

Urban Beach

Waves of Imagination

Key words:

Legos, Urban Beach, Construction, Environment, Collaboration, Sustainability

Target group:

primary school pupils
(ages 6-11)

Objectives:

Learn about the importance of urban beaches and their environmental impact. Improve spatial perception by planning the layout of all necessary elements. Develop fine motor skills through building with Legos. Stimulate creativity and imagination. Promote teamwork and collaboration among children. Integrate knowledge of geography, sciences and arts.



General Guideline on Time Allocation:

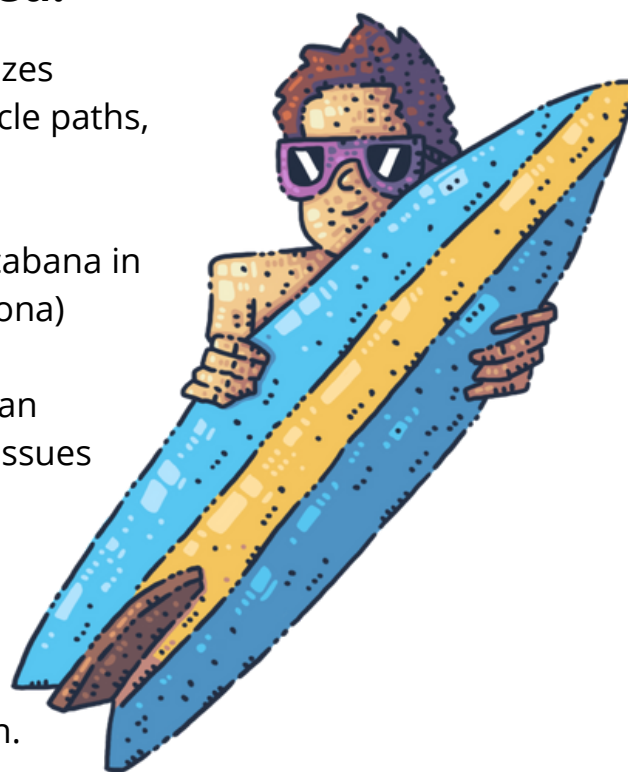
The duration needed to carry out this activity may vary depending on the specific group of children. Teachers are encouraged to adapt the implementation according to the needs, interests, and dynamics of the group.

In the preparatory phase, teachers may use a variety of activities to introduce and contextualize the chosen topic. These can include discussions, videos, drawings, storytelling, or even a field trip, depending on the age and background knowledge of the children.

The main construction phase, during which children plan and build their urban element using LEGO bricks, should typically not exceed 45 to 60 minutes. However, this phase often stimulates further curiosity and questions among the children, potentially leading to extended engagement or follow-up activities. For more detailed instructions and pedagogical support on how to implement activities of INNO-kids project, please download the Teacher's Methodological Guide.

Materials/resources required:

- LEGO bricks of various shapes and sizes
- Specific elements: trees, parasols, cycle paths, signage
- Small LEGO figures: people, animals
- Images of urban beaches (e.g. Copacabana in Rio de Janeiro, Barceloneta in Barcelona)
- Paper sheets and coloured pencils
- Factsheets on the importance of urban beaches and related environmental issues



Introduction:

Explain to children that an urban beach is a beach located within a city where people can relax and have fun.

Talk about the importance of preserving these areas so that everyone can enjoy them. Talk about the importance of preserving these areas so that everyone can enjoy them. Discuss the environmental challenges that urban beaches face, such as pollution and overcrowding, and the importance of sustainable practices.

Procedure:

Preparation

Divide the children into small groups of 3 to 4 participants.

Each group should discuss and plan what their urban beach will look like. They can draw a sketch on paper to guide them in construction.

Construction

Using Legos, the groups begin to build their urban beach, including the sand, the sea, promenades, leisure areas and urban infrastructure such as buildings, kiosks, shops and public toilets.

