

Forest Experiment, Switzerland

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Organisations involved

Association Forest Experiment (“Verein Waldexperiment”).

Aim

To introduce young children from an urban environment to the forest wilderness and let them detect and explore this unknown environment and develop new ideas (open structure).

Target group

Children between 7 and 11.

What happens

Duration: 1 year (12 modules)

Annual participation: 20-24 children per experiment; 3 experiments per year

Use intensity: 1 module every month

Costs for participation: around CHF 250 per year

Accessibility: forest area, only for people able to walk in the forest

The programme Forest Experiment (“Waldexperiment”) is based on a forest oriented approach and on findings and methods from social pedagogics; the association is combining forest and social pedagogic skills and professions. The children develop their own ideas and experience the so far unknown forest. Based on individual decisions, personal risk limits are reached in a secure setting. These activities are part of an integral health experience in the sense of reflection.

Results of the programme/project/intervention

The experiment results in self-confidence which is an important contribution to life-long learning.

Reference

Publications can be found on the website.

Website

www.waldexperiment.ch