

NEWSLETTER

3RD PRIMARY SCHOOL OF ZOGRAFOU

ATTICA, GREECE





Overview

The "Bl3u water lab" is a twelve-month long project which aspires to entail the systematic, pedagogically and scientifically organized exposure of primary school children to the observation and study of aquatic life with a view to developing the wider school community positive attitude and respect towards the sustainability and protection of marine ecosystems.

Following a spiral in shape development plan, the project unfolds through different contexts: the simulation of aquatic ecosystem via an educational aquarium, the collaboration and exchange with schools in diverse coastal areas, the study of marine life on the spot, and an educational toolkit containing the learning scenarios teachers of the applicant school designed for the project implementation.

Moving from the local coastal zone towards the ocean, the project is meant to benefit pupils and educators in multiple ways highlighting the need for raising awareness about the protection of marine ecosystems through education.



Bl3u water lab: the simulation and study of aquatic ecosystems with a view to developing primary school children's marine life literacy and water sustainability skills







Setting up our educational aquarium and more...





Our school has started working on the project outputs and this is a short version of our progress report:

1. the "Bl3u water playground", the educational aquarium which is meant to provide us with a simulation of the aquatic ecosystem with an emphasis on organism interactions (e.g. seaweed, micro, crustaceans, gastropods and fish) has been installed. We prepared and decorated an area of our school ground floor and we are currently waiting for a sea world mural to be painted on the wall opposite the water tank.

2. the "Bl3u water Edu kit", an open access educational material toolkit in print and digital form, comprising ten learning scenarios in Greek and English, accompanied by relevant worksheets and teacher's guide, is being prepared.

Some of the cross-curricular learning scenarios which have already been implemented in class are: The man and the sea, an English language, literature-based learning scenario, Our fantastic sea creatures, an Art-based approach to sea wildlife, The beach statistics, a Maths-based learning scenario which connects marine and beach life to the world of numbers.

3. the "Bl3u water survey instrument", a questionnaire for the measurement of marine life sustainability and ocean life knowledge detector for the formative assessment of the learning procedure has been completed.









Exploring the kingdom of Poseidon in Cape Sounio and Elefsina

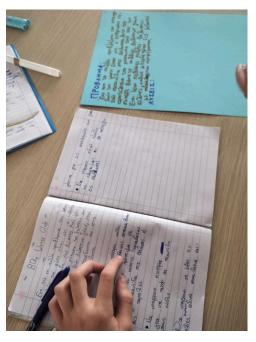
The temple of Poseidon, the ancient Greek god of the sea, dominates the southernmost tip of Attica, where the horizon meets the Aegean Sea. Perched on the craggy rocks of Cape Sounio, the temple is enveloped in myth and historic facts dated from antiquity until the present times. There are stories about the ship of King Menelaus who stopped briefly at Sounio on his way back from Troy; or about the unfortunate King Aegeus who drowned himself on that spot and the Aegean Sea got named after him; or about the people who built a temple using local marble to honour the god of the sea and safeguard the profits from the neighbouring Lavrio mines.

Elefsina is a suburban city
municipality in Athens
metropolitan area. It belongs to
West Attica regional unit of
Greece.

Greek mythology is fully connected to the natural environment and since Greece is a country with many islands and a really long coastline, Greek peopel feel very attached to marine life.









A day at the Elefsina Center of Education for the Environment and Sustainability

October 30, 2024

We spent a day exploring and learning about the coastline of West Attica, an industrial coastal zone and a sacred place of classic times. A city which connects the past and the future through a beautiful archeological site and a gulf which has suffered the impact of heavy industry, oil refineries and shipyards.

Looking forward to our visit in Portugal

Pupils of the BI3u Water Club are organising their educational trip to Escola Basica of Agrupamento de Escolas Sebastião da Gama in the city of Setubal, Portugal from May 11 to 17, 2025.

Teachers of the Greek and Portuguese school are preparing short projects for their classes and encouraging the exchange of good practice. Our trip to Setubal includes boat trips and field work, scuba diving classes and joint project work on ocean and sea protection.

We are extremely happy that our kids will be able to connect their experience of the Mediterranean Sea to their peers' one of the Atlantic Ocean.







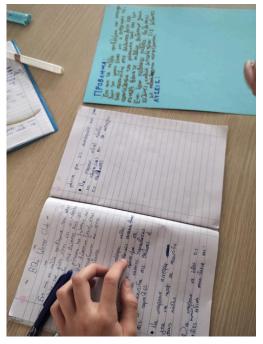


Samples of cards sent by our Portuguese partners on "Blue Friends Day"





Connecting

















Online meetings and regular post

bring our pupils closer

Before meeting in person and walking around the Portuguese school, our classes met online and exchanged drawings and letters on December 4, 2024. In late February 2025, the Greek school will host a group of five Portuguese teachers who will observe our classes and prepare short projects.



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