect the study of landscape with the participation and citizenship education. Therefore it is recommended to start to primary school pupils in small, well delimited and concreted landscape dilemmas over which to opine and decide.

Both in the initiation to the prognosis as in synteresis (prevention) it will be useful to practise simulation techniques, which allow to “play” on a duly simplified reality to make feasible its understanding. That means to train students in practices to learn how to act, a participatory experimentation allowing them to assess acts and consequences. The intellectual mobilisation which contains the game and simulation will address decision-making, as well as its operativity.

From the study of specific cases close to the students, and therefore containing implied motivation, until the study of imaginary but credible well represented and tangible situations that arouse their interest, it will undoubtedly appear the need to consider different points of view.

At this point, the role-playing games will be useful to understand the diversity of opinions that concur to a given situation. We know that the ability of empathy unfolds once self-centeredness initial is overcome. The student becomes cooperative and is already able to understand and situate himself at the point of view of others when he is already located in the social world. Although primary school pupils have not got even the best features of the cognitive development in adolescence, we must consider already their possibilities to integrate the concept of common good in relation to the landscape, that is to say that they understand that to take care of the landscape is to take care of themselves throughout what landscape provides, both at the level of subsistence and enjoyment.

The innate and uninhibited creativity of primary school pupils will be a useful source of resources in these stages. Take advantage of it, launch it and promote it, as it can bring pleasant surprises to see how students offer imaginative and also logical solutions in relation to the management of the landscape.

2.3.2 Pedagogical guidelines

2.3.2.1 The role of the teachers: motivator and interdisciplinary

The European Landscape Convention strengthens the importance to take the landscape values into account in the processes of teaching and learning and its necessary social consideration. The study of the landscape can and should be incorporated into all phases of education taking into account the strategic role of the teachers in their proper development.

Learn to know the landscapes, their values and issues require processes of analysis and synthesis. Break down the landscape and unify it, to understand a complex reality, on which we must predict to act accordingly. Teachers are who must choose, sequence, and establish contents in a logical order to achieve its progressive integration.

Currently students not only have access to infinite information, but being immersed in media culture they constantly receive information processed under different points of view, as well. Therefore, more than ever, the role of teachers will be decisive to form ordered minds, develop skills to learn how to learn, as well as to integrate the ethical dimension in the study of the landscape.

Teachers should also consider feasible methodologies for the study of the landscape, which facilitate the organisation of knowledge, their assimilation and transference.

The proposal is structured on the basis of scientific methodology, and in turn it allows using diversity of techniques, which teachers can locate and combine according to their own pedagogical criteria. The traditional educational role of direct contact with the real landscape is revitalised and is complemented by the great potential of information and communication technologies, an especially useful tool in the study of the landscape.

To wake the interest by the landscape among primary school students requires also certain strategies of motivation, which shall be progressively strengthened. What is a landscape for them? A place far away and exotic? Their neighbourhood? A place they use to go in summer?...

To detect previous ideas in these ages, preconceived according to their own experiences, will be useful to initiate motivation. The near environment as a resource remains the action field key for the study of real and everyday landscape, where pupils can experience and act. Currently many students know from short ages other landscapes, because they have travelled with their families. Besides they also constantly receive images from different parts of the world, often manipulated images to create fictitious and unreal landscapes. In this context the ability of the teaching staff is crucial to evenly place the implicit spatial dimension of the landscape.

The debate between “the near” and “the far away” should be raised from its own relativity and through the motivation of students to the difference and the diversity of landscapes. Thus the model of concentric centres in the learning of the landscape has to have into account the sufficient degree of flexibility to adapt the stimuli that students receive from not everyday environments.

Curricular inclusion of the study of the landscape, at all educational stages, responds to the educational will to develop harmoniously the skills needed for the formation of a conscious, critical and responsible citizenship.

It may raise objectives and contents related to the landscape, from various curricular areas, and at the same time they contemplate the development of cross-disciplinary skills, being these communicative, methodological, and personal.

Each area can provide resources for the study of landscape, so it is important that teachers, getting to know all the possibilities, share a common project, especially feasible in primary studies given the lesser degree of subjects variety.

All the activities that arise in relation to the proposal connect with different subjects, so that they foster the coordinated work among different specialty teacher teams.

2.3.2.2 Work of student. Social projection and dissemination

The proposal has got the advantage to facilitate teachers to raise activities that foster both individual and collaborative work among students. In any case, it is important to consider the permeability between the teaching strategies that will decide different ways to proceed in the classroom. Essential teacher exhibitions can be optimized promoting self-learning activities as well as activities based on interaction and cooperation between equals.

The flexibility between individual, small or large group works, must respond to organisational purposes, according to the educational objectives of reference for each activity. It is important that students understand both the intrinsic value of the individual and the cooperation work. This is a basic characteristic in the scientific and technical development of the society.

The motivation and knowledge of the landscape which the students are integrating, no doubt, have a projection in their nearest family and social sphere. Students, especially in the primary ages are insistent transmitters of what it is considered important to defend. This role of the students in the processes of awareness of society towards the landscape may be helped through activities requiring the participation of family and friends, promoting their involvement and interest.

Explain our landscape, its values, its products... means for the students not only to get a high motivation, but also to consolidate knowledge and develop skills for the synthesis and for both: linguistic and artistic communication, as well.

The reciprocity of this exercise will mean receiving knowledge about other landscapes, about their own country, about Europe and, even, about other continents, facilitating comparison, identifying differences, similarities and singularities. In this sense, acquire special importance programs of mobility among students, which include the landscape in the working proposal.

2.3.3 Landscape Programme

Under the theoretical umbrella of landscape as a system, the program landscape as an instrument at the service of teachers and students of Primary education is born. That is in order to get a landscape literacy of the population, starting with the formal education in the stage of 6 to 11 years old.

Considering the methodological basis of the studies of landscape with its phases ranging from perception and analysis to the diagnosis, prognosis and prevention, five sequential sections in the program are set: explore, classify, investigate, act and report.

The programme is presented as a suggestive and useful tool that facilitates the knowledge of the landscape with all its complexity and globalism and allows practices aimed at the solution of problems, taking into account the forecast and prevention. Altogether the main pedagogical aims are:

- Localisation, distribution and recognition of the role of the elements of the landscape in the spatial organisation;
- Take into account the special consideration of the socio-cultural and economical aspects;
- The integrating vision of the interaction of all the elements that constitute the landscape;
- Understand the dynamics of phenomena in the explanation of the processes that occur in the landscape;
- Promote coherent transmission of experiences and learning by making use of various communication strategies.

The proposed activities in each section or methodological sequential block are suitable to be performed in any landscape, regardless of its functionality: natural, rural or urban. The activities allow to know, thanks to technologies of information and communication, from closer to the more distant

landscapes. Since the field work (direct contact with the landscape, sampling, data...) to the cabinet (photographs, engravings, maps, oral or written information, telematics...) students can make a dive in the real and/or virtual landscape. In general, activities can be done independently ones from the others.

Each block introduces a type of activities, which through determined procedures and educational techniques, pose an approach to some of the methodological stages – analysis, diagnosis, prognosis and synteresis or prevention – for the study of the landscape.

Block	Activities	Methodological stages
Explore	I can see ... Listen, who goes there? ... Touch something ... It smells like ... Tasting, tasting ... I feel ...	Perception and analysis
Classify	What's what Is it what it seems to be? The same but different Even more difficult Near or far	Analysis and diagnosis
Investigate	Growing and growing Remains Footprints What is first Who goes there? What is first The magic of a landscape	Analysis, diagnosis and dynamics
Act	Take care of your landscape You decide What do you think would happen if...?	Analysis, diagnosis, prognosis and prevention
Report	My landscape is like this Routes	Analysis, diagnosis, prognosis and prevention

	Our landscape	
	My landscape stickers	

Altogether the activities involve the achievement of specific contents from the different learning areas. They are applicable to different levels, from a fully interdisciplinary perspective. With the activities, the construction of global thinking by means of the integration and synthesis is addressed, because it trains for the action contributing to knowledge and basic skills and because it stimulates learning through individual and social projection in the own environment.

Although the program arises for the stage of primary school in formal education, all the activities are beyond strictly of the school ambit and can satisfy the interests of other groups and the non-formal education.

2.3.3.1 Explore with the senses

Explore is the block of activities aimed to understand the first aesthetic and emotional impressions on the landscape and discover that there is a great diversity of landscapes, some different but similar in colours and shapes, with similar or different smells and sounds and which vary during the day and at night, or during the seasons and cause us different sensations.

The first approximation to a landscape is given through the senses that are our agents of environmental information. We can capture colours, intensities, shapes, smells, sounds, feel cold, heat, humidity... thanks to our five senses.

The first experience of learning in a child takes place through the sense of touch. But this touch, hand information expands with the sense of smell, hearing, and taste, and finally with the sense of sight that quickly surpasses the other senses. The visual experience is basic to understand the environment and react to it.

Through the sensory organs (eyes, nose, ears, skin, tongue) we receive information from the environment. The perception is the interpretation that makes our brain of the received information from these organs. In this way an idea of the outside is formed by the brain. Therefore the organisation, interpretation, analysis and integration of stimuli, implies the activity not only of our sensory organs, but also of our brain.

In elementary school, children aged 7 to 11, have a less egocentric sense. They already present a new understanding (concept of grouping) of concrete objects that are those who have experienced with the senses. The imagined objects or those who they have not seen, heard or touched continue to be something mystical since at this age abstract thinking has not been developed.

This block is very important, since the information received through the senses at this stage, will have a special development in the whole of the proposed programme. Activities are based on to observe, to distinguish and differentiate the landscapes through its organoleptic characteristics. Later, in high school, students will have the chance to dig deeper into the landscape from the abstract thinking, therefore may reinforce and put more emphasis on activities of the other blocks.

Sight

The sense of sight is traditionally considered the sense par excellence. View requires little energy to operate and makes it to the speed of light. An infinite number of units of information are sent by the view to our brain in a fraction of a second. To see is to perceive objects by the action of light, so that you get information flowing through the sense of sight and the nervous system to the brain. Eye perceptual system transforms the bright sensations into electrical stimuli that are sent to the brain and

this in turn re-code them in visual images.

The word “image” presents three fundamental meanings: one in the field of neurology and optics, another in the field of visual productions obtained by technical means (photographs, maps, films...), and the third in the psychology (mental images, memories, imaginations).

In fact everything you see is images made by the eye and the brain. Perception is a function that allows us to receive, process and interpret the information that comes from the outside through the senses.

Perceive is an energetic activity, it is not only to see, but to look at, participate actively. But perception is not synonymous with sensation. A sensation is an experience that is lived from a stimulus. It is the clear answer to a fact grasped through the senses. A perception is the interpretation of a feeling. What is grasped by the senses takes on meaning and is classified in the brain. It is often said that the feeling is what precedes the perception. If the first is an intuitive and automatic process, the second is much more elaborate and rational.

According to our memories, the association of ideas and knowledge, we can have different perceptions of the same landscape. There are biological factors of perception, with which we are born, and others learned. For this reason the perception of our environment is modified throughout our life through the experiences.

The landscape can be understood as human perception of the territory and interpreted as the result of the interactions between the natural environment and different cultures. Then, the perception will be essential to enhance the awareness of society in what refers to the value of the landscape to promote the protection, management and planning of landscapes.

Through the view we can perceive different landscapes, their colour, morphological, differences of harmony or contrast, even its texture will be strengthened with the sense of touch, distinguish the elements that shape it, etc.

But if seeing is to perceive objects by the action of light, it is a passive activity, instead of this, to look at is apply the view to an object and this already requires an intention. Watching is to look at carefully. In the activities proposed in “Explore”, enhance the observation is the main objective. Learning to observe the landscape is the first step to then understand its operation and to decide on the actions we are going to be in it.

But perception is not only visual, there is the perception of sound that is the result of the psychological processes that take place in the central auditory system and allow you to interpret the received sounds. The theory of perception of Marshall McLuhan argues that the image needs to be reinforced by other senses since human perception has heavy dependence on visual perception and the sense of hearing needs from the sense of sight to confirm what hearing has perceived.

Hearing

Hearing means a complex process which begins in the ear, very sophisticated organ but physiologically well known, and ends in the brain where information is treated. The hearing is the human perception of sound qualities. And it is three-dimensional, we hear on the left, right, up and down. The brain uses the differences in sound intensity perceived between the pair of ears to infer the direction of each sound source and assign a spatial orientation.

Sound or combination of sounds that make up a specific environment, i.e. a sound environment, it is known as sound landscape (soundscape). These sounds provide data essential for survival and understanding of the environment in which we live. The auditory references provide us information of the spaces in which we live, situate us and inform us of possible dangers.

The sound of a locality, a landscape, gives us information and can describe it. Often we are so accustomed to hear that hardly we pay attention to it and it can go unnoticed. In general the dominant sound already gives us information on the type of landscape, traffic in urban landscapes, or the sound of animals, water, leaves moved by the wind, among others, in natural and rural landscapes.

Sight and hearing are senses that do not require physical contact, but an environment to work, light for the eye, air or water for sound. However, touch or taste need contact, skin and tongue, i.e. the body is directly involved and smell requires volatile olfactory stimuli, i.e. solids and liquids have to become gas. The taste and smell have been qualified as chemical senses, more subjective senses than objectives.

Touch

Touch is the sense of the perception of stimuli that include contact and pressure, the temperature and the pain. Its sensory organ is the skin. Perception heat as its absence (cold) is known as thermo perception. And there are thermo receptors in the skin which are quite different from homeostatic thermo receptors which provide the regulation of the internal temperature of the body. Tactile perception is a mental function that allows us to identify by touch different textures (smooth, rough, soft, sharp...) and define according to the pressure in soft or hard objects and their different degrees of hardness.

Through the touch we can obtain information from the environment in which we are involved, especially weather conditions (cold, heat, humidity, wind) and the characteristics of the elements making up the landscape. Rough and sharp leaves in plants living in dry climates with low humidity, smoothness and viscosity of elements that live in wetlands such as mosses, mushrooms and slugs...

Smell

The smell and taste are also senses called primitive because even single-celled organisms can find the chemicals they need to survive through smell.

The sense of smell for many species is one of the most important for survival. It is especially important in nightlife animals. Some animals have an extraordinary sense of smell, like many of our more common pets as dogs and cats. These beings are called macrosomatics. We are microsomatics, we don't have this sense so highly developed, although when foetus are 24 weeks old, they can absorb odours present in the amniotic fluid; this is the beginning of their sense of smell. Since their birth, babies establish connections and begin to form opinions through this sense and they are able to recognise by smell to others, especially his mother and their closest relatives.

Olfactory perception allows us to identify the different types of odours perceived through the sense of smell from its receiver, the nose, where are the olfactory neurons. In the brain, olfaction is processed by the olfactory system. We can identify through the sense of smell different landscapes and corroborate them with information received from other senses. The smell of humidity, wet earth, manure, gaseous pollutants, waste, food, etc., gives us clues of the landscape in which we are or we can evoke through smell. The olfactory memory brings back memories stored in the brain and evokes certain landscapes or situations. In Literature it is a classic example the character *Madeleine* of Proust in his book "In search of lost time".

