

«THE HORSE» CONCEPT – COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS ACROSS CULTURES AND BORDERS

Press release, Zurich, July 2020

Discovering together, discussing, experiencing on site, creating, publishing, propagating; it's learning through experience with the prospect of practical thinking and acting! «The Horse» concept demands & promotes professional, social, linguistic and media skills of students and teachers.

Since 2016, young people have been publishing their environmental projects on the website www.dontwastemy.energy. Meanwhile 128 exciting publications carry the newly gained knowledge and experiences of students around the age of 15 to 20 all over the world - in March '20 we recorded 9'931 visitors from over 140 countries on the project website!

«The Horse» concept – what happens backstage?

In the run-up a theme is chosen, e.g. "Food & Climate". It starts with a festival of ideas, i.e. ideas, questions and visions for projects are collected, discussed and commented on. We use a specially designed, simple **teaching and learning website** as a working and communication tool. This digital action space enables learners, teachers and experts to **work together across locations and devices**: e.g. in the form of contributions, ratings, comments or exchanges via video conferencing. No special previous knowledge is necessary for operating these websites.

Seven lighthouses point the way

When so many captivating things beckon, how quickly one can lose sight of the essentials! To prevent this from happening, there is an orientation aid, our so-called **«befter» method** (before & after the experience).

This consists of **seven proven steps**, which have crystallized over the years: Imagination, Research, Experience on Site, Shape & Create, Reflection, Publishing, Promotion & Getting Feedback. These lighthouses point the way to the common goals for all participants.



The teams publish their projects independently on www.dontwastemy.energy (Image: su-pa.net 2020)

A kaleidoscope of possibilities

The concept works and is constantly evolving. Commitment and joy are evident in the videos, images, audios, texts, surveys and interviews with experts. It offers a colorful palette of possibilities to venture on exciting journeys with an open spirit of discovery.

Join in!

We would like to develop "The Horse" concept further and make it usable for the whole world. For this purpose we founded THE ! association (The Horse Education association). Interested people are invited to join us as a supporter or expert in projects or to become a member. On the association's website you will find further information, links and reports of people's experiences. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Project website: www.dontwastemy.energy

Association website: www.the-horse.education

Further Information: www.teachingweb.org

«befter» Konzept: <https://bit.ly/36QLXop>

Eliane Suter is a geographer and safety engineer, founder of ubub, environmental education & consulting, and co-founder of su-pa.net. She is president of THE ! association.

eliane.suter@the-horse.education, 044 585 19 18

«The Horse» concept - Realizing environmental projects collaboratively

«The Horse» is a symbol for being on the road. Our focus lies in learning from experience. The tool used is a team- and cross-border "digital action space" that offers basic functions and enables learners, teachers and experts to work together across locations and devices even without any previous digital knowledge. In order to further develop the concept and make it usable for the whole world, the THE ! association was founded. Interested parties are cordially invited to participate!