

NYNÄSHAMN NATURE SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT

2017



INTRODUCTION

Nynäshamn Nature School was founded in 1988 with its premises on Sjöudden at the lake Muskan in Ösmo. The Nature School receives children/pupils from the age of 4 up to 16 from all over the Nynäshamn municipality. The Nature School is not a place, but a way of working based on outdoor education. The school classes have one nature school day a year – that's when they work with research around a certain theme. Before each nature school day, the teacher prepares the class, and afterwards they do follow-up work at their own school. Each school grade has their own theme, such as small insects in the wooded hillside, the senses of mammals, ancient technology, fire and energy, sustainable future, etc. *Spending a lot of time outdoors in the nature at an early stage will encourage the children's sense for the nature. Consequently, they will care for the nature and understand our environmental problems.*



The house of Nynäshamn Nature School on Sjöudden in Ösmo in the Nynäshamn municipality.

PERSONNEL

During the year Mats Wejdmark was employed 100 % as the Nature School's manager. Robert Lättman-Masch was employed 80 % (20% parental leave) as nature school teacher during Jan – Jun and 100 % during Aug – Dec. During 2017 the Nature School belonged to the Section for Support and Resources at the Department of Childcare and Education.



Mats Wejdmark



Robert Lättman-Masch

Internship

During the spring term Åse Lundblad did rehabilitation work at the Nature School and we also had a student doing internship during that period.

CLASSES

The classes are coming to the Nature School once every academic year. The number of classes is presented in the table below.

[Photo album.](#)

Period	Number of classes/groups	Number of pupils/children
Spring term 2017	41	Approx. 1025
Autumn term 2017	41	Approx. 1025
Total	82 *	Approx. 2050

*Note that the small number of classes is because a whole grade was moved from autumn 2017 to spring 2018 due to the work with the 'Ute är inne' (Out is the in-thing) conference and the trip to Japan.

The different school grades worked with the following themes during the academic year:

Ages 4-5	Insects on land
Age 6	The magpie
Grade 1	Insects in the wooded hillside
Grade 2	Senses of the mammals
Grade 3	Ancient technologies
Grade 4	Cooperation, mathematics and problem solving
Grade 5	The fire
Grade 6	Technology and sustainable future
Grade 9	The nitrogen cycle in wetlands
Special school 1-6 + 7-9	Senses of the mammals
Special school (secondary)	Senses of the mammals
Training school	Senses of the mammals
KSU 6-9	Fire, bread on sticks



Pupil in grade 3 is proud to have caught a reindeer using lasso. The theme for grade 3 is ancient technology, where history and technology are integrated outdoors, and the pupils get an insight in how life was in the past.



Pupils in grade 6 are gathered around the camp fire. The theme is energy and sustainable future. A demijohn with live plants that haven't been opened since 1998 illustrates the lifecycle of for example water and carbon. It makes them reflect.

COURSES

Courses/lectures/workshops arranged by Nynäshamn Nature school during the year.