Taste

Finally, along with the sense of smell, taste is another chemical sense. Taste receptor is the tongue in which are currently recipients of the 5 known tastes (sweet, salty, bitter, umami and acid). Gustatory perception helps us to differentiate these flavours carrying information to different brain areas.

Some researchers speak of a mouth sense that actually would combine, taste, smell, chemical sensitivity, temperature and touch.

We can see, hear, touch, smell landscapes, but can we savour them? We can actually test flavourfully some products that grow in landscapes and we can relate the gastronomy with the landscape, but not directly the taste with the landscape, unless we can symbolically set a landscape as sweet, salty, acid, bitter or umami. In any case the abstraction in this school stage is not yet possible, and in this case the flavour can be used to identify specific elements of a landscape. Fish in coastal areas, certain vegetables according to the season of the year, fruits of the forest, or fruit characteristics of the area. Flavours of different edible wild plants can be identified and they can be placed where anybody can find them.

Mind

The senses provide us with information through incentives in the form of electromagnetic waves. The brain transforms this waterfall of waves and creates a mental universe transforming reality, reformulating it. In this way, our world, the complexity and beauty of the landscapes is a result of this mental interpretation. Therefore, where is the border between real and virtual? It will be very important the reading and interpretation that we learn to do from the landscapes, in the first place through our senses. They are the first gateway of reality to our mind that is what sets us apart from other living beings.

Activities from “Explore”, as its name suggests, will allow to discover and capture impressions through the senses, and observe the main features of the landscape mainly from direct contact. With the sense of sight or hearing it can also be used audio-visual techniques in the classroom which would bring us more distant or inaccessible landscapes and so their characteristics can be compared, classified and discussed.

An explorer is a person who recognizes, examines and records data from one place to learn and discover about its nature. To know the landscape requires, sooner or later, direct contact with reality, which is the landscape, being that natural, rural or urban.

The use of the senses, the direct observation, and the field work make possible the reading and interpretation of the global and complex reality of landscape.

At this stage it may be interesting to learn about the preparative to do field work. Decide what to do during the excursion, what is necessary to take and what specific activities are to be performed.

Later, with the results of the direct exploration of the landscape, the information can be prepared so it can virtually reach other groups of elementary school pupils. In this way they may exchange experiences and knowledge of their landscapes. Acquire knowledge increases the chances of enjoying the landscape and appreciate it.

2.3.3.2 Classify by elements dominance

In this block, activities to sort and classify landscapes are introduced. In primary education and especially from age 10 years old, children can group the objects according to their properties and sort items according to the changing quality, through comparisons and quantifications.

If the section “Explore” enhances observation, in the section “Classify” observation is systematized. The result of the analysis of the landscape allows its classification, i.e. to know which elements and fluxes form it and keep it.

There are three main types of scientific concepts: classificatory, comparative and metric, ranging from

lesser to greater degree of precision. A classification is a collection of concepts that applied to certain set of objects divide them into groups. In a classification all individuals must belong to a group and no individual can be found in two groups. Classify is to order, arrange by group or class. Class is the order according to certain conditions or qualities of what is wanted to classify. Any landscape of the planet can be classified into different formed groups, when classification is done by dominance of elements and energies.

A landscape is a geosystem located in space and time. The landscape is the reality and the geosystem the model. The geosystem is a system on the surface of the Earth. A system is a set of interrelated elements that evolve over time. An element is a part of the set.

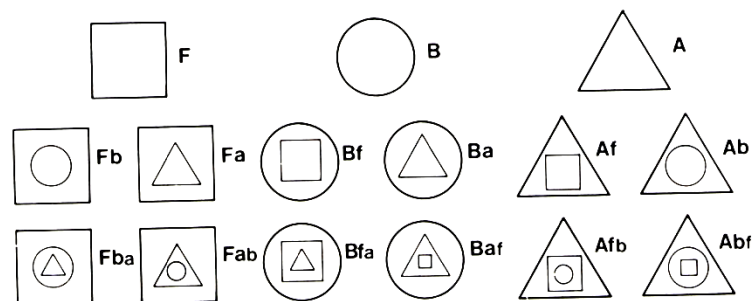
The elements of the landscape can be classified in abiotic (non-living), biotic (living) and anthropogenic (man-made). Fluxes (natural and anthropogenic) give the landscape its dynamic character i.e. that evolves over time.

In this infantile stage of primary education identification of elements and its description is a very good practice and children show predilection for it. Especially living things for which they feel a natural attraction. Passion for living or biophilia is acquired by children during outdoor exposure and seems to be presenting an innate component and another learned. Human beings feel an affinity for all living things, since our survival depends on the close connection with the environment, especially with plants and animals.

In our environment different landscapes can be distinguished. On the planet and at very far away, landscapes very similar to ours can be identified. The classification allows to compare the characteristics of the near and distant landscapes.

Landscapes can be classified under many criteria. One way to classify them is from the dominance of its elements and fluxes. There will be landscapes easy to classify because their dominance will be from elements of a single group (abiotic, biotic or anthropic). Other landscapes may contain two groups or all three elements. In this case it must be considered which group takes up more space, that is to say which group dominates spatially. Sometimes the presence of human fluxes can make us vary the dominance. For example in a field of fruit trees, dominate the biotic elements but the flux that keeps the field is anthropogenic, therefore dominance will be anthropic and biotic.

This classification of landscapes is represented by combining a few assigned symbols (see table of symbologies). The square figure is for the abiotic, the circle for the biotic and the triangle for the anthropic. When there is more than one element or flux, the dominant will be larger and the others will fit into the first in order of dominance.



According to ages the classification of landscapes maybe more complex. It will generally begin by the classification of clear dominance and can gradually develop increasing complexity.

Classify involves a prior visual reading of the location and distribution of the elements of the landscape that allows to interpret it and make a previous diagnosis that will require educational

techniques of descriptive type (types of elements and energies), also of representation (symbolism), numeric (space dominance, space occupation) and communication (express the result).

The classification of landscapes for dominance using the described symbolism develops capacities for analysis and diagnosis, two-phase key in the study of the landscape.

2.3.3.3 *Investigate through clues*

The body and the brain of the human species are designed to recognize the environment and find food and shelter, as well as to keep track of animals, and have got skills to find water and other food and thus survive in a given environment.

This block of activities is based on proposing a search to solve an enigma (question) or a problem brought up through clues. The innate ability of solving enigmas and finding clues to solve problems is what this proposal is based. Resolutions of the enigma turn information into knowledge.

Analyse and learn about the interrelationships of the elements in a landscape is the basis of a scientific work, which then allows to predict. To find the interrelationships between elements and solve problems that arise in a landscape is necessary to investigate, what it means to perform a series of intellectual and experimental activities to discover something that we were unaware or were ignorant of.

It may arise in the same stage or landscape, different riddles, problems or approaches to hypothesis. The different found tracks can lead us to discover the solution.

The activities of this block will present common characteristics:

- *The scene or landscape*, in which tracks or elements will be found to analyse such as rocks, plants, remains or traces of animals, artefacts (man-made), etc.;
- *The measuring instruments* that will allow us to analyse the tracks or will give us information about the state of the landscape. They will also allow us to solve the enigma. Some of the useful tools can be the compass, a measuring tape to determine distances or lengths, some simple reagents to identify and analyse, soil, rocks and water, magnifying glass to identify micro-organisms, plants details or artefacts, thermometer to determine different temperatures, etc.;
- *The file information*: documents which will inform us of the evolution of the landscape along a certain time (photographs or old drawings, documents, reports, records of climate, vegetation, news in newspapers, analysis, etc.).

Research can take place in diverse landscapes, from the old town of a big city, to the shore of a lake, a river, a cliff, a rural area with scattered population, a suburb of a city, a wasteland or a mountain slope with different vegetation, just to mention some examples.

If the working takes place in a large space, transects can be marked and students can be distributed in groups to obtain information that later will be contrasted. Participation in this block is important. There will be participation among the groups of students, with family, with people and with institutions that can provide information and opinions which may help to solve the enigma.

The importance of systematic and precision in sampling to get evidence of scientific value and clues to solve the problem will be revealed in this type of activity and will lay the foundations so in higher stages of school education can be developed into more complex levels.

This block of activities proposes, for primary school students, a closer to those methodologies that foster skills and abilities for scientific research, cultivating critical and curious minds. Therefore it is useful to initiate students in the approach of good questions that lead to research on the landscape, in

search and choose the relevant information to answer them as well as expose and argue conclusions.

2.3.3.4 Act on landscape

Once analysed, classified and investigated the interrelationships in the landscape, its evolution and present proposals for syneresis or prevention can be predicted.

This block of activities allows to understand the complexity of management and planning of the landscape.

The landscape is the result of the interaction of different elements and fluxes, including the anthropic elements and anthropogenic flux, which can have a considerable importance. The transformation of landscapes will often depend on our attitudes, hence acquire certain attitudes to the landscape will be fundamental to its development.

The attitude is the ability to play acts and achievements already known and often institutionalised. Hence the importance of acquiring attitudes that promotes the sustainability of the landscape.

At this stage students still do not have the capacity of abstraction required to fully simulate the multiple possibilities of creation of landscapes on the same territory. Planning, ordering and managing landscapes are a complex task and the prognosis evidence that interrelations of elements and fluxes should be bore in mind. During simulations, in a real or virtual game, the knowledge to plan a landscape under the criteria of sustainability and quality of life are synthesised.

At this student's age, it can be difficult to perform complex simulations, but causal relations can be organised and it is also possible to think concrete actions that can be performed on the landscape to maintain it or avoid consequences that could lead to its degradation or its negative sustainability. It is true that creativity at this age is an aptitude on the rise and is not yet driven or straitened. This ability of the mind into the world of new forms is the capacity of innovation and invention. In landscape management creativity is essential. In this block action plans can be proposed. These plans involve three types of skills:

- Heuristics skills: for to find solution;
- Strategic skills: apt for combining a set of decisions based on some aims;
- Inventive skills: suitable for new combinations.

Creative skills in this block are fundamental. Seeking new solutions for the sustainability of the landscape in front of a concrete action is the main objective of these activities, always considering the value of relationships and the importance of prediction. Educational techniques are based on the simulation, the creativity and the communication using procedures of prediction, debate and argumentation, approach to questions and preparation of proposals and responses.

2.3.3.5 Report experiences

The knowledge of the landscape produces information that can be transmitted using diverse expression systems, from oral, written, or artistic, until the new languages of communication. New information and communication technologies modify our perception of two fundamental territorial parameters in the history of mankind: the time and distance.

We can communicate at present at the same time bridging the gap. Internet makes video-conferencing, transmission of immediate information and puts us within reach, albeit virtually, distant landscapes. Modernity constitutes a new vision of space-time and the landscape is the geosystem model (interactions of elements and fluxes) applied to a particular time and space. These far away landscapes now become next, by their continued media presence, while the everyday and closest landscapes can

remain forgotten or ignored. This fact alters the classical notion of remoteness or proximity depending only on the distance. Landscapes will depend on other economic, political and social factors and especially of diffusion in the media.

This facility in the transmission of the information is useful to communicate. If the information is the message, the communication is the relationship. In this century the revolution is not the production and distribution of information through more or less sophisticated techniques, but revolution is the acceptance or rejection of the information by the increasingly heterogeneous receivers in terms of cultures and therefore to visions of the world. The challenge is not to transmit information but to obtain the communication, the relationship and the coexistence or living together.

To study a landscape it is not just about exchanging images of spectacular, every day or degraded landscapes, or sending a massive amount of data and descriptions about elements of the landscape. To deal with landscape is getting to share what we have in common and to learn to live with the differences and understand that the landscapes are heritage of all mankind and that we must learn to manage them peacefully organising coexistence if necessary from the negotiation which admits different points of view.

Report is nothing else than extend, publish, i.e. put within the reach of the public, a thing, which in this case that concerns us is the landscape. We want to make public our knowledge, perceptions and problems facing us, and we want to share it with those who live in this landscape but also with all whom that information can reach. The exchange and the matching will enrich our knowledge. And education in those processes linked to the acquisition of expressive and communicative capabilities must take into account new forms of communicative exchange mediated by the new languages of communication.

The activities of this section focus on learning to express and communicate information on the landscapes that we know and exchange this information in order to acquire capabilities for the discussion and debate and thus reach the solution to certain dilemmas that may occur in the landscape. In this block of activities, especially descriptive, graphic representation, creative techniques, simulation and communication will be developed. Different media: oral, written, artistic expression and new information and communication technologies can be used. Some of them do not exclude others and the synergy among them to achieve effective communication is required.

To carry out a good communication is essential to understand the importance of the receiver, who should get the message that is the information we want to communicate. In general people are not interested in medicine, but they are interested in their health. Neither they are interested in design, but in some products of design, and they are not interested in the science of landscape but in a landscape that provides quality of life. Each culture will assess conditions in the landscape which will identify with the quality of life. And if the landscape provides quality of life, that landscape will be well appreciated and therefore civil society will be interested in participating in the decisions related to the landscape. In this sense education is essential to foster a suitable awareness by making reference to the values of the landscape.

3 Landscape activities

3.1 Presentation of landscape activities files

A series of activities has been designed for primary education which is adapted to the different methodological stages of the study of landscape, understood as an open system, which can be applied to any landscape.

The presentation of the activities follows a very practical model in which a set of identical sections are distinguished for all activities and in which the most useful information for the teacher stands out clearly.

First of all, the activity is described in one, or maximum two, lines. Then the block (there are five different blocks) of corresponding activities is described in detail.

Following that, the objectives of each activity are briefly defined and put in order the subjects according to the most significant. The subjects that appear first of the list are the most suitable.

The item “Where” tells us where the best place to do the activity is, and “When” refers to the time of year or the most suitable season.

The dynamics of the activity is explained in the item “How”. They are always just suggestions which the teachers can assess and adapt depending on their pupils, the school curriculum, the local landscape and so on.

“Who with” refers to the most suitable age and school year group for the activity and it may specify if it is better for groups or pupils working on their own. The “Length” gives the approximate time the activity will take.

The item “What do you need?” indicates the material that is required to carry out the activity. It is just a guide, and in no way complete, so it is the teacher who can decide exactly how to carry out the activity. Therefore, depending on the age of the pupils, the availability of equipment at the school and other circumstantial factors, the teacher can decide exactly what material is required.

Finally, some key concepts and basic contents to bear in mind for each activity are highlighted in a box. The contents, objectives and didactic approach are described in more detail in the next chapter for each of the five blocks of activities.