Details

After construction, children can decorate their beach with additional pieces such as trees, umbrellas and people.

Discussion on Sustainability

After construction, discuss with children how we can keep the beaches clean and sustainable. They can add elements to your project, such as ecopoints and preservation areas.

Presentation

Each group introduces their urban beach to the rest of the class, explaining what they have built and what they have learned about the importance of beaches and sustainable practices.

Tips:

- Encourage students to research photos and videos of urban beaches that help them come up with ideas for their construction.
- Encourage students to add personal touches to the construction, such as building an ice cream kiosk, surf zone, etc. Distribute reusable materials, such as fabrics, paper and plastic, which can be used so that children can create additional elements to decorate their buildings, making them more appealing.

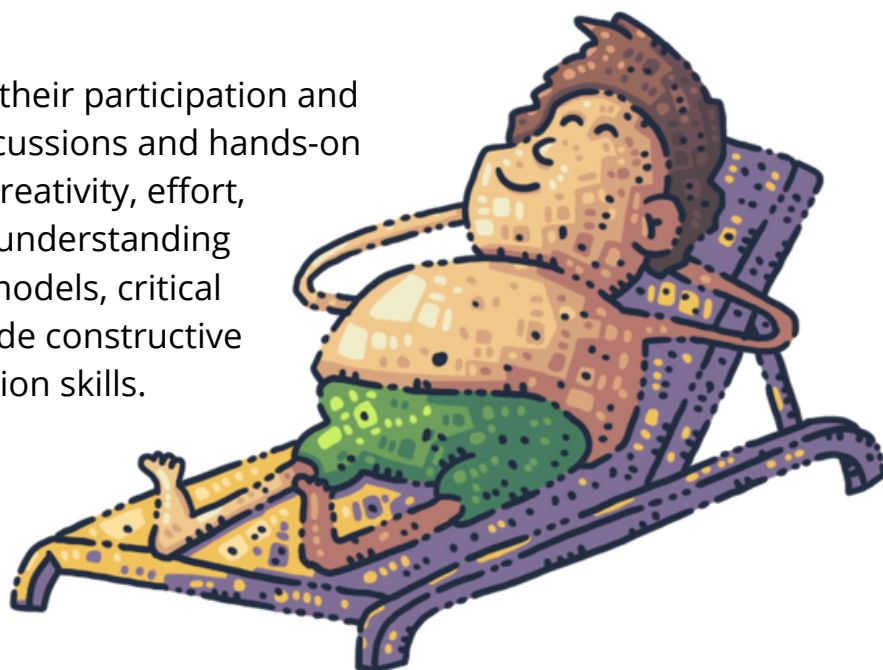
Additional Considerations:

Differentiation:

Provide additional support or simplified instructions for pupils who may require extra assistance. For advanced pupils, offer extension tasks such as researching further sustainable practices or designing more complex models.

Assessment:

Assess pupils based on their participation and engagement during discussions and hands-on activities. Evaluate the creativity, effort, collaboration, depth of understanding demonstrated in their models, critical thinking, ability to provide constructive feedback and presentation skills.





Curriculum Connections:

This activity integrates:

Environmental Studies / Geography (natural and urban environments, types of beaches, environmental preservation)

Science (*coastal ecosystems, biodiversity, environmental impact*)

Art (*design, creativity, construction with LEGO and drawings*)

Social and Emotional Learning (teamwork, communication, cooperation)

Curriculum Connections:

- **SDG 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities: Promote the creation of safe and sustainable public spaces.
- **SDG 14:** Life in the water: Encouraging the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources.
- **SDG 4:** Quality Education: Promote inclusive and equitable learning by encouraging creativity and critical thinking.
- **SDG 17:** Partnerships and Means of Implementation: Encourage collaboration and teamwork by developing communication skills and cooperation among children.
- **SDG 15:** Earth Life: Raise awareness of the importance of preserving terrestrial environments and biodiversity.



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