Spring term 2017				Autumn term 2017			
Course	Course length hours	Actual time hours	No of participants	Kurs	Course length hours	Actual time hours	No of participants
Preschool playground, lecture and workshop outdoors, Östermalm	3	10	25	WS Outdoor education, Gardaskolan, Gotland	6	12	16
Schoolyards, lecture, Umeå	2 x 1	14	2 x 50	Kick off. Cooperation exercises. Support and Resources.	3	6	16
Plants, birds and other animals. NKC Nynäs, Child and Recreation programme	2 x 2,5	8	2 x 25	'Ute är inne' conference in Nynäshamn. <i>Note! The time for organising the conference is not included here.</i>	2 x 6	24	300
Swedish in the nature, Studieförbundet.	2 h	6	26	Natural science and technology WS at Skolforum.	0,5	3	15
Natural sciences and technology outdoors, Nature School Association's annual meeting	1,5	5	15	Lecture at Länsstyrelsen on Gotland about nature schools.	1,5	6	20
Workshop outdoor education, St Petersburg	1,5	5	30	WS Outdoor maths and languages. Lecture about Nynäshamn Nature School, outdoor education. Sapporo, Japan day 1	3	9	35
Workshop outdoor education, St Petersburg	1,5	5	25	WS Outdoor maths and languages. Lecture about Nynäshamn Nature School, outdoor education. Sapporo, Japan day 2	3	9	20
Workshop outdoor education, Viborg	1,5	5	25	Lecture about Nynäshamn Nature School, outdoor education. Tobetsu, Swedish Exchange center, Japan	1	5	37
Outdoor Swedish and outdoor maths, Tallbacka	2	4	20	Lecture about Nynäshamn Nature School, outdoor education. Tobetsu, Hokkaido University, Japan	1	4	40
Forest and trees – subject integrated, Parkhemsskolan	6	15	35	WS Outdoor maths and languages. Lecture about Nynäshamn Nature School, outdoor education. Kyoto, Japan	2	6	86
Outdoor Swedish and outdoor maths, Vanstaskolan	2 h	4	15	WS Outdoor maths and languages. Lecture about Nynäshamn Nature School, outdoor education. Nagano, Japan	2	4	60
Natural sciences and technology outdoors, Viaskolan preschool-3rd grade	1,5	5	12	WS Outdoor maths and languages. Lecture about Nynäshamn Nature School, outdoor education. Ueda, Japan	2	8	20
Outdoor learning all year around, Åbo, Finland	1,5	6	23	Lecture about Nynäshamn Nature School, Sweden Embassy, Tokyo, Japan	1	5	120
Total Spring term	5,6 days	15,3 days	401	Total Autumn term	6,3 days	16,8 days	785
Total 2017	Approx. 12 days (= approx. 32 days actual time) and 1186 participants						

Comment: 6 hours mean full day. Full day workshops are hold 9-12 and 13-16 with lunch in between. **Actual time** means all workshops including preparation, planning and travelling. Part of preparation is correspondence about the workshops, e.g. quotation. Planning is creation of workshop layout, e.g. creating a powerpoint or other presentation, documentation or other workshop material.

DEVELOPMENT OF THEMES, TEACHING MATERIAL AND COURSES

Play and Learn Natural Sciences and Technology Outdoors

Together with the Nature School in Lund, Nynäshamn Nature School has written the book *Play and Learn Natural Sciences and Technology Outdoors*. Target groups are preschools and preschool classes. This outdoor educational method book was printed during summer 2014. Using earmarked competence money, the book was purchased to all preschools' departments in the Nynäshamn municipality during autumn 2014.

Exercises in the Back Pocket

A pocketbook with favourite exercises that don't require any material has been written by the Nature School of Uppland Foundation, in cooperation with the nature schools of Nynäshamn and Falun. It was published in 2013.

Learning Mathematics Outdoors

2005 we published *Learning Mathematics Outdoors*, which is the first book in the series *Outdoor Learning*. The book has also been translated and published in Latvia with the title 'Matematika Mežā'. Parts of the book are also in Russian, Estonian and Finnish. The book is now out-of-print.

During 2011 and 2012: The book was edited by Nynäshamn Nature School, the Nature School of Uppland Foundation and Falu Nature School. The result is a new book with 100 new exercises: *Learning Mathematics Outdoors 2*. It was published in August 2012. The Nature School receives books as payment from the publisher. These books are then used as course material when promoting and selling the Nature School's courses.

Play and Learn Mathematics Outdoors, Preschool

We published *Play and Learn Mathematics Outdoors* in 2007. Nynäshamn Nature School has written the book together with the Nature School of Uppland Foundation, Falu Nature School and two outdoor teachers from Uppsala and Öland respectively. The book has been translated and published in Danish and English.

- A nature school in Japan has during 2017 translated the book to Japanese. Publishing is expected during 2018.

Learning Swedish Outdoors

Nynäshamn Nature School has together with outdoor teachers from Älvkarleby, Uddevalla, Skärholmen, Södertälje and Lund written the book *Learning Swedish Outdoors*. The book was published in October 2010.