3.2 Explore activities

In this block the proposed activities involve a close approach to the landscape through the senses and respond to the methodological stage of the study of the perception and analysis of the landscape. In Primary education this practice of sensory perception is more appropriate and for this reason there are more activities in this block:

- I can see
- Listen, who goes there?
- Touch something
- It smells like
- Tasting, tasting
- I feel...

3.2.1 Contents, objectives and didactic orientations

Contents

- Use of visual stimuli as preferred in a first approximation to the knowledge of the landscape: the initial perception of the whole.
- Selective observation of significant aspects: features, proportions and distributions of the elements of the landscape.
- Sensorial initiation to the composition, dynamism and complexity of the landscape: visual appreciation of colours, shapes and changes.
- Sensorial potentiating of hearing, smell, touch and taste, in relation to the perception and knowledge of the landscape.
- Recognition of landscape types and combinations: natural, rural and urban. Aesthetics valuation of the landscape in relation to attitudes of conservation and protection.

- Understanding the landscape as our surroundings.
- Analysis of the emotional response that causes each landscape and its impact on the construction of individual and collective attitudes.

Objectives

- Encourage the habit of observation.
- Raise awareness towards beauty, harmony and the functionality of the landscape.
- Stimulate the visual retentive of shapes, colours and structure of landscape composition.
- Consider the observation of shapes and colours of the landscape under different conditions.
- Detect the accumulation of information that provide images of landscape.
- Discern visual effects provided by each group of elements to the physiognomic landscape.
- Become aware of the importance of the senses of hearing, smell, touch and taste, in the perception of landscapes and the type of information that we can provide.
- Sense and define emotions and feelings in face of the landscape.

Didactic orientations

The sensory exploration of the landscape is an endless source of activities, which may be especially motivating if they are properly organised and expectations are in accordance with the possibilities. In this sense it is recommended:

- Manage and balance the use of material in the classroom (photographs and previously selected objects) with experiences in the real landscape, to start intellectual mobilisation which requires observation and perception.
- Link experiments that have been done in the classroom (see, hear, touch...) with those that will be made in the real landscape, where it can be more difficult to practice all the sensations. So excursions should be prepared strategically, to ensure a minimum of results.
- Provide the minimum time required for each student individually and freely so they can develop their perceptual responses. Teamwork will be raised from contributions from each student, so that results are enriching, but not coerced by the individual expression.
- Take advantage of the activities to work the artistic expression of the landscape. The landscape as a source of inspiration can be and should be related to plastic, musical and literary education. Promote and channel the creativity and artistic sensibility of primary school pupils, is gratifying and especially useful for the study of the landscape.

3.2.2 I can see

An activity to identify landscapes through colour and shape. Section: *Explore*.

Objectives

To discover information about the characteristics of landscape, and thus the landscape itself, that the sense of sight can provide us with.

Subjects

Language, Art, Science, Geography and History and Mathematics.

Where

The activity may take place in the classroom or outside.

When

It may be carried out in the classroom at any time. If carried out outside, it should include a route in which different landscapes may be identified and in which the visual information is relevant to its identification. The time of day may be very important for the contrast of light which can alter the perception of colours and shapes.

How

In the classroom: a series of pictures of landscapes are shown in which certain colours dominate (there may be landscapes with shades of green, ochre and grey etc.). The pictures may be found by pupils on the internet, in magazines or they may be photos that they have taken themselves. It's all about seeing how landscapes with the same range of colours may be very different. A landscape in which grey is the dominant colour may be totally abiotic or anthropogenic, although in general, landscapes in which green is the dominant colour tend to be biotic. There may also be anthropogenic landscapes with this dominance of colour. The same process can be followed with shapes as with colour. Landscapes which are predominantly natural or anthropic may present very different, or at times, similar shapes. In general, curved shapes are more usual in natural landscapes and sharp and geometrical ones in anthropic landscapes. However, sometimes they feature interesting similarities. If the activity is done outside, the places where the identification of the landscapes is made through colour should be well defined. The influence of light will be important to distinguish how it changes the intensity of colour and how the tones of colour of a landscape vary on a cloudy day compared with a sunny day. With regard to shapes, observation points in the landscape should be found, in general elevated points which allow a variety of shapes to be made out: the geometry of fields, a street plan of a town, or a Versailles-type garden, the round shapes of lakes, wooded areas, etc.

‡ *Who with*

Pupils from 6 to 11 years old. Pupils work on their own. The discussion is in groups.

⌚ *Length*

From 20 to 60 or 120 minutes, depending on age, and whether the activity takes place in the classroom or outside. It also depends on whether just colour, or both colour and shapes are being worked on.

📁 *What do you need?*

In the classroom: a selection of pictures (from 15 to 30 or more) to contrast colours and forms. Outside: well-chosen observation points. Crayons to reproduce the landscape's dominant tones of colour and the forms discovered. Computers may also be used.

Key concepts

Sight is our most dominant sense, but at times the first aesthetic impression may hide very different natural aspects of the landscape. The colour and its distinctive tones, as well as the forms of the landscapes, is what the sense of sight allows us to perceive and analyse. Sight allows us to sense that there are landscapes with structures and different dynamics which help us discover more things.



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3.2.3 Listen, who goes there?

An activity to identify landscapes through sound. Section: *Explore*.

Objectives

To discover information about landscapes through the sense of hearing.

Subjects

Language, Art, Science and Geography and History.

Where

In the countryside/landscape itself. It may also take place in the classroom with a recording of the sounds which come from different settings.

When

If carried out outside, it should include a route in which different landscapes with corresponding sounds may be identified. The time of day may be very important to catch a wider range of different sounds. It may be carried out in the classroom at any time.

How

In the classroom: pupils listen to a recording of sounds from a variety of landscapes. They may be recorded by pupils or downloaded from the internet. Pupils may then also play around with a sound of a landscape at home or present landscapes with sounds that do not correspond to that landscape. For example, a train station where you can only hear birds and the mooing of cows. Outside: find points on a route where it is easy to identify landscapes by listening. The time of day will allow you to catch different sounds according to some landscapes. Animals might make sounds at specific times of the day or more loudly depending on the moment of the day or season. For example, the croaking of frogs at the end of the day and during the warmest seasons, the buzz of mosquitoes at dusk, the tweeting of

birds first thing in the morning, the sound of waves, the water of a torrent, the wind in the trees... Or in urban areas, the sound of heavy traffic at rush-hour or in certain streets, the murmur of people in shopping centres or markets, the arrival of trains at a station or planes at an airport... To identify sounds in the chosen places, the children either close their eyes or are blindfolded. In silence they count the different sounds they identify, putting up a finger to count each sound as they hear it. Then they try to remember and define the sounds. This will be the soundscape of this landscape. You can also make a recording of a soundscape from which the pupils can try and identify the landscape. They can also draw a picture. The youngest children usually draw the person or the thing that makes the sound. They find the abstract more difficult, but you can help them realise that the bird is probably on a branch of a tree or that the train is in a station where people are waiting, and so on.

‡ *Who with*

Pupils from 6 to 11 years old. Pupils work on their own. If soundscapes are prepared, they may be done in groups.

🕒 *Length*

From 20 to 60 minutes, depending on age, and whether the activity takes place in the classroom or outside. It also depends on whether just the identification of sounds is being worked on or if soundscapes are prepared.

📁 *What do you need?*

In the classroom: recordings of sounds of different landscapes and pictures related, or not related, to these landscapes. Outside: well-chosen listening spots. Pencils and paper to note down the different sounds which are heard and to draw a picture of the landscape the sound suggests.

Key Concepts

Hearing gives us information about landscapes and the landscapes are described through hearing. To listen carefully and catch the sounds, it is necessary to concentrate hard to avoid being distracted by other senses.

Soundscape is the combination of sounds that define a sound environment or a sound landscape.

Each landscape has its own corresponding soundscape.

In general, the main sound of a soundscape defines the function of the landscape: urban, rural or natural.



3.2.4 Touch something...

An individual activity to identify elements through touch. Section: *Explore*.

Objectives

To discover information about the characteristics of landscape, and the landscape itself, through the sense of touch.

Subjects

Science, Language and Art.

Where

In the classroom or outside.

When

It may be carried out in the classroom at any time. If carried out outside, it should include a route in which different landscapes may be identified and in which the tactile information is relevant. The time of day may be very important to discover humidity, warmth and other characteristics through thermo receptors.

How

In the classroom: prepare some opaque boxes in which the pupils put their hands and touch the objects they find inside. It is useful to use cardboard boxes and make holes in them. Then attach an old sock with the foot cut off it to the box with drawing pins. In this way they can put their hands inside and feel around without seeing what's inside the box. Some pupils may feel reluctant to put their hand inside a box where they cannot see what's inside. In this case do not force them to do the activity. Put things in the boxes (5 or 6 of them) which make us think of the landscape in question. For example, we associate a pinecone with a pine forest, moss with a damp wood, gravel with a path or wasteland, sand or shells with a beach, etc. In general, natural elements are the easiest things to relate. If the activity is carried out outside, you should find spots where the identification of heat or damp are sufficiently contrasted to be able to distinguish them. The bark of trees, smooth and rough leaves, spikes or spines, sharp or smooth stones etc. may also be identified. The identification of different tree bark may be done in pairs: one pupil blindfolds the other and takes him/her to the trees that they are going to identify. Then they change roles. After that, they should also visually identify the pulped trees, checking them through touch. There are endless touching games that can be played outside. It is important that at the end of this activity, which is great fun for children, it is redirected in order to relate the identified elements and sensations to the landscapes in which these elements may be found.

Who with

Pupils from 6 to 12 years old. Pupils work on their own or in pairs. The discussion is in groups and the 'feely boxes' may also be made in groups.

Length

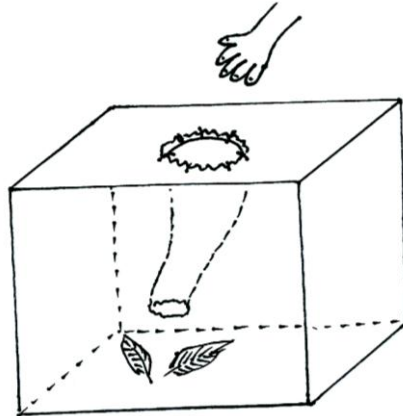
From 25 to 60 minutes, depending on age, and whether the activity takes place in the classroom or outside. It may also be started outside and then completed in the classroom with the identification boxes and the elements that the pupils have collected from outside. They can collect things in groups of 5 for the other pupils to identify in the boxes.

What do you need?

Opaque boxes which pupils can put their hands into to identify objects. They may be prepared by the pupils. Outside: scarves to blindfold the pupils. Opaque bags to collect samples. A field notebook to take notes.

Key concepts

Touch is one of the most basic senses and requires physical contact. It allows us to acquire information about a landscape by identifying atmospheric conditions (damp, we get wet, we get hot...) and different elements. Sharp leaves or thorns allow us to identify plants peculiar to dry landscapes, while in humid areas, the elements present softer and more slippery surfaces (moss, water, slime...).



R. Pena Vila

3.2.5 It smells like

An activity to identify elements through smell. Section: *Explore*.

Objectives

To discover information about landscapes through the sense of smell.

Subjects

Language, Art, Science and Geography and History.

Where

In the landscapes themselves. It is more complicated in the classroom. However, the final conclusions may be made in the classroom altogether.

When

If carried out outside, it should include a route in which different landscapes can be identified according to the different smells. The time of day may be very important to get more range and/or intensity of smells.

How

A route is followed on which different smells may be distinguished. Some will be easy to identify and detect due to their intensity (manure, chemical industrial products, rubbish, food in restaurant areas, fish on the coast...); we need to get closer to other elements to catch their smell (flowers, earth, stones, man-made materials...). In the latter, we approach with our noses to catch the smells as do pets (dogs and cats), which have a more developed sense of smell. The children try to describe the smell, saying whether they like it or not and in general compare it with a familiar smell. They can also ascertain that we sometimes smell something in a landscape that has nothing to do with the place where the smell originally comes from: for example, we could be in a forest and smell the pollution from industry. We often smell, but do not see, where the smell comes from in as much as we catch it from the volatile compounds. For this reason, when we heat up food, we can smell it more as heat volatilises certain substances which are what we smell and when it is hot, smells are also stronger. If we do not like a smell, it will influence our perception of the landscape. The olfactory memory is important and in general we associate a smell with a landscape or situation. In the classroom you may like to discuss which smells we would like to change and if it would be possible to change them or not. Also if the landscape would change and if we would like it more or less. You could also see how landscapes which are aesthetically pleasing become less attractive when our sense of smell detects unpleasant smells. You can mark on the route which places in the landscape the pupils like the smell best or worst.

👤 *Who with*

Pupils from 6 to 11 years old. Pupils work individually. Later on, in the classroom, you may discuss the collective experience altogether and try to find solutions to the landscapes whose smells we like least.

🕒 *Length*

From 30 to 60 minutes, depending on age and route.

📁 *What do you need?*

Outside: a plan of the route with well chosen 'smelling points'. Pen and paper to note down the smells and the sensations they bring out in us. In the classroom: crayons and a plan of the route to be followed which can be completed with coloured markings according to the area of the influence of smell.

Key concepts

Smell provides us with information about landscapes. Sometimes, however, due to atmospheric conditions we may detect smells in a landscape which come from elsewhere. Smell will favourably, or unfavourably, influence our perception of a landscape.



R. Pena Vila



3.2.6 Tasting, tasting...

An activity to identify elements which are characteristic of a certain landscape through the sense of taste. Section: *Explore*

Objectives

To discover information about certain elements of landscapes through the sense of taste. To get to know gastronomy as an expression of a culture which uses products which are characteristic of specific landscapes.

Subjects

Geography and History, Science, Language.

📍 *Where*

In the classroom. It may also be carried out in the landscapes themselves.

📅 *When*

At any time of day in the classroom. If outside, preferably in the morning.

🏠 *How*

They will try food from local landscapes, either nearby or far away. The food item may be a natural product (an apple, a carrot, a medicinal plant as an herbal tea...) or prepared food (cooked dishes made with certain products). If there are children from different backgrounds and cultures in the class, they can bring in a typical dish and explain how it is made and in which landscape the ingredients of this type of meal are found. They may also describe food from a place they have been to, on holiday for example or simply local food and relate vegetables to market gardens or green houses, fish to the sea, red fruits to more mountainous regions, meat to stabled or organic farms, fruit to fruit farming, bread and pasta to cereal fields, etc. In this way they define different nearby and far-off landscapes. They can also prepare food with very different flavours. The children try the different foods with their eyes blindfolded and they should try and identify them. For this game, it is better to try raw foods or to put chunks of food that does not drip on sticks (nuts, a piece of apple, banana or other fruits, a piece of cheese, some bread, pasta...) Then they should associate the food with a kind of landscape. If the latter is unknown, prepare some pictures that correspond to the food being identified. At certain times of year, you can set up a route which includes different landscapes which produce food. They try a different kind of food at each point on the route (fruit from an orchard, cereal from the fields, vegetables from a market garden and a product made in urban areas...). They can link the taste with the landscape. It may happen that they really like the food, but not the place where it comes from, or vice versa. They will appreciate how important it is to maintain landscapes which produce food.

