



Children in the Wilderness – Aiming for Education for Sustainable development

Children in the Wilderness (CITW) aims to base resource content on the Environmental Education, Science and Technology, Social Science and Life Skills curricula of the various countries within which we operate.

CITW aims to apply UNESCO's goals of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) to all educational resources developed. These have been summarised in the table* below.

| KEY CHARACTERISTIC | CRITERIA TO FULFILL CHARACTERISTIC |
|--|---|
| Interdisciplinary and holistic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The inclusion of various knowledge domains within the curriculum |
| Values-driven | ESD teaching should build respect for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dignity and human rights - Intergenerational responsibility - Biodiversity of Eco-systems - Cultural diversity |
| Critical thinking and problem-solving | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evidence of problem-based learning in the curriculum and Eco-Clubs - Evidence of group activity in the Eco-Clubs |
| Multi-method | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evidence of a range of teaching methods, including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Practical learning in addition to theory o Inclusion of outdoor learning - Teacher organisation – ie. Evidence of pre-planning, use of lesson plans, etc. |
| Participatory decision-making | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students have some control over the learning process - Positive interactions (both teacher/student and student/student) |
| Applicability | The curriculum should address the following in a locally relevant/applicable way: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health - HIV/AIDS - Natural resource use - Climate change - Disaster prevention/management |
| Locally relevant | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A locally relevant curriculum that enables learners to apply knowledge and skills acquired in their daily life - The incorporation of indigenous knowledge in the curriculum - Evidence of a relationship between the Eco-Club and the community – ie. Projects carried out with wider community - Use of local language |

*These criteria were put together by Sarah Adams in 2017. Sarah investigated Children in the Wilderness for her Masters thesis through Massey University in New Zealand. She based these criteria on UNESCO's Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Policy, creating a table of characteristics and criteria applicable to the Children in the Wilderness programme.