



Greenopolis






Sustainable development






"Our Common Future" - this was the title of the report published in 1987 by the World Commission for Environment and Development. The report was one of the first stages of developing and disseminating the idea of sustainable development. The definition of sustainable development is as follows "it allows meeting the needs of the current generation without compromising the chances of meeting such needs in the future." It also became the basis for the convening of the Earth Summit in Rio De Janeiro in 1992. This conference was a political success and the adoption of the principles and goals of sustainable development.










Sustainable development is a very broad term. It is based on three pillars of balance: economic development, social development and environmental protection. The development of any of these spheres should not come at the expense of others. When planning economic development, we should be guided by the needs of the people and the environment. Therefore, measures should be taken to:

-  Providing access to work, health care, education, sanitation, based on respect for human rights and social equality - SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.
-  Economic growth that fosters social cohesion and the elimination of poverty, while reducing the negative impact on the natural environment - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
-  Ensuring ecological safety for the society by protecting the natural environment, preserving biodiversity, limiting the consumption of the Earth's natural resources, as well as their rational use - ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT.

In order to be able to implement the assumptions of sustainable development, we need education that:

-  enables the acquisition of skills, knowledge and attributes that ensure sustainable development.
-  is equally accessible at all levels and in all social contexts (family, school, work, local community).
-  builds civic accountability and promotes democracy through awareness of rights and obligations.
-  is based on the principle of lifelong learning.
-  supports the steady development of the individual.

Education for sustainable development is a holistic and interdisciplinary education that:

-  shapes values;
-  develops critical thinking;
-  develops problem-solving skills;
-  uses a wide range of teaching and learning methods;
-  requires active participation;
-  relates directly to everyday life, both personal and professional;
-  responds to local challenges.

Childhood is a period in a person's life in which his or her habits are formed and determine later his or her lifestyle. Children's nutrition influences their physical, intellectual, emotional development and their ability to learn. The resources that a young organism will be equipped with are the basis for good functioning for many years. Therefore, kindergarten is the best environment for a child to start and systematically implement the foundations of sustainable development.

As part of the Erasmus - Greenopolis project, which aims to raise children's awareness of the importance of sustainable development at various levels, our school has taken up a number of activities and we would like to present the effects of those activities.



Healthy juice

Every child likes a delicious drink. In our school, children could produce their own juice, which not only tasted great, but is healthy as well. Therefore, preschoolers had culinary and educational classes. During the classes, they learned what products should be eaten to have a balanced diet in order to maintain health. The teacher emphasized how many vitamins are in the freshly squeezed juice. The children listened attentively and impatiently waited for the practical part. They eagerly set to work and the results gave them great joy and pride. They drank their own product with relish and with the knowledge of the juice being a source of health and well being.









REDMI NOTE 9
AI QUAD CAMERA

Sensory bird feeder

The action of feeding the birds allowed children to experience sensory activities that are necessary for the development of the brains of young children. After all, the hand is an instrument of the brain, as the Italian doctor Maria Montessori said several decades ago. The making of the feeders was a great exercise for little hands.

We can also proudly and happily say that our school has a "zero waste" rule - nothing has been wasted from the action of making healthy juices! The leftover fruit was used for the production of the feeders. It was a wonderful ecology lesson.







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Bee day

There is no life without bees! Thanks to these little creatures, we can eat fruit and enjoy the wonderful views of flowers and trees. Everyone should know how much bees are needed to protect them from extinction. That is why preschoolers took part in the "Bee Day" celebrations. Children learned a lot about the life of bees, the stages of honey production, the nutritional value of honey and the work of beekeepers.



The children went to the meadow with the teachers and watched carefully how the bees worked diligently.



After observing it was time for the children to collect dandelions and daisies with which they filled the holes made on the wings and body of a cardboard bee.



The culmination of the Bee Day celebrations was the children's art work.



It was a very educational day. The children received diplomas for their work and commitment.