👤 *Who with*

Pupils from 6 to 11 years old. Pupils work individually; each child should try the different flavours. However, if dishes are prepared, this may be done in groups and the final comments may be made altogether.

🕒 *Length*

From 20 to 60 minutes, depending on age and whether the activity is done in the classroom or outside.

📁 *What do you need?*

In the classroom: different foods laid out on trays. Blindfolds to cover the eyes. Pictures of landscapes related to the food being tried.

Key concepts

Taste is a sense that requires direct contact, it is a chemical sense.

The perception of taste is very personal. One item of food may appeal to some people but not others. Linking the foods tasted with the landscapes that produce them, not only creates a bond between them, but also an interest in them.

The preparation of dishes made of local products is one of the cultural results of anthropic territorial work and is also part of cultural and landscape heritage. The production of wine, oil, smoked salmon, pasta and all kinds of more elaborate dishes and typical dishes of certain places and cultures is linked to specific landscapes which have characteristics which result from this production of food.



M. T. Bovet Pla; R. Pena Vila

3.2.7 I feel...

An activity to discover the feeling that a landscape creates. Section: *Exploring*.

Objectives

To discover the feeling or feelings created by a landscape and how this perception is very personal.

Subjects

Language and Art.

Where

In the classroom or outside.

When

At any time of day in the classroom. Outside: it should include a route on which different landscapes which bring out a variety of feelings may be identified. The time of day may influence the perception of the landscape and for that reason this should be taken into account depending on the type of route that is organised.

How

In the classroom: show a series of pictures of different nearby or far-off landscapes (projected on a screen). While looking at the landscape, each pupil tries to identify the feeling it evokes in them. They can then discuss altogether to see that the same landscape does not bring out the same feeling in everyone. The children have to try to explain why this feeling has been brought out in them. Number the landscapes to be projected on a piece of paper (8-15 depending on the age) and the pupils can draw a symbol representing their feeling next to each number. You can give them the symbols or the pupils may design one for each emotion, in the style of emoticons. At these ages, the following emotions are put forward: peace, fear, boredom, sadness, happiness, indifference. Outside: the students, on a simple map of the tour including stops mark the symbol corresponding to the emotion felt towards this landscape. The immersion is more complete during the tour and all the senses will play a big role (smell, hearing ...). It is possible that if the images of these break-points are shown previously, the feeling may differ from when they identify them on-site. It is important that this activity is conducted in silence so that individual perception may be concentrated on.

Who with

Pupils from 6 to 12 years old. Pupils work individually although the discussion will be in one group and the creation of the symbols for the feelings, if carried, may also be done in a group.

Length

From 20 to 45 minutes, depending on age and whether the activity is done in the classroom or outside. It may also take place outside and then be completed with the discussion in the classroom.

What do you need?

Photographic images of landscapes or a real route through different landscapes which may be nearby (it could be the street where the school is located or different streets, the park, a square, the river bank etc.). A pencil and a piece of paper.

Key concepts

Perceiving the emotions which individual landscapes bring out, gives us guidelines for analysis beginning with selection and comparison.

Tranquillity *Fear* *Sadness* *Boredom* *Happiness* *Indifference*



3.3 Classify activities

Classify activities allow to pass from observation to classification. They are based on a type of classification by dominance of elements and fluxes and facilitate to capture the diversity of the landscapes and their functioning. Activities from the simplest to the most complex are:

- What's what?
- Is it what it seems to be?
- The same but different.
- Even more difficult.
- Near or far.

3.3.1 Contents, objectives and didactic orientations

Contents

- Use of indirect observation in the reading and analysis of the landscape: presence and distribution of the elements that compose it.
- Distinguishing components of the physical environment and human interventions in the landscape.
- Elaboration of interpretative synthesis about the structure and dynamics of natural and humanised landscapes.
- Estimation of heterogeneity and diversity of natural landscapes and the forms of occupation of rural and urban land.
- Use of neat and logical sequences in the observation of the landscape and application of criteria of classification.
- Use of symbols to express the results of the classification: proportionality and combinatory of flat geometric representations.

Objectives

- Identify the elements that make up a landscape and their interrelations.
- Define the location and extension of the elements in a limited landscape.
- Exercise the estimation of proportions and combinations in a represented space.
- Understanding the value of the scale in the space representations.
- Use recognised criteria for the management and classification of landscapes.
- Describe the structure and operation of the landscapes, comparing similarities and differences.
- Value the local, the European and the world landscape diversity and the impact of human activity on the natural environment.

Didactic orientations

Playing to classify landscapes, according to the dominance of groups of elements, means to enhance the observation of landscape in a methodical way to look at those aspects which provide us with meaningful information. In relation to activities we recommend:

- Do the activities according to the order they are presented, since they contain a progressive complexity in terms of concepts. First of all pupils have to know to distinguish abiotic, biotic and

anthropic elements. Then deal with fluxes of functioning and finally to introduce the idea of the scale of observation used.

- Although the activities are simple and students can play with them without difficulty, teachers should help presenting landscapes in a logical order, first with a group of clear dominance elements (desert, forest, city), later combining two dominance groups and finally different levels of combinations.
- It must be kept in mind that certain abiotic elements (lithologic and soil) may not dominate visually but always exist in the landscape. Initially one can speak of what we see and what is hidden, since the game is based on learning to read what every landscape shows us.
- Given that the intrinsic complexity of each landscape is evident in its appearance, some landscapes will be easier to interpret than others. Sometimes near real landscapes of the students can be the “difficult” ones to interpret. In any case, the work group is basic in this block of activities to enrich the conclusions.

3.3.2 What’s what?

An individual or group activity to classify the elements of a landscape. Section: *Classify*

Objectives

To learn how to differentiate and identify the different elements (abiotic, biotic and anthropic) that make up a landscape.

Subjects

Science, Language, Mathematics and Art.

Where

In the classroom or outside.

When

At any time of day in the classroom. If outside, preferably in the morning and during year seasons when the widest range of elements may be identified.

How

In the classroom: show a picture of a landscape in which the greatest number of different elements are visible, and if possible, which represent the three different groups of abiotic, biotic and anthropic elements. Divide the pupils into three or six groups. Each group, or every two groups, focus on one group of elements. They identify them and draw them on plastic film (acetate) more or less where they are in the picture. They then make a list of the different elements, taking note of if they are repeated, and if so, how often. Then put the plastic film (acetate) of the three groups on top of each other to get the full landscape. This allows you to set up a discussion about which group comes up with most elements, if the elements are well classified, which ones take up most space, if a new element has been discovered and so on. Outside: it is more difficult to mark the boundaries of the landscape and spatially position the elements. For this reason, you can draw a complete landscape and colour in the elements of each group with set colours, or make a list of the elements that are identified in each group. In this case, it is better done individually. The discussion can then be done altogether.

Who with

Pupils from 6 to 12 years old. In groups, although it may also be organised as an individual activity.

Length

From 20-30 minutes, depending on the complexity of the proposed landscape and the age of the pupils, which may produce lengthier comments.

What do you need?

A picture (virtual, photographic, real, painting...) of a landscape. Greaseproof paper or plastic film (acetate), suitable coloured felt-tip pens. A pencil and paper or a computer.

Key concepts

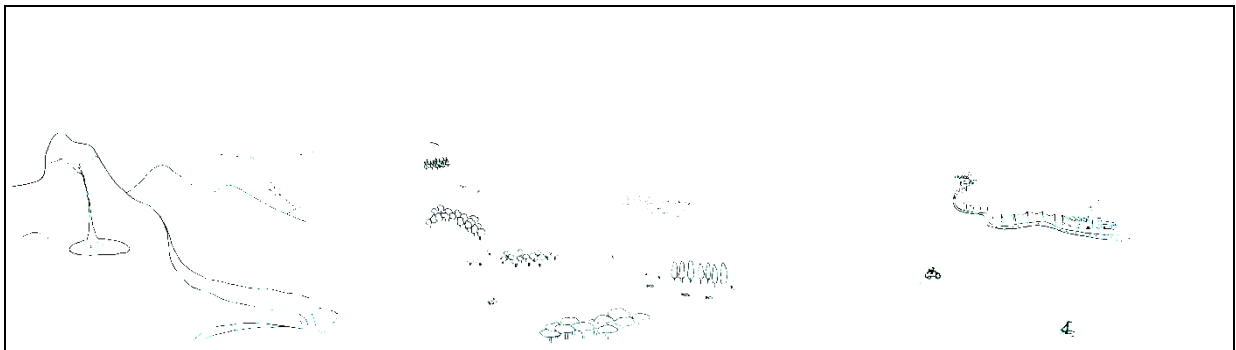
Abiotic elements: natural, inert, without life

Biotic elements: natural, alive

Anthropic elements: man-made

The different elements with their interrelationships make up the landscape.

Depending on the dominance of one type or another, we get rural, urban, dessert, forest landscapes, etc.



R. Pena Vila

3.3.3 Is it what it seems to be?

An activity to learn how to classify landscapes taking into account their energies. Section: *Classify*

Objectives

To discover how landscapes that feature a dominance of elements belonging to the same group may be classified in another group on account of the cause of its dynamic fluxes.

Subjects

Science, Geography and History, Mathematics and Art.

Where

Preferably in the classroom. It may also take place outside.

When

Outside: the route should include landscapes in which the change in classification of its operational fluxes are noticeable. At any time of day in the classroom.

🏠 *How*

Outside: find a route on which different kinds of landscapes with just one dominant element can be distinguished and whose input of fluxes changes its classification. Simple examples of this are gardens, vineyards, orchards, abandoned housing developments... In the classroom: it is easier to find pictures of landscapes (local or distant) where these contrasts are shown in a striking and motivating way. The presence of an element which the pupils describe and which gives them clues to the dominant energy that will change the classification, makes the activity more motivating as it turns it into a game in which you discover what, or who, makes this landscape work. An irrigation channel amongst fruit trees, or a fence at a zoo which sets it apart from the savannah where animals are free etc. The teacher can provide the pictures or the pupils themselves can find 'trick' landscapes in magazines, on the internet or bring in photos for classifying. If the latter, one group can find pictures to exchange with another group so they classify landscapes which they do not know. If working in groups, the pictures should be on paper or they can be shown on a computer screen if there is one available in the classroom. If the pictures are shown to the whole group, they should also be projected on a screen and it is best if each pupil classifies them individually. Then the pictures can be shown again and each pupil self-corrects the classification.

👤 *Who with*

Pupils from 8 to 11 years old. Individually, although it may also be done in groups.

🕒 *Length*

From 20-30 minutes, depending on the age of the pupils. Depending on the route if done outside.

📁 *What do you need?*

Outside: a plan of the route with the observation points of the landscapes to be studied well marked. In the classroom: a set of pictures of landscapes that can be seen on paper or projected onto a screen. Pencil and paper to note down the classifications.

Key concepts

A landscape may feature one kind of a range of dominant elements, but its classification will also depend on the fluxes responsible for its performance.

A field of fruit displays biotic elements as dominant in extent, but the flux which helps the field of fruit function, as we see it, is anthropic (manual, mechanical...) as well as solar, just as in a garden for example.



M. T. Bovet Pla; J. Ribas Vilàs



3.3.4 The same but different

An activity to classify landscapes according to the dominance of elements and fluxes. Section: *Classify*.

Objectives

To learn how to classify landscapes according to the dominance of elements and fluxes and to observe how landscapes with the same dominance may show a different appearance.

Subjects

Language, Art, Science, History and Geography

Where

In the classroom or outside. In the classroom it is easier to find contrasting landscapes with the same dominating features and local, European and exotic landscapes may be compared. Outside: follow a route on which they can discover landscapes with the same dominance but with a different appearance.

When

At any time of day in the classroom. If outside, preferably in the morning so that the characteristics of the landscapes to be classified on the route may be well defined.

How

If you follow a route, this should include landscapes with one main group dominance but with a different appearance. For example, a forest and a meadow, a river and rocky ground, a city and a mine. Number the observation points on the route to classify the landscapes. Use classification symbols (square, circle and triangle). If there is more than one element, include a symbolically subordinate degree. Later in class, discuss the group experience and check that the classifications are correct, discussing the reasons why. In the classroom: the pupils can look for pictures of local, neighbouring or far-off landscapes and compare how a jungle, a deciduous Mediterranean forest or scrubland are biotical dominant even though they look different. Also how different cities around the world look different as a result of culture and the place in which they are located, although they all function as cities as a totally anthropic landscape. Just the same as human beings who have a different external appearance, but we are all people albeit with our own appearance due to genetics, surroundings or culture. The pupils can find the pictures at home, in the library, on the internet... or the teacher can prepare a selection of pictures which are well contrasted and have an impact, and which include different degrees of difficulty when being classified.

Who with

Pupils from 8 to 11 years old. Individually or in groups. The final comments should be made altogether.

Length

From 30 to 120 minutes. It depends on whether a route is followed or not, and how long it takes. Comments in class are included.

What do you need?

Pictures of landscapes or a route with the observation points well marked. Pencil and paper to note down the classifications of the different landscapes.

Key concepts

The landscapes may be classified according to the dominance of elements and energies.

In our day to day surroundings we can find different types of landscape which we can learn to classify.

There are also many landscapes on the planet which feature just one classification but the initial perception of this seems different due to environmental or cultural issues. However, its function as a landscape is the same.



M. T. Bovet Pla; R. Pena Vila

3.3.5 Even more difficult

An activity to classify complex landscapes according to the dominance of elements and fluxes.
Section: *Classify*.

Aims and Objectives

To learn how to classify landscapes according to the dominance of elements and fluxes and to understand that the landscapes may be complex and therefore very dynamic and changeable.

Subjects

Language, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography.

Where

In the classroom. Outside: follow a route on which a wide variety of complex landscapes may be observed.

When

At any time of day in the classroom. If outside, preferably in the morning.

How

If the activity takes place outside, the route should be designed in such a way that pupils can observe landscapes which are made up of a combination of the three groups of elements together with three hierarchical degrees of dominance. Normally, the lesser hierarchical degree, that is to say, the one which is in the smallest degree of dominance, tends to be left over from a previous situation or responds to the appearance of elements of a group that were not present before and which start to appear in the landscape. At each observation point on the route, the classifications are made using the symbols suggested. The pupil can make notes describing the landscapes to remember them later on and to highlight that they have caught their attention. In the classroom: to classify the landscapes, use pictures of complex and dynamic landscapes, local, neighbouring or distant. They show the diversity of the surrounding landscapes and those around the world, as well as the capacity for change which this kind of landscapes display. The pupils can look for the pictures or the teacher can select them so that the aim of the activity is easily accessible from the examples shown.