- A new book, based on *Learning Swedish Outdoors*, adjusted for SFI (Swedish for Immigrants) is under production, started during 2017.

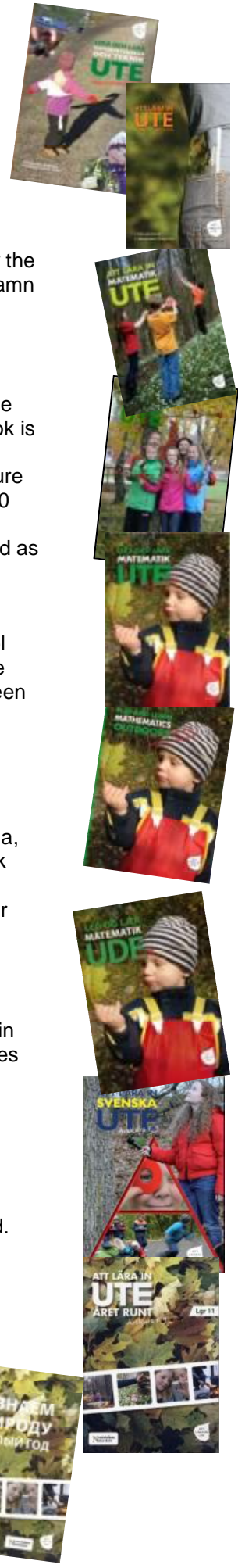
Outdoor Learning All Year Around

Nynäshamn Nature School's own book *Outdoor Learning All Year Around*, which was published in 2008, is now used as compulsory teaching material within different courses in several schools of education in Sweden, such as Stockholm University and the universities in Malmö, Halmstad, Umeå and Kalmar. The book was distributed to all teachers in the Nynäshamn municipality when it was published in 2008.

- In December 2014: The book was printed in Russian by non-profitable organisations.
- During spring 2017: We, in the Nature school, travelled to St Petersburg to exchange experiences about outdoor education.
- During 2017: The book was translated to Finnish and is now published in Finland.

Outdoor Teaching

Outdoor Teaching, which is located in Vimmerby, is the publishing company that creates the layout, prints, stores and sells the books: www.outdoorteaching.com



Swedish in the nature, cooperation between Studieförbundet (study association for adult education in Sweden) and the Nature School

Through the network 'Naturens år' Nynäshamn Nature School got in contact with Studieförbundet, which led to a cooperation and they ordered teaching material for the teachers in their member organisations. The material will be used as a study plan and teacher's tutorial for a study circle with the purpose of teaching Swedish to immigrants who have arrived in Sweden recently, as well as giving them an introduction to the Swedish nature.

- The teaching material was designed during the end of last year and was promoted during spring 2017.



Outdoor course at Hornstull in cooperation with Studieförbundet and in connection to publishing of the teaching material 'Swedish in the nature'. The participants will afterwards be able to hold study circles themselves using the teaching material as a study plan and tutorial for the teachers.



The Child and Education Committee's meeting at the Nature School on June 8. The members were informed why a function plan is needed for the schools' and preschools' outdoor environments. While outdoors, they tried some exercises in language and mathematics.



Course in Åbo in connection with the translation of the Nature School's book 'Outdoor Learning All Year Around' to Finnish.



Kickoff with the Support and Resources Section where the Nature School arranged cooperation exercises during half a day.

NATURE SCHOOL INFORMS ABOUT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Every pupil that comes to Nynäshamn Nature School gets a HUT folder

(HUT= Sustainable development), which is a folded A4 paper, to take back home to their parents. The purpose with the HUT folder is to inform the parents that their children have been to the Nature School and that they can find photos on our website. This makes parents and children talk about what happened during the day. By doing this, the pupils get an opportunity to **reflect** which is a very important part of the learning process. The parents can also learn new stuff about the subject. Each HUT folder contains a theme, a new one each year, with information about an important environmental issue or other things that concerns sustainable development. The focus is on what the pupils and their parents can do to **contribute to sustainable development**. 2500 copies of the HUT folder have been printed on our printer. If all pupils who receive the folder read it or discuss it with their parents, then almost **30% of the population in Nynäshamn** will acquire this information. [See HUT folders](#)

- In 2017 year's folder we focused on the effect that clothes and textiles have on the environment and what we can do about it.