Action segregation

The public's awareness of the need to segregate rubbish is growing. It is worth the time and effort to make the children aware of what needs to be done from an early age. Our school has involved the children in caring for a clean planet. Preschoolers learned what recycling is and how to segregate waste. Because children learn best through action, they went to the nearby neighborhood to clean up.



Children equipped with gloves and bags of appropriate colors eagerly went to work.



The children were surprised by the amount of waste found. This made them promise to always throw their trash to the appropriate bins.



It was also an opportunity to make children aware that the rubbish that people throw away in a forest, river or meadow can often cause fires, water poisoning or even animal diseases.



Garden in the kindergarden

As part of the project, children, with the help of their teachers, prepared their own garden. During the classes, they learned what conditions for plants are important to grow. To establish their gardens, in accordance with the "zero waste" principle, preschoolers used unnecessary liter drink bottles. When cut in half, they turned out to be excellent pots. In this way, children learned to recycle. Growing and observing the garden was a valuable lesson in ecology, independence and responsibility. In addition, preschoolers used ripe lettuce, radishes, tomatoes, parsley and chives to make colorful, delicious and healthy sandwiches.



Preschoolers had the opportunity to see what a gardener's job looks like and what young plants, which they often eat in sandwiches or soups, looks like.



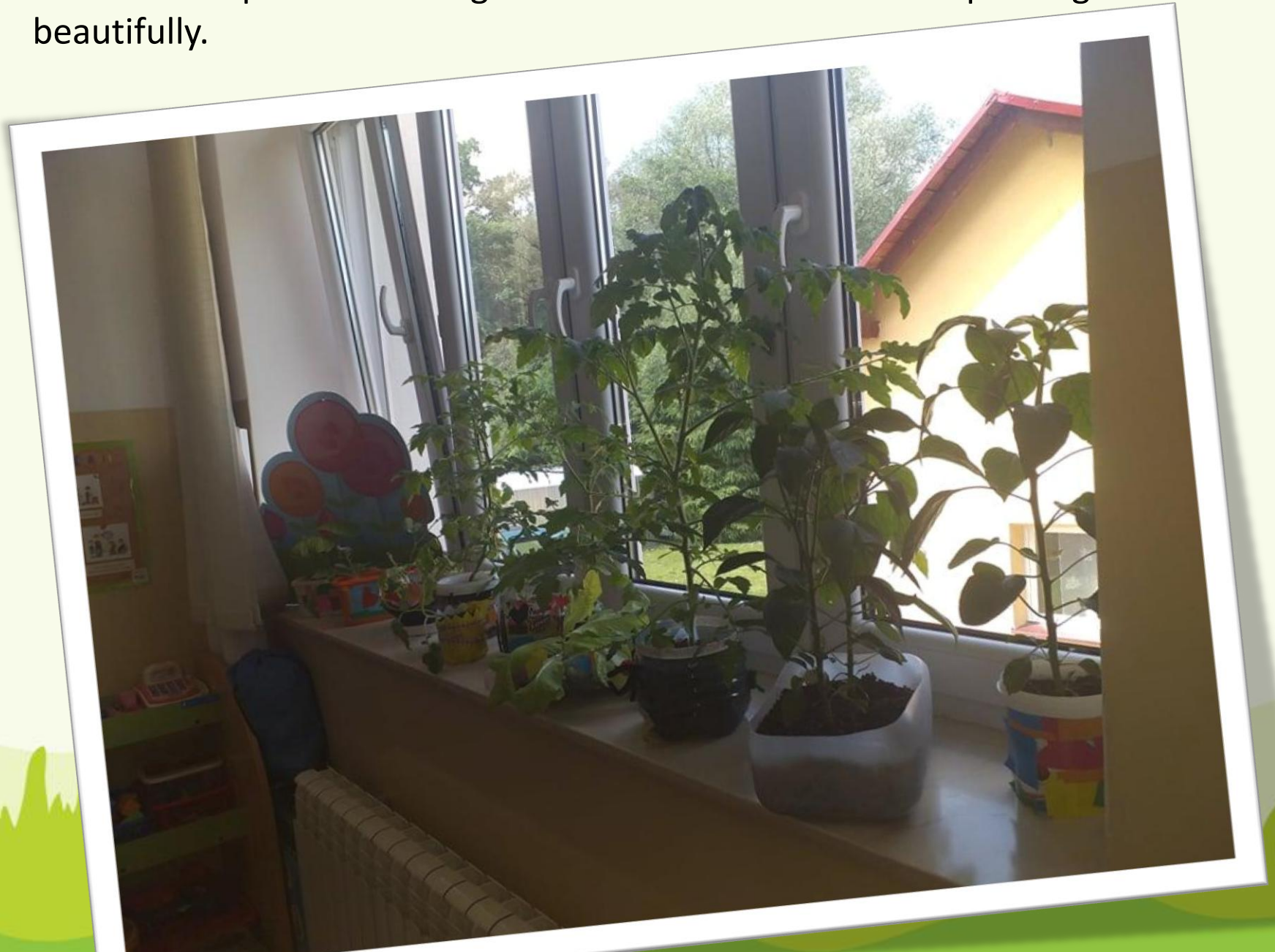




Every day, as part of their pre-school duties, they were checking the plants and if necessary, gently water them.



Children feel proud watching the effects of their work. The plants grew beautifully.



Healthy sandwich day

As part of the sustainable development classes, the Day of Healthy Sandwiches was organized in the kindergarten. Children learned about the benefits of eating lunch, learned the importance of a balanced diet, rich in cereal products and 5 portions of vegetables, fruits and juice. While making sandwiches, they developed appropriate eating habits, creativity, imagination and attention to hygiene. The children learned about the nutritional values of the products from which they were to prepare their own lunch. Even the biggest fussy eaters ate without a problem a colorful, healthy and self-prepared sandwich.









Experience with water