Who with

Pupils from 9 to 11 years old. Individually on the route, if there is one, and then the follow-up can be done in the classroom. If the activity takes place in the classroom, pupils may work individually or in groups to choose the pictures. It is a good idea if the discussion is held in groups to contrast opinions and observe the complexity of the landscapes.

🕒 *Length*

From 30 to 120 minutes, depending on the route and the follow-up in class.

📁 *What do you need?*

Pictures of landscapes or a route with the observation points well marked. Pencil and paper to note down the different classifications using the symbols.

Key concepts

Landscapes may feature few elements and function with little diversity of fluxes or they may be complex and feature a great diversity of elements and fluxes that bring them to life.

The classifications of landscapes that have similar dominances between their elements, as they have little variety, are more subject to the subjectivity of the different observers. This may lead to classification results which are different, but at the same time, very similar.

This fact may be used to demonstrate how these landscapes can change easily and what is important is the subjectivity of the assessment of these landscapes.

With more complexity comes more fragility and more possibilities for change.



M. T. Bovet Pla; R. Pena Vila

3.3.6 Near or far

An activity to observe how the classification landscapes vary according to scale. Section: *Classify*

Objectives

To learn how a landscape changes its classification of dominance if we see it close-up or from a distance.

Subjects

Mathematics, Language, Art, Science, History and Geography

📍 *Where*

Outside. It may also be done in the classroom, but it has less impact and is not so motivating. However if it is done on the classroom, prepare the framework for the activity beforehand. It is a good idea to have a group discussion in class at the end to consolidate concepts and to be able to concentrate harder.

🕒 *When*

At any time of day in the classroom. If outside, we should find an elevated point with good visibility and which encompasses a wide extent of land with diverse landscapes. The time of day may be

important to avoid too much contrasts of light and shadows. It is always better in the morning, especially at midday so that the intense light allows for good observation.

✧ *How*

In class, the pupils prepare some frames out of card or any material strong enough to make a frame. The frames should be of different sizes so that they can more or less take in the extent of territory. They can also make different geometrical shapes. Once outside, and ready at the viewpoint, they classify the whole extent of landscape that they can see. Then they stretch out their hands with one of the frames the pupils have prepared and look at the landscape through the frame in question and try to classify the landscape which they see through the frame. In turn they do the same thing with the different frames focussing them on different points in sight. They will get different classifications. Anthropic dominances may be observed if we just frame towns or biotic ones if we only focus on woods, etc. The teacher can also suggest looking for a specific dominance through the frames. If the pupils have cameras with a zoom, they may also see the classification through the camera lens and takes photos which can then be analysed in class. The pupils may draw the shape of the frame with the landscape they see through it noting down its dominance. Later in class, they can compare the results and present their conclusions.

‡ *Who with*

Pupils from 9 to 11 years old. Pupils work individually. Later in class they work altogether: they compare the framed landscapes, check the classifications and come to final conclusions as a group.

⌚ *Length*

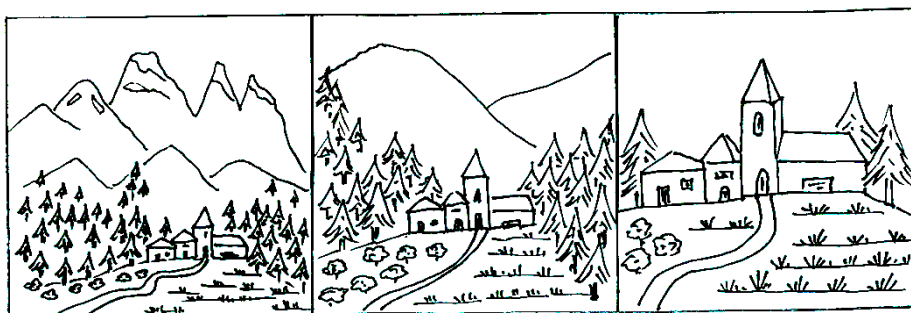
From 60 to 120 minutes, depending on the route. The time also includes the follow-up in class and the preparation of the frames beforehand.

📁 *What do you need?*

Stiff material to make the frames, scissors, glue, etc. Crayons, pencils and paper. Something hard to lean on when drawing outside. A viewpoint.

Key concepts

Setting the scale to be used, that is, spatially defining the landscape, is the first methodological step taken to classify the landscape.
 Depending on scale, the classification of a landscape may change; hence it is important to keep the same scale throughout the study process.
 It is important to observe that the same landscape may change its classification depending on the scale.
 This is evident using different sized frames while keeping the same focus.



R. Pena Vila

3.4 Investigate activities

In this block activities are carried out generally through field work and they present the bases of any research. Tracks are sought, measurements are carried out and conclusions are extracted.

The proposal allows knowing and analysing the interrelationships of the various elements of a landscape and their acting fluxes.

- Growing and growing.
- Remains.
- Footprints.
- Who goes there?
- What is first.
- The magic of a landscape.

3.4.1 Contents, objectives and didactic orientations

Contents

- Identification of different plant species, strata of vegetation, growth and expansion.
- Growth and distribution of different plant species in relation to the presence of water and types of soils.
- Existence of fauna in the landscape, the dominant species and their habitat.
- Recognition of human presence in landscapes apparently low colonised and human waste that this presence generates.
- Importance of abiotic elements in the morphology of the landscape and understanding of basic erosion processes involving water.
- The changes in the landscape: the role of natural fluxes in its evolution and the importance of the anthropic action.

Objectives

- Identify on-site plant diversity in the landscape, their distribution, density and stratification by direct observation and data collection.
- Recognise indicators of the presence of fauna and of human activities in the landscape that allow identifying its impact and consequences.
- Understand what erosion is and how water works in modelling the relief, through simple experiments in the real landscape and also in bounded representations.
- Relate the role of the different elements in the studied processes, and define simple interrelationships among climate, vegetation and relief.
- Be aware that the landscape changes and evolves over time, as well as the great transformative power of human action.

Didactic orientations

All the activities include the detective game, which easily incites students to experiment and address on the search for information related to the proposed research as a motivation strategy. To properly integrate the knowledge on the landscape that results obtained offer, it is recommended:

- First of all perform the activities related to the various elements and their role in the landscape (abiotic elements and erosion, diversity and dynamics of vegetation, fauna, human presence) to then consider activities related to more complex concepts such as fluxes, dynamics and the evolution of the landscape.
- Promote the value of thoroughness and rigour in the field work, which are basic aspects of scientific methodology. Take advantage of the interest which can arise among students the scientific work to promote good practices: clear annotations, exact measurements, ranked collection of “evidence”...
- Promote also the importance of teamwork in relation to research and scientific advances. Students should see that they all together can get more information and this being more useful, if sharing objectives and tasks are well dealt. In this case teachers will act as coordinators of the research.

- Enhance the theme of waste from research on anthropogenic footprints, linking it to environmental education local projects, which may be integrated in the school as for example the school Agenda 21, and complemented by activities of recycling, reuse and waste reduction.

3.4.2 Growing and growing

An activity to identify the variety in vegetation of a landscape and its dynamics. Section: *Investigate*

Objectives

To investigate the different kinds of vegetation in a landscape and its dynamics. To learn how a landscape changes its dominance ranking if we see it close-up or from a distance.

Subjects

Science, Language, Mathematics, Art, History and Geography

Where

Outside in an area where there is quite a variety of vegetation: woodland, meadow, scrubland, riverside vegetation. In the classroom: carry on with the investigation and come to final conclusions as a group.

When

Outside: it is best in spring or at the end of summer/beginning of autumn. Preferably in the morning. In the classroom: in the afternoon on the same day as the samples are collected.

How


The activity takes place in a biotical dominant landscape (wood, scrub, meadow, etc.) The class is divided into groups with a maximum of four pupils. Each group stations themselves in a square of 1 meter by 1 meter space if in a meadow or in a square of 3 meters by 3 meters if in scrubland or wood. The plot to be studied should be measured and marked off with string or wool. Pupils note down the plants they find in their patch of land in the field notebook. They count the ones that are the same species. That is to say, they make a note of the variety of species and the density (number of individual examples of the same species). If there are trees, they can measure the thickness of the trunk and see if seedlings of the same species are growing. They should differentiate between trees (one woody trunk), bushes (various woody trunks) and grasses. They can also draw the ones they think are important or which attract the pupil's attention. Depending on the age of the pupils, you can use graph paper to record the exact location of the various species in the patches of land, and finer or different coloured pieces of string to mark out the smallest squares in the area. This allows you to transfer the location of the plants in the piece of land more accurately. Later on in the classroom, each group explains what they have found in their patch, they can conclude together that there is a great variety of species and they can say if they think the plant community is growing, or not, according to the number of young seedlings they have recorded. They can also write down if the plants grow in the shade of larger ones or not. This gives us an idea of the interrelationships between vegetation and other biotic elements and also with other abiotic and anthropic elements, like a path, the presence of moisture, or more rocks on the ground. They can verify that there is probably more vegetation in wet areas and less in rockier areas, or that the vegetation may be somewhat different in one place or another. In class, they will play to investigate why there are differences between one plot and another.

Who with

Pupils from 8 to 11 years old. Pupils work in groups of no more than 4 pupils. Later in class, the groups present the result of their research and then altogether try to explain the differences between the patches of land.

Length

From 40 to 80 minutes, depending on age, the patch of land being studied and the number of pupils. The activity may be repeated in different vegetation landscapes.

 *What do you need?*

String or wool to mark off the patches of land and a measuring tape. A field notebook to write down and draw the plants they find to remember them. Graph paper if you want to plot the exact location of the plants in the patch of land.

Key concepts

Vegetation is an element which is significant to landscapes due to its interrelationship with other biotic elements (the primary product of the ecosystems and habitat of animal species) and due to its influence on the abiotic elements and processes (water, rocks, climate, erosion...).

In landscape it is interesting to consider the species which make up the different strata of the plant community. It is also interesting to take into account the number of young offshoots of the dominant species which leads us to an idea of the evolution of the community. The parameters such as the diameter of trunks, the height of trees, the number of rings or the outer cover, give us an idea of the biomass of the community.



R. Pena Vila

3.4.3 Remains...

An activity to discover the presence of fauna in landscapes. Section: *Investigate*

Objectives

To discover the presence of fauna in landscapes through their remains and various distinguishing signs.

Subjects

Science, History, Geography, Mathematics, Art and Language.

 *Where*

Outside: it could be a landscape near the school or further away, a garden, a wood, a river, the beach or even the city itself. Discuss the results in class and pupils can show the presence of the findings graphically on a map which depicts the landscape studied.

 *When*

Outside: the length of time depends on where the activity takes place. It is always better in the morning and depending on the time of year, spring or autumn, which is when the fauna is more active and you are more likely find remains of their presence. More than one outing can be made to different landscapes during the course or at different times of year.

 *How*

Fauna is a biotic element which is present in most landscapes, but due to its mobility, it is difficult to see. However, it is an element which fascinates children. The biophilia which all human beings have is

very apparent in children and is acquired when in contact with the environment. Once the landscape in which it is possible to find the remains of fauna has been chosen, go to the location and split the class into groups with no more than 2 or 3 pupils and send them in different directions within a controllable perimeter. The children should learn how to walk carefully and in silence, looking down at the ground and looking up. They look at the foot and trunks of the trees and at the buildings. In the field notebook they make a note of any kind living creature that they see: ants and other kinds of insects are the most likely ones. They should count the animal species seen. Note down if they hear the sound of a bird, the flight of a butterfly, flies or other flying insects, or reptiles which are hiding or sunbathing. They will find fauna especially close to watercourses. They can also draw an animal, some remains or footprints in their field notebook. It is often not possible to observe animals directly, especially mammals, but we can see their remains and footprints which show where they have been. You may find some excrement, bird feathers; nests which have fallen from a tree, footprints on muddy ground... The children measure and count the footprints. They can draw them too and they can keep some pieces of excrement, hair, moults, feathers... It should all be noted down in the field notebook and a record made of where it was found next to other elements of the landscape: under a tree, on a path, on a rock, etc. Later in class, discuss the findings, identify the possible fauna detected, together with its frequency and relate it to the surroundings. Also on which other elements of the landscape fauna depends, where food and shelter can be found and thus its interdependency on other biotic, abiotic and also anthropic elements. Depending on their age, the pupils will make the search and results more, or less, complex.

‡ *Who with*

Pupils from 6 to 11 years old. Pupils work individually or altogether. Later in class, they can discuss the group experience altogether.

🕒 *Length*

From 40 to 60 minutes, depending on age and the landscape studied.

📁 *What do you need?*

A field notebook for each pupil and pencils to write down their observations and to draw them if they wish. Disposable gloves, felt-tip pens and paper to make a mural with the remains they have collected and located in the landscape studied.

Key concepts

Fauna is one of the biotic elements which make up a landscape, especially in areas which are little influenced by man, but due to their mobility, it is difficult to observe and quantify them. However, they are totally interrelated with the rest of the elements.

In the study of landscape, the most significant species, the density of population and also the most likely endemism are of particular interest.

Getting to know fauna is an incentive for children to learn how to relate it to other elements, making them more sensitive to and later understand how the destruction or modification of any one element in a landscape affects the others.



3.4.4 Footprints

An activity to discover the presence of human beings in landscape. Section: *Investigate*

Objectives

To investigate and discover the traces that man leaves with his footsteps on landscapes that are neither infrastructure nor big artefacts.

Subjects

History, Geography, Science and Mathematics.

Where

Outside: on country paths or paths in gardens or parks. The final group conclusions are made in class.

When

On a day when it has not rained the previous night. After midday so that human footprints can be seen.

How

The class divides into groups of 4 on a path, in a park or in the chosen area. The groups spread out along the path with each group having a few metres to explore. Initially, and before gathering the information about the footprints on the path, the children walk very carefully along the sides of the path to record the different footprints that are already there and try not to cover them up with their own footprints. In the field notebook write down and draw the footprints: feet wearing sports shoes, men's or ladies' shoes. They analyse if they belong to children or adults. They can also take a note of marks made by bicycle, pushchair, motorbike or car wheels. As good detectives, they will pay close attention to all the details and note them down in their notebook. Once the prints in the ground are recorded, they can then walk on the path and look for other kinds of remains or human waste like tissues, sweet papers, cigarette ends and bits of plastic, etc. Everything should be methodically written down in the notebook. They can also take photos of the clues they find or draw them. The footprints may be measured to compare them later and draw conclusions from them. Later in class, each group presents their results and comments on the coincidences and differences they have found along the path. The frequentation of the path, be it more or less intense, will be noted, as well as the abundance or lack of waste, its likely origin, the impact this waste may have on other elements in the landscape, etc.

Who with

Pupils from 8 to 11 years old. Pupils work in groups of 4.

Length

From 40 to 80 minutes, depending on age and the route. The length also includes the conclusions in class.

What do you need?

Choose a path where you will be sure to find anthropic footprints and which is long enough to accommodate all the groups. A field notebook and pencils to make notes and draw. Plastic bags and gloves to collect samples if necessary. A camera.

