

Forest Olympics Gantrisch, Switzerland

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Organisations involved

Regional Nature Park Gantrisch (“Regionaler Naturpark Gantrisch”).

Aim

To bring schoolchildren into the forest and to let them experience all human senses within a forest environment in a motivational context.

Target group

Schoolchildren (year 3 and 4; children between 9 and 12); the event is organised in collaboration with the schools; usually 10 to 15 classes participate in one event (different schools from different areas).

What happens

Duration: 1 day (every second year); it is an event organised for all classes of the same age from the participating schools

Annual participation: around 250 to 280 children every second year

Use intensity: 1 day in summer

Costs for participation: participation is free; the event is organised by the regional nature park in close cooperation with the schools and other institutions from businesses and local communities

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

Forest Olympics Gantrisch (“Waldolympiade Gantrisch”) is an event based on the idea that all the children go through different duty stations in the forest fulfilling various tasks. The tasks are directly linked to all seven human senses (official six senses: sight, hearing, smell, taste, touch and balance; and the “unofficial seventh sense” of intuition or inspiration). The duty stations are designed in an “Olympic setting”. The event is organised on a cross-sectoral approach linking stakeholders from different sectors throughout the region.

Results of the programme/project/intervention

Children can easily be motivated and should be recognised as a special target group. Cross- sectoral cooperation is highly important for single and series of events.

Reference

Publications can be found on the website.

Website

www.gantrisch.ch