For years the problem of pollution and littering our planet has been bothering ecologists. Improper waste management causes pollution not only of water, but also of air and soil. Every year, more species of animals, birds and plants disappear from our globe, and man is to blame for it. To explain the problem of the impact of pollutants on the aquatic environment and the organisms that inhabit it, preschoolers took part in experiments with water, oil, detergents and feathers. The conducted experiment made children realize that the feathers of birds that have come into contact with the oil are heavy and sticky. The bird cannot fly and dies as a result. Due to detergents, bird feathers lose their water resistance, the bird's weight increases and it sinks. The children were very concerned with the fate of the birds and declared their willingness to care for ecology together with their parents.







World Autism Day

Even the youngest children from our school have been involved in the World Autism Day celebration. Preschoolers came dressed in blue to show support for people on the autism spectrum with their clothes. At the beginning of the class, they listened to a fairy tale about a girl with autism. This form allowed them to get used to the subject and learn that although we are different, everyone is equally important. Then the children made artwork - a blue butterfly. Photos from the action were published on the school's website in order to reach a wider audience and encourage them to undertake activities for social inclusion.











Dignity day

Our school was involved in a challenge aimed at showing support to people with intellectual disabilities and signaling to the school and local community that these people have the same rights and values as healthy people. Near our school there is an occupational therapy day center for people with intellectual disabilities. Our facilities cooperate with each other regularly. Thanks to this, each student of our school has a chance to develop sensitivity and deepen knowledge about the functioning of people with disabilities.





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„We only have one planet”

All the actions taken were aimed at jointly building a society sensitive to the needs of our planet. If we make children aware of how to care for the Earth from an early age, then we can be more confident about the fate of the natural environment and the development of future generations that will use it. Thanks to the participation in the project, each participant took to heart the words that Aristotle said long ago: "It's time to understand that nature will exist without man, but man without nature will not."





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