Key concepts

The human race interacts as a living being more than the rest of the elements of a landscape, but, thanks to technology, it has artefacts which strongly influence other living beings.

Humans have means of locomotion which are different from legs or with the help of shoes, they are able to move from place to place more comfortably, further away and more quickly. Since the industrial revolution, there are few landscapes which are not characterised by human influence in one

way or another.

Besides, the production of artificial elements generates a lot of waste which affects the landscape, not only aesthetically, but also functionally.



M. T. Bovet Pla

3.4.5 Who goes there?

An activity in which you can play with the fluxes that have an effect on the landscapes. Section: *Investigate*.

Objectives

To investigate what kind of fluxes are responsible for the dynamic changes in a landscape.

Subjects

Language, Art, History, Geography and Science.

Where

In the classroom.

When

At any time.

How

It is a card game with cards which the pupils have made themselves. The cards show pairs of landscapes which have undergone changes. For example:

- A field of cereal which is just starting to grow and a field of cereal which already has grain. There will be a change both in colour and height.
- A forest and a burnt forest. Change in colour and shape.
- A small town and a town which has grown. The silhouette of the bell tower or a castle remains... Change in form.
- A deciduous forest in summer and in winter. Change in colour and volume.
- Vines in winter and in summer. Change in colour and volume.
- Fields and fields with a motorway running through it. Change in structure.

- A city and the same city after a volcanic eruption.
- Cultivated fields and abandoned fields with scrubland.
- Beach, marina...

The teacher assesses the complexity of the suggested pairs according to the age and knowledge of the pupils. Each pupil can prepare two pairs. They always have to justify the type, or types, of flux that have caused the dynamic change in the landscapes. There are also cards which show the fluxes (natural and anthropic) which bring about changes in landscape. Shuffle and deal out the pair cards to the players. Put down the first card and look for the person who has the pair. Then put down the card with the flux or energies responsible for the changes. Initially, each player may have two kinds of flux cards. The first person, who puts down the card with the flux responsible for the change in the landscape and justifies it, keeps the pair. The winner is the person who gets most pairs. There is a pile with more flux cards. When a player wins a pair, they can get another flux card. The game will prove that two kinds of flux sometimes intervene and it is all about reflecting on how fluxes inputs modifie landscapes with time or changes them seasonally. The sets of pairs of cards can then be exchanged between the groups.

‡ *Who with*

Pupils from 8 to 11 years old. Pupils work in groups of 5 or 6 players. But first of all there is something to be done individually although it may be discussed or thought about altogether. It consists of drawing cards. Each pupil can prepare two pairs of cards.

⌚ *Length*

This activity may be prepared in more than one session: draw the cards one day and play with them at some other time. The groups can exchange cards. Each session may take about 30 minutes.

📄 *What do you need?*

Paper, or preferably card, and pencils or felt-tip pens

Key concepts

The changes in landscape may be seasonal, whereupon the change is not a question of the structure of neither the landscape nor its behaviour, but that it is part of its intrinsic dynamics and the change will repeat itself seasonally every year while the landscape stays the same.

However, the introduction or change of specific fluxes may modify the structure and behaviour of the landscape and we thus find ourselves dealing with a new landscape. It is important that children learn that if the change happens every year, the landscape is the same and that it is fully different when the former landscape does not recover.



R. Pena Vila

3.4.6 What is first

An activity to identify the interrelationship among the abiotic elements. Section: *Investigate*.

Objectives

To investigate the role of the abiotic elements in the functioning of the landscape.

Subjects

Science, Language, Mathematics, History and Geography, Physical Education.

Where

Outside: the school playground or in a course of a stream or river with little water flow. In the classroom different types of stones, gravel and sand can be analysed and comment on the results of the experiment which has been carried out.

When

On the outside when is not excessive cold. Preferably around noon. In the classroom: at any time, although it is advisable to late in the afternoon by the excitement involved in the practice.

How

The activity takes place in a stream or river with little water flow but with different slope and winding course. The aim of the experiment is to see how an abiotic element, in this case water, models the landscape. Children are distributed by groups along the shore of the river. At one point, where that river shows some slope on its runway, three elements of the surrounding landscape that can float will be thrown on the river (a flower, a leaf, dry bark...). Timing can be taken, counting the seconds the objects go down the river until they stop on a shore. It is very important to detect when and where they stop. At that point there will surely be already an accumulation of other elements washed away by the river. Pebbles of various forms and origins, and therefore composition and different hardness can be found in those pools. Some samples will be collected for analysis in class. It will be discussed on-site, after the experiment, what has happened to the floating objects, which has gone faster and if all have been grounded in the same place. The strength of water will be highlighted and its role as shaper of the relief, as well as transporters of seeds and other remains and as a means of allowing life to any biotic elements, etc. Thus it will influence the interrelationships with the other elements of the landscape. If it is not possible this excursion to the outside and locate a river with these characteristics, the experiment can also be done in the courtyard of the school. There, a river with slope can also be built, as a small model, and pour water with a bucket or watering can on it. In this case samples of stones must have been collected previously. Some experiments will be carried out in the classroom with the stones samples collected by groups of 4 or 5 students. Each group will have 5 different stones. They will describe the stones, draw them and then check their hardness by scratching with metal or simply with the nail. See also if stones are split by other harder stones. It can be checked it when hitting each other the sound is different according to their nature. The teacher can also put one drop of diluted hydrochloric acid on calcareous stones to check as they react and start disintegrating. Some stones are rolled back and others are split. It has to be noted that the rain or the wind may “erode” (wear) the softer stones with which the landscape will also change. Worn stones can also be found in the city in oldest buildings. The explanations and the total or partial realisation of the experiment will be adapted to the age of the students.

Who with

Pupils from 6 to 11 years old. Pupils work in groups.

Length

From 30 to 80 minutes, depending on age, and if the whole activity takes place in the classroom and/or on the outside.

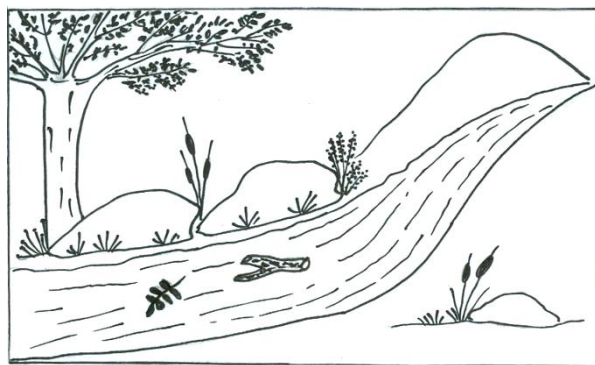
📖 *What do you need?*

Location of ideal place for the activity. If it is performed in the courtyard of the school, according to its characteristics, watering can, material to manufacture the river slope. In the classroom, stones of different characteristics. Metal to scratch stones, diluted hydrochloric acid which only the teacher will use.

Key concepts

Water and rocks are the abiotic elements par excellence and they will have a crucial importance in the modelling of the relief. According to the nature of the rock, its resistance, permeability and chemical composition it will generate some types of soil, it will influence the availability of water and therefore the vegetation and finally the forms of relief.

Moreover, water is essential for living beings. It is important its physical state in which is present (snow, ice, water steam, etc.), its quantity, location and quality. Abiotic elements interact intensely with biotic and anthropic elements.



R. Pena Vila

3.4.7 The magic of a landscape

An activity which shows the evolution of landscape. Section: *Investigate*.

Objectives

To investigate how landscape has changed with time and the reason why.

Subjects

History, Geography, Art, Language and Science.

📍 *Where*

In the classroom and whenever possible and convenient, it can be done in public or private places which have access to documents (photographs, engravings, pictures or old films) about the landscape of the area from years ago. It can also be done during an in situ visit.

🕒 *When*

At any time of day or any time of year.

🏠 *How*

It is about investigating why some elements have disappeared while others have appeared, using an old picture of somewhere in the locality that is familiar to the pupils, for example the main square or the sports centre, etc. Looking for pictures from some decades earlier: grandparents' photos if they still live there, pictures from documentaries, library or town hall archives, or social/commercial premises... they can see how the landscape in which we live has changed and how, by art of magic, where once carts pulled by horses, mules or donkeys used to be, there are now cars, motorbikes and

buses; where there were small fishermen's houses by the beach, there are now large hotels which are more than ten floors high or where lush orchards were set up near the town, today there is a big shopping centre. And so landscape is not static, but dynamic and changes with time, and if the additional anthropic energy is strong, the change is surprising. Once a few old photos have been found, the pupils try to find the same site and compare it. A photo may be taken of the landscape which is now found in the same place that is framed by the old picture. With plastic film (acetate) or greaseproof paper, trace the silhouette of the elements that have disappeared from the old photo and retrace the new elements in the present day photo. At the end, compare where there has been more magic. In some places, the present day landscape has nothing to do with the one from years before: this is the case with the occupation of cultivated areas in the city. In others, buildings and transport may have been changed, traffic lights and roundabouts appear, etc., but the outline of the streets and squares stays the same. Finally, pupils can prepare a mural or a computer presentation, in which they show the changes that the landscape of the town has undergone in the last few decades. In this activity the final discussion is important as is spotting the changes and which areas have been most affected and to express opinions about the evolution of the landscape and about which aspects of their landscape they would not like to change. They can also guess what should be done to achieve this.

‡ *Who with*

Pupils from 8 to 11 years old. Pupils work individually but also as a group. The final comments are made with the whole group altogether.

🕒 *Length*

From 30 to 60 minutes, depending on age and the research work done beforehand.

📁 *What do you need?*

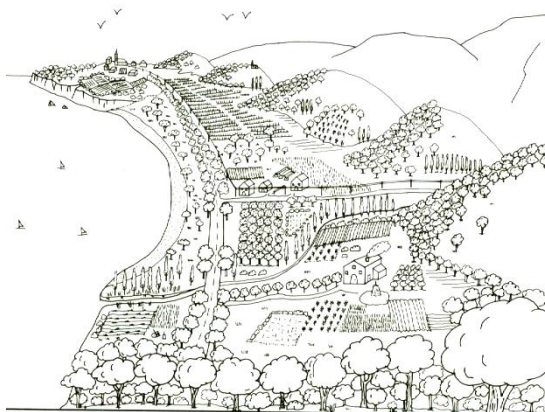
Old pictures of the town, literary descriptions, news from old newspapers in which reference is made to an element of the landscape which has disappeared... Plastic film (acetate) or greaseproof paper and pencils or felt-tip pens. Enough paper for a mural or computers.

Key concepts

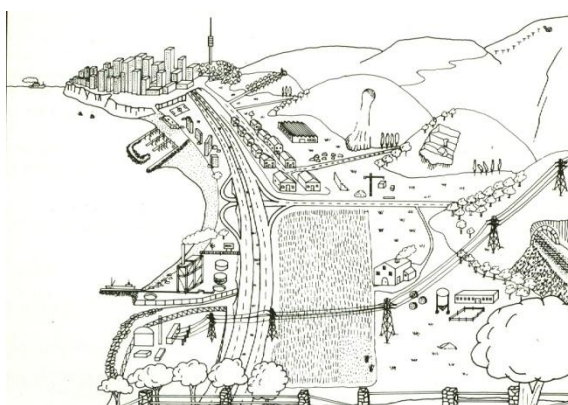
Landscape, as the system that it is, is not static but dynamic and therefore varies in time based on natural evolution itself and on socioeconomic aspects liable to modify it.

Anthropic energies tend to provoke relatively quick changes and for this reason, they can be found more easily in urban landscapes.

Knowing how a landscape may be modified, and reflecting on what changes we would or would not like to take place in the landscapes closest to us, are steps towards the concept of prognosis and synteresis or prevention.



Fernández Tatjer



G.

3.5 Act activities

The activities in this block summarise all the methodological phases of the study of a landscape, focussing in particular on prediction and also on prevention. They are mostly directed at pupils in the latter stages of primary.

- Take care of your landscape.
- You decide.
- What do you think would happen if...?

3.5.1 Contents, objectives and didactic orientations

Contents

- Appreciation and evaluation as natural resources of the elements that make up the structure of the geoecological landscape (relief, lithology, climate, vegetation...).
- Categorisation of the elements that make up the socio-economic structure of the landscape (economic activities, community services, infrastructure, housing...).
- Incidence of the interrelations between geoecological and socioeconomic structure, in relation to the forms of occupation of the territory.
- Assessment of the spatial and temporal dimension of the human activities in the transformation of the landscape.
- Recognition and assessment of anthropogenic impacts on the landscape (visual pollution, air pollution, depletion of natural resources).
- Consideration of technological progress to improve the quality of life in human societies and the protection of the natural environment.

Objectives

- Understand the importance and complexity of the management and planning of the landscape.
- Distinguish the interrelationships involved in the process of occupation of the territory.
- Predict and detect the evolution of humanised landscapes at different temporal and spatial scales.
- Encourage the approach of questions, problems and assumptions about different types of interventions in the landscape.
- Use different types of spatial representations for reading, interpretation and localisation of human activities and environmental conditions.
- Enhance the realistic and creative personal responses to problems of territorial planning.

Didactic orientations

Activities propose an approach to the management and planning of landscape. Although this is a committed and complex field for primary school students, it is interesting to start them playfully and, taking advantage of the motivation for the game. Channel the pupils' innate expressiveness as well as their creative potential. In any case, it is recommended:

- Raising activities after having worked the contents of the previous sections, in a way that students have already assimilated a minimum of ideas about the relationships between the various elements of the landscape, the role of energy, changes in the landscape and its evolution.
- The development of activities requires the application of knowledge, so it is important to consider them as collective games so that they are more profitable. Always having into account to ensure the participation of everybody and that each one build their own opinion.
- Given that the games are simulation, which bring us closer to reality, due to their likelihood, it also must be ensured that students see their usefulness and understand that in the real landscape is not so easy to do and undo. In this sense, it is convenient to complete with references to actual, upcoming situations, actions or projects.
- The role of the teachers as conductors of the games and debates is essential since their performance will be decisive to adapt their possibilities to the level of their students, guide reflections and strategically introducing references to real cases.

3.5.2 Take care of your landscape

An activity which simulates the grading of a landscape. Section: *Act*.

Objectives

To understand the complexity of the performance of a landscape.

Subjects

History, Geography, Art, Language, Mathematics and Science.

Where

In the classroom or another suitable place.

When

At any time of day and preferably at the end of the course as an overview activity.