Themes that we've had in the HUT folders:

- About Nynäshamn Nature School	- Food	- Ecosystem services
- Save energy	- Why Nature School?	- The limits of the planet
- Eco-labelling	- Green Flag	- Food and waste
- Water and sewage	- Ecological footprints	- Clothes

NETWORKS

The networks of the preschools' environmental representatives as well as the Nature and Technology (NT) representatives were ended during 2015 but were replaced by the preschools' network of Sustainable Future's (SF) representatives. The purpose of the SF representatives' network is for example to drive the Green Flag work forward. See [Green Flag](#) how the work with the Keep Sweden Tidy-certification has developed during the year. During 2017, the preschool managers decided to close also the SF-network.

Spring 2017		Autumn 2017	
Network	No. of occasions	Network	No. of occasions
Preschool's SF-representatives	2 x 2,5 h	Preschool's SF-representatives	2 x 2,5 h

GREEN FLAG

The Nature School informs and inspires schools and preschools to work with the Green Flag project. The Keep Sweden Tidy Foundation organises and rewards schools and preschools in the whole country. The Nature School holds the information during network meetings, planning days and personnel conferences.



Green Flag is a mini environmental management system where an environmental group is formed, and they decide upon three goals to work with during at least six months. There are seven different themes; ambient environment, climate and energy, water resources, lifestyle and health, consumption, lifecycle and chemicals. When the work has been approved, the school or preschool receives a diploma and a flag. Then they must decide upon new goals and follow them to keep the flag. Information about the schools working with the Green Flag can be found at www.hsr.se. Click the Green Flag and 'we who joins'.

- During 2017 no school was reported as active according to the Green Flag. During 2017 all 16 municipal preschools had approved action plans and 13 of those also have approved reports and are thus certified and have the possibility to raise the green flag.
- All preschools in Nynäshamn are working on the joint development area Toxin-free preschool within the theme Chemicals. The other two development areas are for the preschools to decide themselves. The Nature School has had talks with the environmental strategist about a municipal plan for toxin-free schools and preschools. The work of creating such a plan will be started. It is important since there is no money budgeted in schools and preschools to replace plastic products with better alternatives.

PROJECT OCH CAMPAIGN

The outdoor environment of schools and preschools – a background

The playground project started in 2001. The purpose of the project was to develop the preschools' playgrounds within the Nynäshamn municipality, to let the children get close nature experiences and increased knowledge about ecology, eco cycle, plants and animals. It will also fill the children's need of motor skills' training, play, good health, joy of discovery, creativity, quietness, etc. Initiative to the project came from the preschools' environmental representatives. Over time also the schoolyards were integrated in the project.

The playground project (for schools and preschools) was accounted for in the **investment budget** of the Department of Childcare and Education during 2003-2006. The money improved the work with the playgrounds. Things started to develop at the schools and preschools. Documentation from 2004 describes how the project proceeded.

The new **schools'/preschools' playground project** continued where the last project ended. The project period was 2004-2006. The project goal was to let all the preschools and schools within the Nynäshamn municipality to actively work with development of their playgrounds both short-term and long-term.

SPRING

During 2007 the unique public health project SPRING (Shadow, Pedagogy, Activity In Nature and School Ground environments) was founded and it started in 2008 and ended 2011. Information can be found at www.nynashamnsnaturskola.se/spring

The purpose of SPRING was to create outdoor environments at preschools and schools to stimulate physical activity, to protect against harmful UV-radiation and to increase children's concentration ability, as well as to use the outdoor environments in the pedagogical work.

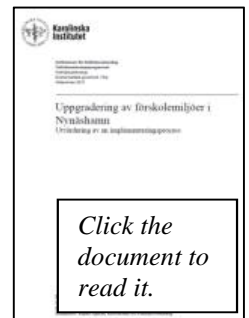
The long-term goal of the project was to integrate it into the regular work in the municipality, that the aspects that SPRING is built upon are taken into consideration when new preschools are built and during maintenance of playgrounds and schoolyards.

