



# Listen To The Voice of Earth

2021-2-PL01-KA220-SCH-000049960

## An Unusual Picnic

PR1



Co-funded by  
the European Union





**Author: LISTEN Project Team**  
**Illustrations: DALL-E**  
**Field of Interest: Endangered Species**  
**Reading Level: 9-12 years**

The activities in this book were organised by the classroom teachers in the project team in order to disseminate the results of the Erasmus+ KA 220-LISTEN project. The workshop has been reshaped to address the impact of climate change.

## Summary:

This book is about demonstrating the right behavior against actions that harm the environment, such as cutting trees.

It tells us that we can raise awareness and put a stop to wrong behaviors by taking action to protect nature.

## Main idea:

We must love nature and take action to protect it.

## Description:

This book is based on an idea of Yıldıray Lise, a collector of quality children's books. Lise is the creator of an idea that the story should be completed in seven sentences and enriched with visuals. Our 12-year-old students participating in our project created and illustrated this story after a three-hour creative writing workshop organized by teachers.

## Note to educators:

You can apply the creative writing workshop we shared on the project website to your classroom.

## Aim(s):

- to shape the sense of responsibility for the world, its fauna and flora
- to make the students aware that together we can protect the world
- to developing students' empathy
- to enable students to understand the importance of trees
- to increase students creativity and imagination,
- to increase level of writing, especially creative writing
- to strength students' self-confidence
- a manifestation of an emotional response to the beauty and richness of the natural environment
- have a realistic assessment of themselves and others in the team



## Tools and equipment:

Smart board or projector, link to the story, paper, pen, crayons.

## Pre-reading activities:

Warm-up game: Before or after working with the story, we recommend playing the game in a suitable area of the school. You can use this activity as a warm-up or for evaluation purposes.

The children's game Frost & Fire is set up for a story. The players stand in a mixed formation. There are three player roles: woodcutter, trees and volunteers. The woodcutter is determined. Other players are given the role of trees and volunteers according to the number. Trees must stand steadily. The woodcutter and volunteers can run through the forest. The woodcutter cuts down trees. The trees that the woodcutter cuts by touching them crouch down and leave the game. Volunteers go to the cut tree and pretend to replant it without being caught by the woodcutter.

End of the game:

- When the woodcutter captures all the volunteers and takes them out of the forest, the woodcutter wins the game.
- A time is set for the game. For example, two minutes. At the end of two minutes, the game is terminated, the cut trees are counted. If the number of cut trees is less than five, the volunteers win the game.

Every few games, the roles need to be changed. At the end of the game, they are asked how they feel in each role. For example, I was a woodcutter, but cutting down the trees made me sad. I was a tree and I was very worried when the woodcutter came. I was a volunteer and I was very angry when the woodcutter caught me and threw me out of the forest, etc.

- First of all, the cover and title of the book are shared with the students.
- They are provided with ideas about the subject of the book. Students can write their ideas through the web tool called "mentimeter" and a word cloud can be created from these ideas.
- Then the students are told that the subject of the book is about the protection of trees and nature and taking action for it.
- After all these are discussed, students are shown a video explaining that the trees are communicating with each other.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yWOqeyPIVRo> (English)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4C0Umy24cc> (Turkish)



## Key words:

An Unusual Picnic, nature conservation, endangered species, environmental awareness, tree cutting, loving nature, children's books, creative writing, empathy development.

## Reading the story:

Our students read the book in groups of 5-6. Each student read one page of the book.

- They prepare 5 questions about the story for comprehension.
- They exchange the questions with other groups and answer the questions. After doing this, we can put in common the different answers with the class.
- In the same groups, create an alternative ending (solutions) for the story and share with other groups.
- The teacher should analyse the newly created story endings together with the students. How did the stories end, positively or negatively? Stories with negative endings should be emphasized. The question of what they should change for sustainable life should be posed.
- What benefits would we have if we lived in a place full of trees? Make a mural with these. We can do it in groups and put in common with the class and make a big mural for the classroom.

## Post-reading activities:

After the reading, the teacher asks the students to think for a minute that they are a tree.

"As a tree, how do you feel when you see children planting new trees?" The question is asked to the students.

Humans need to be able to continue their lives and meet their basic needs. For this reason, we have to use living and nonliving things in nature. For example:

- We need water for cleaning.
- We need soil for agriculture.
- We need mines to produce vehicles.

Could you add a few more examples?" The question is addressed to the students. Yes, these are needs, you gave very good examples. Why do you think the trees in the story were cut down?

Then the group is asked "What is the difference between wants and needs?".



In your opinion, what is the relationship between sustainable living and consumption ethics? With this question, it is aimed for the students to get an idea about the positive effects of shopping at the level of their needs.

Does the fact that the trees in the story were cut down because of wants instead of needs change your feelings and thoughts?

## Web 2.0

- Mentimeter

(A board is created using web2.0 tools. Students add an endangered plant or animal species they have researched to this board together with its visuals.)

- What are the trees in the forest for? - the students should discuss the question in groups and make a poster with pictures
- Forests - the lungs of the Earth - students to formulate advice for forest protection in groups, make a notebook with them

## Closure:

Teachers who do not want to use Web2.0 tools can use the class board for evaluation work. Students are asked to research an endangered plant and animal species and prepare a small picture business card. At the designated class time, students organize the board together and briefly introduce the species they have chosen.





**Project LISTEN is funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the Commission; cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.**

**LISTEN © 2024 by MOBAD is licensed under CC BY 4.0**



**Co-funded by  
the European Union**