How

It involves play-building a landscape which provides a good quality of life and which is therefore sustainable. That is, the children have to think about the actions they want to carry out on the landscape, within the capability and understanding of the pupils. In the first stages of primary, the pupils can probably make a mural in which they put the elements they think should be in their landscape and which cover their needs: school, park, shops, houses... they can draw them as they prefer. At this stage, it is enough for them to identify what they need in their landscape and how they believe these elements should be. In the final stages of primary, they can build a simple model in which there is a town. It can be their own town or an imaginary one. They can invent its name, the location, the landscapes around it, the names of the woods, neighbourhoods, etc. Its location should be possible and feasible, predicting its likely growth, providing services and resources (market-gardens, fields of crops, animal rearing, mining of dry commodities or other mined resources, fishing, etc.) as well as taking into account communication infrastructures. The model itself can be made defining abiotic elements (relief, rivers, coast...), and then the other elements (abiotic and anthropic) can be prepared, or they can use some elements already made for other games. In this activity it is important to reason out the presence and location of the elements, take into account their interaction and consider their sustainability with time, always on the level of reasoning appropriate for these ages. Once the model is made and planned, the landscape can become a final game in which other pupils of the same level, or stage, come and see the model and raise doubts about it. The class have to defend their grading and either justify it or accept they have made a planning error. In the last stage, if suitable computer software is available, the planning may be done virtually.

Who with

Pupils from 6 to 11 years old. Pupils work individually and in groups. Individual work can be done when making the model, mural or computer game. Later on, group discussion is important.

Length

From 30 to 60 minutes, depending on age. You can have various sessions over a period of time.

What do you need?

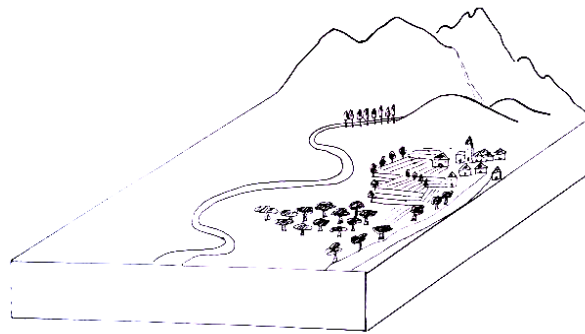
Paper, scissors, glue, plasticine, cork and any material suitable for making abiotic, biotic and anthropic elements to reproduce a landscape (trees, rocks, houses, fields ...) or ready-made elements more or less on the same scale as the model. A support for the three-dimensional model, computer support if the presentation is virtual, or a wall if the picture is two-dimensional.

Key concepts

Landscape is the result of the interaction of different elements that make it up and of the energies that affect it, as well as society that considers it and which it is also part of.

Different cultures may have their very own effect on landscape and this gives rise to the diversity of landscapes on our planet.

Nowadays, anthropic actions, with capacity for change, may have great impact thanks to technology. Hence they should be carried out with precaution knowing that we only have one Earth for everyone. The planning and good management of landscape is fundamental to attain a good quality of life for everyone.



R. Pena Vila

3.5.3 You decide

An activity which presents the difficulty of planning a landscape. Section: *Act*.

Objectives

To learn how to make decisions about possible anthropic actions on the landscape.

Subjects

History, Geography, Art, Language, Mathematics and Science.

Where

In the classroom.

When

At any time of day and preferably when the children are not too tired, bearing in mind that it is an activity which requires concentration and thought. It is also better to do it once they have already completed some activities which enable them to know the landscape.

How

This activity requires a certain level of conscious reflection and has data to help them make the right decision. Suggest a series of anthropic actions in the town where the pupils live so that they are more involved, and present some possibilities for each one. They should decide on one option, arguing why they have rejected the others. For example, a hospital is to be built and three possible locations are presented:

- a garden with old trees;
- a field of under-productive crops;
- an abandoned old factory located in the town centre itself.

They think about the pros and cons in each case. They can act it out and defend or reject the proposals. For example, a group of ecologists rejects building in the garden. A society of friends of industrial heritage do not want the old factory to be used as it will destroy their heritage. The association of smallholders defends the fact that the fields, as they are near the town, should be left alone so that the arable area is not lost. The possibilities for proposals are numerous: in each case the teacher makes an assessment depending on the level of interest, or because they have worked on a topic related to the problem presented, which will then be the action, or actions, proposed. It may range from the installation of a commercial centre, the layout of a big motorway, the demolition of some old buildings to make a square, to a large car park at the entrance to the town. Whatever the case, the important thing is to make sure that the design is not too simple and that there are points of interest in the town, but the final decision should take into account which proposal improved quality of life in general, seeking to make sure that the impact on the landscape does not ruin it or change the interaction between the elements too much. The pupils work in groups of 4 or 5 and have access to an orthophoto map or aerial photographs and plans of the town and the areas where the proposed action/s is/are located. During the process, the children can find information on the internet or from local entities to get data which will help them make the right decision.

‡ *Who with*

Pupils from 9 to 11 years old. Pupils work in groups of a maximum of 4. The follow-up discussion should take place with the whole class.

🕒 *Length*

From 30 to 60 minutes, depending on age and the problems raised.

📁 *What do you need?*

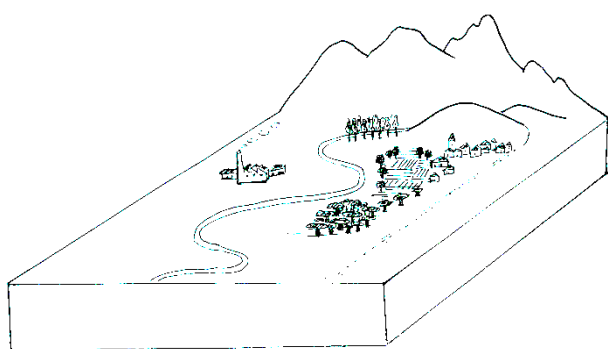
Information about the landscape in which problems are raised. A photograph or an orthophoto map of the landscape in question.

Key concepts

The prognosis and prevention or synteresis of the landscape allow us to foresee the possibility of specific effects on certain anthropic actions. They are an essential stage in the protection, planning and management of the landscape.

If there is a degradation or change in the landscape, the prognosis and synteresis give us an idea of which action will be the most appropriate to avoid or reduce the effect on the landscape

The different social and cultural interests of a town and the diverse possibilities for change and effect make it difficult to take decisions about the actions on a landscape. Whatever the case, an improvement in quality of life, without impairing the value of the landscape, should always prevail.



R. Pena Vila

3.5.4 What do you think would happen if...?

An activity which shows the impact of the extraordinary input of energies on landscapes and their consequences. Section: *Act*.

Objectives

To learn how to predict the changes that will take place in a landscape beginning with the extraordinary contributions of energies to the landscapes.

Subjects

History, Geography, Art, Language and Science.

Where

In the classroom.

When

At any time of day, preferably after some activities from the first blocks have been completed so that the children have acquired the knowledge necessary to be able to make a prediction.

How

It involves playing at making predictions about change in a specific landscape beginning with certain extraordinary input of energy. Present at random a series of effects on a landscape, preferably their own. So that it is at random, you can prepare a spinning-top with five sides. Write one kind of effect on each side. The children are put into groups of 4 and they can choose the effects or else the teacher suggests them. They can be different or the same for each group or some can be repeated. It could be interesting to propose possible effects in accordance with the landscape, or one they have recently experienced. They may be feasible or unpredictable. Feasible: a stream in an area with a river, a tsunami in a coastal area, drought, the construction of a new neighbourhood, a housing development, a plague of insects, pollution on the ground or in water, a motorway which crosses a city... They write an effect on each side of the spinning-top, they spin the top and from the effect it lands on, they begin to prepare the prediction. The pupils should think about what would happen to their landscape and what they could do to avoid more damage and redirect the process. They can work on just one or various effects, but always at random. Each group presents their effect and prediction, and at the same time, they can also suggest a way of prevention. The other groups also take part contributing new ideas. And at the end they will reach the conclusion that predictions are important, as is the difficulty that they involve together with the need to be able to foresee.

Who with

Pupils from 9 to 11 years old.

Pupils work in groups of 3 or 4. The final discussion will be with the whole class, after each group has explained their prediction.

Length

From 30 to 60 minutes, depending on whether it includes making the spinning-top.

What do you need?

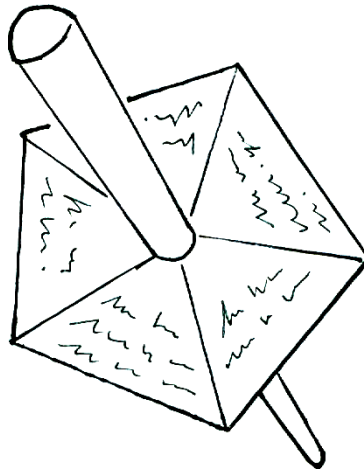
Material to make the spinning-top of effects (wood, paper or stiff plastic). Felt-tip pens. Paper to write down the predictions.

Key concepts

Landscape develops with time depending on the different combinations between natural and anthropic fluxes that may act simultaneously or independently. Hence there are many possibilities and orientations for change.

Starting with the analysis and diagnosis of the landscape, the prognosis involves predicting the changes which will take place in a landscape depending on the extra contributions of fluxes.

Knowing about the changes allows us to orientate anthropic actions, both now and in the future.



R. Pena Vila

3.6 Report activities

In this last block there are activities which consist of transmitting and exchanging experiences they have had during all the methodological phases of the study of landscape from perception, analysis and classification to diagnosis, prediction and synteresis or prevention.

- My landscape is like this.
- Routes.
- Our landscape.
- My landscape stickers.

3.6.1 Contents, objectives and didactic orientations

Contents

- Use of the written and graphic-plastic expression in the description of the landscape.
- Elaboration of texts of diverse typology: stories, descriptions, announcements, indications, diagrams...
- Taking and elaboration of representative images of the landscape by different techniques (drawing, photography...).
- Definition of identifiers and relevant values of local landscape.
- Prospection of opinion of the population in relation to the landscape as cultural heritage.
- Spatial representation of itineraries and landscape routes.
- Use of new technologies of information and communication for the dissemination on-line and for the exchanges.

Objectives

- Develop communicative competence for the significant understanding of the knowledge acquired

over the landscape.

- Enhance oral and written interaction as well as the use of the audiovisual language for the exchange of information on the landscape.
- Recognise and appreciate the values of the local landscape as referents of the own identity.
- Recognise the role of the landscape in various traditional cultural and artistic manifestations.
- Promote the landscape as a source of inspiration in the development of artistic creativity.
- Promote the exchange of knowledge and experiences related to landscape.
- Reveal the interest in knowing other landscapes of Europe and the world as well as different ways of life and customs related.

Didactic orientations

- Inform others about near landscapes will certainly be especially motivating for students, facilitating teachers to work different contents related to local heritage. Because of the many possibilities that this section offers, we recommend:
- Check and realise which landscape values have the students integrated in relation to near places proposed to publicise. The conception of landscape as heritage can be worked in primary education as an initial way, distinguishing what we like and what identifies us.
- Work information gathered among the population to incorporate it into consistency with the knowledge of the students. Teachers should guide and if necessary help to select the really significant and clearly related to the landscape, which is capable of disclosing information.
- Link the communication and dissemination activities on the landscape to school projects that facilitate their realisation and public projection, involving wide sectors of teachers and also of the educational community. For example during cultural weeks, school open doors days, visits from students of other schools, local festivities...
- Promote the use of new technologies, according to the students' domain of interest and the objectives of the report activities. It is important to balance the combination of communication tools and techniques to enrich the exchange so that the students are applying them according to specific purposes.

3.6.2 My landscape is like this

An activity which maximises communication about landscape. Section: *Report*

Objectives

To encourage communication and information exchange about local and European landscapes with the aim of making pupils more aware of their landscapes so that they acquire good personal attitudes and social responsibility.

Subjects

History, Geography, Art and Science.

Where

In the classroom.

When

At any time of day and in various sessions.

How

Once information about nearby landscapes has been gathered, and after the perception, classification, investigation and action activities, it is important that the children learn how to impart this information. It is also important that the information reaches other pupils in the town, or other groups, to maintain a flow of communication about the landscapes, thus strengthening an increasing sensitivity towards them. They can prepare an exhibition of murals showing the features of the landscapes, photographs or even videos, paintings, poems, written descriptions, songs or music about the

landscapes and even do plays or puppet shows, etc. In the first stages of primary, the exhibition could be based more on perceptive or classification and investigation topics. They can focus on the colour and shapes of the landscape, its sounds, elements and even fluxes. They can make murals or use more 3-dimensional materials. At higher levels, as well as more perceptive and descriptive exploration, you can move onto topics which research the landscape and which especially focus on prediction and prevention although they are by way of a first step in these concepts. Through the internet, you can organise exchanges of activities about landscape and even videos and video conferences. The pupils can compare landscapes in different parts of Europe, looking at similarities and differences. For example, landscapes with abiotic, biotic or anthropic dominance. Compare proposals for action on the landscapes, etc. Finally, the exchange will bring faraway landscapes closer to us, showing that they may have the same problems as our landscapes albeit with the individual cultural mark of each country or region.

‡ *Who with*

Pupils from 6 to 11 years old. Pupils work individually or in a group, depending on the type of activity planned. It can be introduced to the whole of primary at your school. After this, exchange with other local schools or other parts of Europe.

🕒 *Length*

Various sessions of different lengths, depending on the activity planned and the age of the pupils.

📁 *What do you need?*

It depends on the activity planned, for example drawing or art materials, musical instruments, photographs, maps, videos, computer programs...

Key concepts

The aims of landscape education are to awaken interest in and foster positive attitudes towards the landscapes in our environment as well as to generate responsibility and a sense of citizenship in children and the entire population.

Communication, exposure and exchange of knowledge about landscapes will not only include the most exceptional ones, but also the nearest, most common, being rundown or not, as well.

Getting to know our landscapes and being able to compare them with others helps us to acquire a certain sensitivity towards them all, as well as responsibility when planning and managing them.



M.T.Bovet Pla

3.6.3 Routes

A synthesis activity which highlights the most characteristic landscapes in our environment. Section: *Report*.

Objectives

To recognise and select our local landscapes including the most common ones.

Subjects

Language, History, Geography, Art and Science.

Where

In the classroom and outside.

When

At any time of day in the classroom. This activity is done after completing a number of other activities aimed at recognising the landscapes in our environment. Later, the cross-check of the designed route will be completed in situ outside.

How

Once you know the landscape in which you live, you can make one or two tourist routes which focus on introducing your landscape as a whole, from the most symbolic aspects to the most ordinary or even rundown ones. You can make general routes or more specialised ones:

- Living our landscape (general route which shows the environment);
- The landscape must improve (a route through the most rundown areas);
- Favourite landscapes (the most symbolic landscapes).

The pupils, according to their age and knowledge, design routes, calculating the time, stops and explanations that will refer to the characteristics of the chosen landscape (elements, fluxes that sustain it and more characteristic elements). They can prepare a leaflet, a guide or a virtual route on the web which they can then present to the town council or the local tourist office. They can exchange leaflets with other schools in the same town or other towns, and follow the virtual routes that other groups propose or a real route if feasible. In this last case, pupils act as guides at the different points along the route. In class, they can work in groups of 4 or 5 and they prepare their own route. Then they pool all their routes and choose either one, all of them, or they put all results together to make a global one. The teacher decides on the most appropriate procedure in each case.