The SPRING ideas and the knowledge from the project will always persist in everything that the Nature School is doing concerning the outdoor environments of schools and preschools.



- Every year Nynäshamn is asked to hold lectures about SPRING and the development of schoolyards and preschool playgrounds. Even this year.
- Several of the criteria that the SPRING project were based on are now in the [National Board of Housing, Building and Planning \(Boverket\) common advice](#).

Carolina Altin's thesis (15hp) in public health sciences has the title *Upgrading Preschool Environment in a Swedish Municipality: Evaluation of an Implementation Process*. It was also published as an article in the *reputable SAGE Journals* with Mats Wejdmark and Robert Lättman-Masch as co-authors. The magazine is listed both in Pubmed and Web of Science, which is an assurance of quality. In 2015, the article was also nominated to CHES-article (Certified Health Education Specialist) in the July edition of *Health Promotion Practice*, that is even more quality assurance of the article.



The work of developing outdoor environments continued during 2017. During spring, the Nature School designed an activity park on an area at Viaskolan. Logs from the municipality's land were used and Servicepartner did the job during the summer. The activity park was ready when the pupils came back to school after summer holiday.

Keep Nynäshamn Tidy – week 17 – The national litter-picking week

This is a national campaign and is run by Håll Sverige Rent (Keep Sweden Tidy) under the name *We keep tidy*. In Nynäshamn it was carried out as a cooperation between the Park Administration and Nynäshamn Nature School.

This year about **2850 children and pupils** helped tidying up on preschool playgrounds and schoolyards, parks, walkways and the nature around all preschools and schools.

The Park Administration lent litter-picking sticks to the participants and collected all the garbage that had been sorted in three different parts. The Nature School was in contact with the schools and preschools and distributed pedagogical materials and teacher's tutorials. More about the campaign can be found at the Nature School's website under [projekt/kampanj](#) 2017. See also on the Keep Sweden Tidy website www.hsr.se/skrapplockardagar



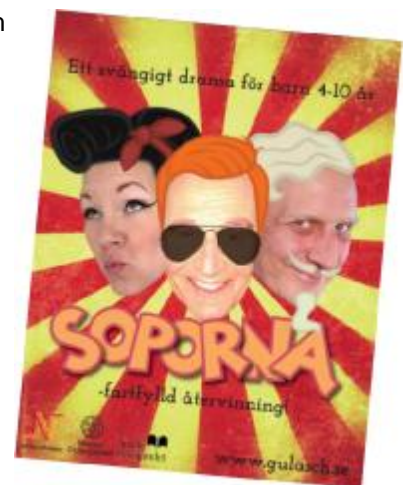
Pupils and children are litter-picking and then they sort it in different bags. Finally, the Park Administration collects the garbage.



Earth Hour

The Nature School sent out an invitation with ideas on activities for the Earth Hour by linking to different pages on WWF, adjusted to the different ages of the pupils.

- Meeting with climate and environmental strategist et al about Earth Hour on January 18, 2017.
- Meeting with climate and environmental strategist et al 23/2 about Earth Hour on February 23, 2017.
- The musical theatre group Gulasch presented two shows of the musical theatre *Soporina* on March 23 at Vågen, Folkets Hus in Nynäshamn. The older children in preschools and the pupils in preschool classes and grade 2 were invited and visited Vågen.
- Meeting December 13 with climate and environmental strategist et al about Earth Hour 2018.



The grazing land in Torp, Sorunda

The purpose of the project, which started 1997, is to combine outdoor education with IT. The pupils in Sunnerbyskolan, who worked with the project, are between 6 and 9 years. The project combines IT, outdoor education and natural care by placing the studies and work at Torp's meadow (Axel's meadow) with the size of 12.5 ha. The original flora and fauna in the grazing land are endangered because of overgrowth which in turn depends on the abolishment of traditional use and modernisation of agriculture. One goal is to reclaim the traditional-favourable flora and fauna. Länsstyrelsen has set up a management plan. With help from e.g. the environmental protection funds at the county council and the Nynäshamn municipality, 98000 SEK was funded at the beginning of the project. The money has been used for clearance, building of field fences, etc. The grazing land is now used as an outdoor classroom by Sunnerbyskolan.

