



SYKLI



Photo: [Merlyn Driver](#)

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Team for environmental and sustainability  
education

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# The Values of SYKLI Environmental College

- **Hope**
- **Curiosity**
- **Bravery**
- **Sustainable future**



# Environmental and Sustainability Education





# Study Program for Environmental Educators

- SYKLI has developed a Study Program for Environmental Educators. The program was launched in 2013 and is the highest vocational qualification in the Finnish education system.
- The aim is to increase the quality of environmental education in all levels of the Finnish education system, and thus to enhance skills in implementing the national sustainability requirements.

# Environmental education

- **Environmental educator = a person, who promotes sustainable change in their organisation** (not necessarily a "traditional" pedagogical profession)
- We aim at societies that live within the planetary boundaries
- Training is aimed at diverse professional groups





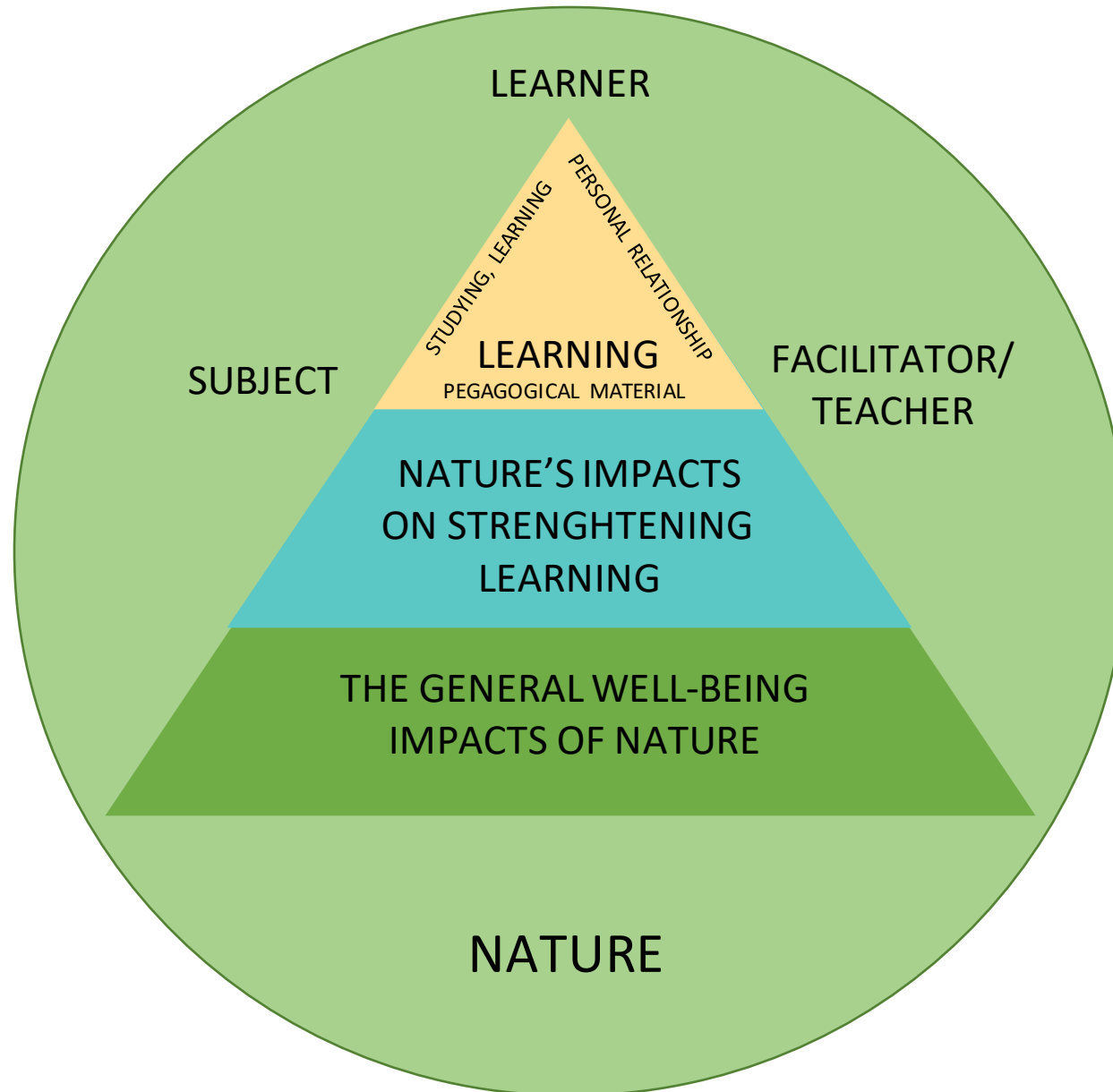
## New openings for environmental education training