Who with

Pupils from 9 to 11 years old. Pupils work in groups of 4 or 5. Then they make a presentation to the whole class and work altogether on a final route if this is felt to be suitable.

Length

From 30 to 60 minutes. Various sessions depending on the method chosen.

What do you need?

On the route: a plan of the itinerary with the staging points well marked. A plan or map of the town in which they are going to set the routes. Plastic film (acetate) or transparent paper, felt-tip pens, pencils. Photographs. Computer equipment to make virtual routes.

Key concepts

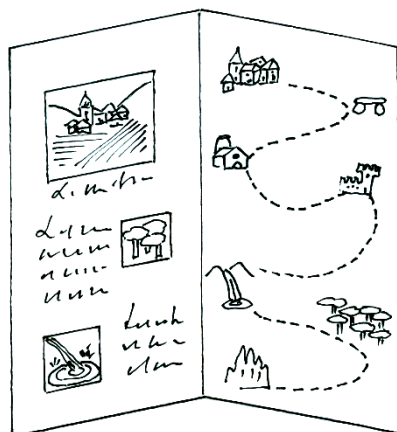
Landscape is not only part of unique or unusual territory, but also includes natural, rural, suburban and urban areas not just the respectable ones but also the most rundown. In addition, the most ordinary areas are landscape and may not stand out just because they are the space in which we live.

Getting to know the landscape around us makes us go into its character in more depth and thus be

able to explain it better.

The use of new information and communication technology, combined with the direct contact required to physically follow a route, opens a whole range of communicative possibilities to explain our landscapes.

At the same time, it makes it possible for us to get to know other nearer or more distant landscapes with, at times, similar characteristics and some of the same conservation, planning or management problems.



R. Pena Vila

3.6.4 Our landscape

An activity which describes our local landscape, highlighting its values which come from the exchange of the opinion of local people. Section: *Report*.

Objectives

To assess and introduce the architectural and local folkloric heritage, as well as the natural heritage closest to the town.

Subjects

Language, History, Geography, Art, Mathematics and Science.

Where

In the classroom, in the street, at home, in local and administrative establishments.

When

At any time of day in the classroom over a number of sessions. At convenient times in other places. Sessions during a period in the school calendar which the teachers decide is the most suitable in accordance with the course programme.

How

This activity also involves local people in that it requires their opinion about hereditary elements they consider most significant. Pupils can make a simple survey for older pupils, teachers, relatives and neighbours, including the parents of pupils from the school. First of all, the pupils decide altogether which questions to put into the survey, with the guidance of the teacher, depending on the age and ability of the pupils. They prepare the survey with text, pictures, photographs, drawing, poetry... The questions may be something like this:

- Which area or neighbourhood do you like best?
- Which building or monument do you think is the most important?
- Which square or park do you prefer?

- Would you restore any monument or building?
- Which area or neighbourhood do you like least?
- Do you know any typical song, local dish or dessert, a dance, legend...?

With the teacher's help, they can go to a public or private establishment which can tell them about the hereditary values of the town. Once they have the surveys, each pupil should bring back 3 to 5 completed ones to class. They then transfer the answers from the surveys and explain the results. The pupils will then visit the things that are marked most often. They draw, describe and take photos of them so that they can then upload the information onto the school website or raise people's awareness of it through other telematic or media channels (school or local radio, educational or local magazines...). In the case of songs, music, legends, dances or gastronomy, they learn them and perform them to make them reach others too. If other schools in other towns near or far carry out this activity too, it would be very interesting to exchange results and even organise a virtual or face-to-face meeting depending on distance and means. In this activity, it may be interesting to involve local public establishments to make things easier and even broadcast the information.

‡ *Who with*

Pupils from 6 to 11 years old. Pupils work individually. The final results altogether.

🕒 *Length*

From 30 to 60 minutes, depending on age. Various sessions which the teachers decide on.

📄 *What do you need?*

A questionnaire with questions or pictures. Pencil and paper to write down the answers. A town map to locate the highlighted elements. In the classroom: crayons and a wall, or computer equipment if this is going to be used to present the results.

Other materials depending on how ambitious you want the activity to be (prepare gastronomic dishes, reproduce songs or dances...).

Key concepts

Landscape is the result of the interaction between all its elements, and in landscapes with anthropic dominance, cultural heritage is the mark of the evolution of this landscape, closely linked to the history of the adjustment of man to one territory. Landscape is the cultural projection of society in a particular space.

Cultural heritage features some tangible elements (buildings, monuments...) and other intangible or tangible assets (legends, songs, local festivals, gastronomy...) and at the same time are parts of the landscapes, thus making them unique.

European landscapes have exhibited a rich and diverse cultural heritage ever since the human occupation of space.

New information and communication technology facilitate their diffusion and transfer creating closer ties and links between the European populations.

3.6.5 My landscape stickers

An activity which collects landscapes, creating a personal sticker (photograph) album resulting from exchanging (pictures) with other pupils. Section: *Report*.

Objectives

To know, compare and exchange landscapes.

Subjects

Language, History and Geography, Art and Science.

 *Where*


In the classroom, at home, in the playground, on the internet.

 *When*

At any time in the classroom over a number of sessions. In other places, when the occasion arises.

 *How*


This activity requires the collaboration of friends, acquaintances, relative, etc. First of all the pupils prepare an album, which may be physical or virtual. Each pupil can personalise it and may decide the order of classification and the cause. They may classify landscape, by the colours, shapes, function (urban, rural, natural, suburban, etc.), by country, province, distance or proximity, culture... The teacher may orientate it according to the subject they wish to reinforce, the age and knowledge of the pupils, the time available, if they want a presentation or exhibition of the albums, etc. The pupils have a number of sheets of paper for their album and some stickers (photographs or pictures) of landscapes for each sheet which they complete through the exchange. Each landscape has some information referring to place, time of year, features of the landscape (elements and fluxes) and who has provided the landscape sticker. They can show some they have got themselves and the others they have got in the exchange.

 *Who with*

Pupils from 8 to 11 years old. Pupils work individually, but they are in constant contact with other pupils for the exchange. The final results can be presented and discussed altogether.

 *Length*

The activity may last the whole year, or one term, depending on the teachers' aims. It can be done by one teacher or year group or in an interdisciplinary way for the whole school. It will require some general sessions to carry out the activity and some follow-up sessions.

 *What do you need?*

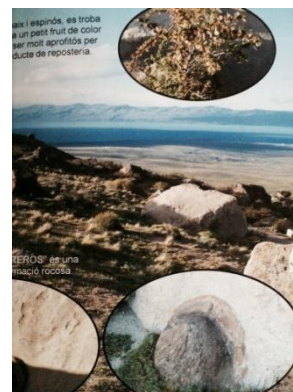
Materials to prepare a physical album or software to create virtual albums. A collection of pictures of landscapes with their comments.

Key concepts

The diversity of landscapes, both near and far, and the differences and similarities between landscapes located in different geographical places, are characteristic of the complexity of the landscape.

Collecting different landscapes shows, through play, the scenic richness of our environment and also that of Europe as well as of other parts of the world.

Being able to acquire landscapes from other places facilitates exchange and communication between pupils who live in other physical and culturally different landscapes.



M. Travé Sánchez; R. Pena Vila; M. T. Bovet Pla

4 Glossary

Abiotic elements

They are natural elements of the landscape which are inert, without life: e.g. rocks and its erosion products (gravel, sand, silt); water courses or standing water. The relief is also considered an abiotic element.

Analysis

It is the separation of a complex whole, like landscape, into its various parts. Analysis is a process as a method of studying the nature of landscape separating into its constituent elements or of determining its essential features and their relations. It is the first phase of the study of landscapes.

Anthropocene

It is a Geological era that began approximately 8000 years ago with the emergence and growth of agriculture. Some scientists replace the Holocene (the current time of the Quaternary period in Earth history) by the term Anthropocene era because of the considerable impact that human activities have had on the planet. The term Anthropocene was coined in 2000 by the winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry Paul Crutzen, who considers the influence of human behaviour on the Earth in recent centuries has been significant.

Anthropic or anthropogenic elements

They are the elements having an origin in human activity. They can be built artefacts and infrastructures: buildings, dams, net of communications, airports, and the related with mining, agriculture, etc.

Anthropic fluxes

They are those caused by human action. They can be distinguished from manual work or mechanical work and the energy made from production processes, as well as the resulting from the exploitation of natural resources (hydroelectric power, natural gas, oil, biomass...). The economy and communication are types of fluxes that also influence the dynamics of the landscapes.

Biotic elements

They are natural elements relating to living organisms which are born, grow and die. Vegetation is the most considered biotic element studying landscape. Fauna is also taken into account as indicates the quality of its habitat.

Diagnosis

It is a definition of the state of the landscape. It describes its structure and functioning according to its elements and fluxes. This methodological phase is established with the interpretation of the results of the analysis.

Diagnosis of potentiality

It defines the suitability or capacity of the landscape to host certain possible anthropic activities. It is also the possibility to offer different uses than the present one, maintaining the landscape sustainability.

Descriptive diagnosis

It details the present features of the landscape. It offers information about landscapes from a specific territory defining their structure and present dynamics.

Dynamics

It deals with the motion and equilibrium of systems under the action of forces that produce or change such motion, usually from outside the system.

Environmental impact

The impression, particularly the undesirable or unpleasant impression, made on an environment by the introduction of something alien to it.

Environmental assessment

It is an analysis of the likely impacts that a project may have on ecosystems and human health. The main impacts to be analysed are: soil contamination impacts, air pollution impacts, noise health effects, ecology impacts including endangered species assessment, geological hazards assessment and water pollution impacts.

European Landscape Convention

Convention adopted under the auspices of the Council of Europe (ETS n° 176) promoting the protection, management and planning of European landscapes and organises European co-operation on landscape issues.

Formal education

Education or training received from institutions like schools, colleges, or universities regulated by the Administration.

Geosystem

It is the theoretical model of landscape, an open system constituted by the abiotic, biotic and anthropic subsystems. It deals with the interrelations among the elements and fluxes. The elements that structure the geosystem are interrelated and modifying one of them affects the rest, and therefore to the system. The geosystem evolves over time, responding to the entry, increase or liberation of matter and energy.

Habitat

A place that provides a particular set of environmental conditions for the organism or organisms inhabiting it.

Heritage

It is the evidence of the past, such as historical sites, buildings, and the unspoilt natural environment, considered collectively as the inheritance of present-day society. It is also anything that has been transmitted by tradition. The heritage is understood in the broader sense of “any material or non-material vestige of human endeavour and any trace of human activities in the natural environment”.

Holistic techniques

They are techniques that face the study of landscape as a whole. The whole being greater than the sum of its parts.

ICT

Abbreviation of Information and Communications Technology.

Infrastructure

The basic structure, the framework, the system which supports the operation of an organization (e.g. the power and water supplies, the transport and communications facilities, the drainage system), which makes human activities or/and economic development possible.

Interdisciplinary

Adjective that means combining or involving two or more academic disciplines or fields of study, professions, technologies, departments, or the like. Interdisciplinarity means considering a topic as the landscape from different disciplines.

Landscape

According to the European Landscape Convention, “landscape means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors” In other words “an area of the Earth’s surface characterised by a certain type of scenery, comprising a distinct association of physical and/or cultural forms.

Landscape classification

Landscapes can be classified under many criteria. Different ways to classify them like: size, functionality, biomes, etc. Another way of classify is according to the dominance of its elements and fluxes.

Landscape literacy

It is a process that consists in how to learn to read or interpret the landscape, to express, understand and communicate the knowledge on landscape. This process can start during childhood and continue in older stages.

Landscape management

Landscape management can be defined as the process of managing the use and development of land resources. Landscape management means action, from a perspective of sustainable development, to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape, so as to guide and harmonise changes which are brought about by social, economic and environmental processes.

Landscape planning

Landscape planning is an activity involving both public and private professionals, aiming at the creation, conservation, enhancement and restoration of landscapes at various scales. Landscape planning means strong forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes in a sustainable way.

Landscape protection

The European Landscape Convention indicates that: “Landscape protection means actions to conserve and maintain the significant or characteristic features of a landscape, justified by its heritage value derived from its natural configuration and/or from human activity.

Landscape structure

Set of elements, fluxes and interrelations whose specific disposition constitutes the landscape.

Natural fluxes

They are those whose source is natural. The most important natural flux is received from the sun, which is assimilated through the photosynthetic process in the vegetation. This solar radiation also influences directly the climate processes. Other natural fluxes are also considered: the gravitational (responsible mainly for erosive processes) and the energy coming from inside of the Earth which is manifest in volcanism and earthquakes leading to new geomorphologic formations.

Natural landscape

The landscape as unaffected or little affected by human activities. However, human activities have been so widely spread that only a few “real natural landscapes” still exist.

Open system

Systems in which occurs an input stimuli from the outside of energy and/or matter that keep them a functioning. They are separated from its surroundings by a boundary that admits a transfer of matter or energy across it.

Perception

It is a function involving the brain that allows people to receive, process and interpret the information that comes from the outside through the senses.

Periurban areas

They are areas that are in some form of transition from strictly rural to urban. These areas often form the immediate urban-rural interface and may eventually evolve into being fully urban.

Prevention

It is the action of anticipating or stopping an event or practice not desirable in the landscape.

Prognosis

It is a forecast or prognostication. This methodological phase presents the evolution and development of the landscape in accordance with its dynamic state and is directly related to the diagnosis since it provides the conditions of departure of the evolution of the landscape. The forecast focuses on the study of the processes and conditions of the changes that are operated in the landscape, allowing to develop alternatives to evolution laid down according to the structure and dynamics of the landscape.

Rural areas

Rural areas are sparsely settled areas without significant large city or town. They refer to certain forms of landscapes and land uses where agriculture and forest areas play an important part.

Scale

It is the relationship between distance on a map and on the earth's surface. Depending on the size of the landscapes to consider (from a few m² to several km²), different scales may be used and the characteristics of their study can be very different.

Sustainability

This term is considered in Environmental Science. It is the use of resources in a way that they can be kept along the time. It also means the quality of not being harmful to the environment or to natural resources.

Soundscape

The component sounds of an environment. They may be different if they come from urban, rural or natural landscapes.

Synteresis

It is a preventive or preservative set of measures to get the sustainability of landscape. At this stage, in accordance with the established prognosis, it can be defined which management of landscape apply to avoid not desired potential impacts in the future.

Synthesis

The combining of the constituent elements of separate material, elements or abstract entities into a single or unified entity (opposed to analysis).

System

It is a set of units in mutual interrelationships. Von Bertalanffy presented the general systems theory in the decade of the thirties of the twentieth century.

Urban areas

An area which physically forms part of a town or city and it is characterised by an important share of built-up surfaces, high density of population and employment and significant amounts of transport and other infrastructure (as opposed to rural areas). Urban areas may also comprise non built-up, green areas generally used for recreational purposes by urban dwellers.

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