Actions during the year:

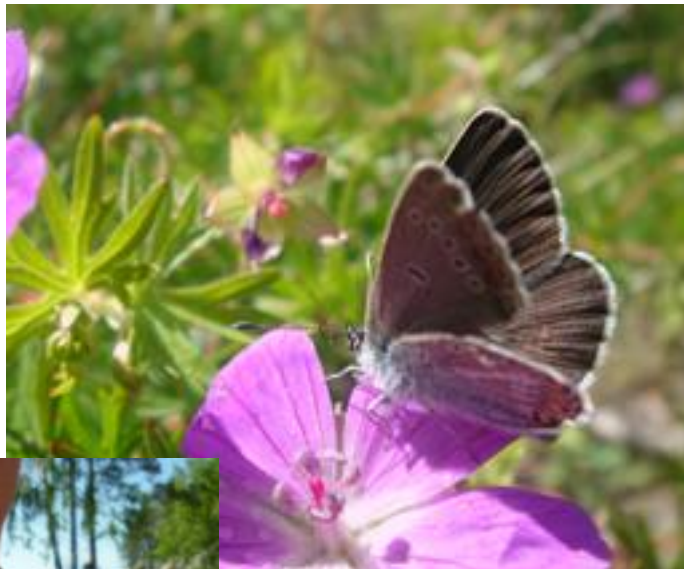
- The cooperation with the Nynäshamn Society for Nature Conservation continued with for example clearance, forest meadow raking and mowing of meadowland using coulter, in a smaller part of the grazing land.
- There were no animals in the grazing land this year.
- After the reorganisation of the Sorunda school district there have been discussions about how the teachers and pupils of Kyrkskolan can use the grazing land as a resource in their learning process.

The Butterfly path in Stora Vika

'Wings' was a cooperation project between Nynäshamn Society for Nature Conservation (the project owner), Nynäshamn municipality and Nynäshamn Nature School. The project got support from Leader Uross (Develop Roslagen and Stockholm Archipelago) and continued until September 2014.

'Wings' combines nature conservation, environmental education and outdoor life. Children and teenagers are involved to together care about the Butterflies' Land in Stora Vika and to improve the accessibility in the area.

- **The Butterfly Day** was arranged on June 10. The Nature School provided sweeping nets to catch insects for the whole family.
- There have been discussions during 2017 about continuing the project in some way.



Species that the children find are: Small blue (larva on a kidney vetch), brown blue (larva on a bloody cranesbill), green-underside blue and mazarine blue.

INTERNATIONAL

The contacts with Japan

Background

In January 2010 we received an invitation from the Rikkyo University in Tokyo. Invited were Nynäshamn Nature School and the nature schools in Falun and Halmstad, to a two-weeks long educational trip during March 20 – April 3, 2010. The purpose was to inform about the nature schools' way of working as an example of learning for sustainable development, with focus on biological diversity. By protecting natural areas close to the schools, we also protect the pedagogical resources and biological diversity for the future. A longer article and an extensive report about the trip to Japan can be found on our website www.nynashamnsnaturskola.se

- Study visit by 5 people from Sapporo in Japan on May 18-19. They work at the organisations SYAA and TEC, which work resemble the work of a nature school and camp school.
- A nature school in Japan has worked with translation of the book *Play and Learn Mathematics Outdoors* to Japanese. The book is expected to be printed during 2018.
- The Nature School travelled to different cities in Japan during November 10-21, 2017, and **lectured about the work of Nynäshamn Nature School, about the organisation of the Nynäshamn municipality and cooperation with different departments and about outdoor education, as well as held workshops in mathematics and English outdoors**. The total number of participants was almost 500. Article about the trip to Japan 2017 can be found at the [Nature School website](#). We got invitation from two organisations that have nature school work on Hokkaido in the north of Japan.