- 2022- The field of culture, museums and other non formal learning environments such as libraries
- 2022- Vocational teachers in any field
- 2023- Youth work



# Growing up and living in nature





Picture: Anna Haukka, Virpi Jussila & Ulla Myllyniemi

Blog text in Finnish: <https://sykli.fi/blogi/kuvaaja-auttaa-jasentamaan-luontoymparistossa-tapahtuvan-oppimisen-hyotyja/>





# Development and training projects



## Why do we do projects?

- Developing new training and learning materials
- Short trainings
- Producing open access learning materials
- Collaborating with all the skillful and lovely partners we have in Finland and abroad!



# Kutsu Seikkailuun = An Invitation to an Adventure



- The aim of this project is to create **inspiring, creative, sustainable and diverse** methods to develop **nature-based activities** for early childhood education and preschool children.
- The themes of the trainings are sustainability, creativity, playfulness, activities in nature, safety as well as participatory approaches and equity.
- Testing new methods to use arts and adventure education together with skills to enhance nature literacy.
- **Uses a diversity of outdoor education methods!**
- Partner: Seikkailutaidekoulu (The Adventure Arts School) <https://seikkailutaidekoulu.com/>



# Enemmän elämää = More Life / More Living



- We organise webinars and offer online training to make **goal-oriented nature-based work and pedagogies that promote nature literacy and biodiversity positive practises** to be part of vocational training in Finland.
- Participants gain **concrete tools** to work together with nature in their organisations. These are both skills to enhance the well-being at the workplace as well as pedagogical skills for vocational teachers.





# Previous projects

## **YHDESSÄ ULKOLUOKKAAN! = Together into the Outdoor Classroom!**

- Promoting primary school teachers' outdoor education skills & pedagogical know-how. Turning outdoor education into environmental education.
- Also using digital tools in Outdoor learning and using outdoor education to differentiate teaching (for diverse learning skills/ capabilities)

## **Kohti ympäristövastuullista oppimisyhteisöä = Towards Sustainable learning communities**

- Promoting early learning, primary school teachers' understanding about climate change & biodiversity. Targeted also school leaders to enable them to create space for building sustainable learning communities
- Providing pedagogical tools for dialogue and supporting student participation & empowerment
- Well-being in nature as a supportive method in education (SYKLI & Parks and Wildlife Finland/Haltia)
- Collaboration together with 9 Finnish organisations! Thank you all, and especially coordinating WWF Finland.





## Out of the Box, Sustainability Education in Finland, Erasmus + -training

- Improving competences for **the European sustainability competence framework** GreenComp, e.g. systems thinking, and a good relationship to all lifeforms
- Trying out education methods
- Practical tools for sustainability education
- Out of the classroom learning environments
- Exchange ideas with teachers from all over Europe
- Target group: Teachers working in lower and upper secondary education, vocational schools, or adult education, as well as other professionals in different fields interested in course topics or content.
- Read more: <https://sykli.fi/in-english/out-of-the-box-sustainability-education-in-finland/>



**Open access materials**





# Leap into the #OUTDOORCLASSROOM

- A guidebook openly available online and aiming to encourage teachers outdoors.
- It acts as an inspiration for those interested in outdoor teaching and as a strong support for those who already have taken their first steps out.
- Contributors to the book are outdoor teachers, researchers, and supporters of outdoor education.
- <https://ulkoluokka.fi/en/>



## Species cards in English

- #OUTDOORCLASS – Species Cards can be used in the multiple activities (no other materials required). The species cards include a variety of species living in Finnish nature.
- <https://ulkoluokka.fi/en/materials/>



## Go ahead and use our material to enhance your environmental education skills!

- Outdoor education truly inspires! Come and take a leap into the Outdoor Classroom!
- The guidebook and other materials are openly available online in English: <https://ulkoluokka.fi/en/materials>
- All of SYKLIs open access tools (in Finnish, and some in Swedish): <https://sykli.fi/vaikuttaminen/tyokalut/>



Questions, comments?



**Anna Haukka**

SYKLI, Environmental School of Finland