The Nature School received a visit by the organisation and nature school TEC (Tobetsu Ecological Community) in October to discuss our trip to Japan and to make study visits in the outdoor environment of schools and preschools in the Nynäshamn municipality. They could also meet with the manager of the Section for Support and Resources, a principal, a parent, a representative at the Water and Sewage Dept. to get a better picture of the work that Nynäshamn Nature School is doing.



Workshop outdoors in the middle of Sapporo city. Mathematics and language outdoors, one of the many workshops that were held during the trip. The trip was concluded with a lecture and Q&A before an audience of 120 at the Swedish Embassy in Tokyo.

The contacts with Russia

Marilyn Barden contacted Nynäshamn Nature School during 2014 about education in connection to the translation of the book *Outdoor Learning All Year Around* to Russian through non-profitable work. A group of teachers came to the Nature School in January 2015 for education.

- Continued contacts led to a trip to St Petersburg during spring 2017 where the Nature School had outdoor educational workshops on several schools in St Petersburg and at the Nature School in Viborg. Read more about the trip at the [Nature School's website](#).



Outdoor workshop outside St Petersburg. The workshops there and in Viborg focused on natural sciences, maths and languages.

WEBSITE www.nynashamnsnaturskola.se

During the whole year photos from visits by the classes here at the Nature School have been displayed on our website, with permission from the pupils' parents. Usually they visited our website already the same evening to see what their children had done during the day. **The pedagogical idea** with this is for the parents to ask questions and inspire the children to talk about the day. To tell and reflect about their experiences is a way for the pupils to gain knowledge.

Films can also be found on the website; about the books, class themes and the film about Nynäshamn Nature School.

Linked on the website is also the website about the SPRING project. Click the SPRING logo in the menu to the left.

- The website has been updated during 2017 according to the municipality's new graphical profile.
- About **400 visits per day** in average on the website were noted in the end of 2017.



Films

The website contains films from the local production company Prospericon. The films about each theme/program that the classes are participating in can be found at www.nynashamnsnaturskola.se. Located here is also a 16-minutes long introduction film about Nynäshamn Nature School.

Furthermore, there are the Ljungberg Foundation-financed films about outdoor education and the book series *Outdoor Learning* described above. The film about the book *Learning Swedish Outdoors* which was produced during autumn 2010 was financed by the publisher Outdoor Teaching. The films about the books are also on Youtube.

- In connection to new themes, the Nature School has made their own films during 2016, for the preschool class, grade 2, 4 and 6. The purpose of the films is for example for the pupils who have a need to see how the day will be like in advance. The films are published during 2017-2018.

SOCIAL MEDIA

- Nynäshamn Nature School is now on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

TRAINING, CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

- Course in digital technology at CNV (Swedish Centre for Nature Interpretation) in Uppsala on January 25-26.
- Nature School Association's course days on March 29-31 with for example workshops arranged by the nature schools in the Stockholm region and workshops at the Swedish Museum of Natural History.
- Course in Play and Learn Languages Outdoors in Uppsala on August 25.

The 'Ute är inne' conference in Nynäshamn, September 21-22, 2017

As representative of [Naturskoleförningen](#), Nynäshamn Nature School got the assignment from [Utenavet](#) to **organise** the 'Ute är inne' conference. It is arranged every second year since 2007. The conference attracted **more than 300 participants from all over Sweden**. The conference's profile is outdoor education and all 40 something workshops were held outdoors in Svandammsparken, Stadsparken and at Lövhagen. We also had big lectures indoors at Utsikten Meetings.

Nynäshamn Nature School has had a good cooperation with the politicians and officials of the Nynäshamn municipality and we have got good support when preparing for the conference.

Nynäshamn municipality also sponsored the conference economically. [Here](#) is more information about the conference and a short film. The arrangement 2017 got a lot of praise for how it was organised.



The signboards used for guiding the participants to their workshops were ready before summer. We stored them in the basement of the Nature School.

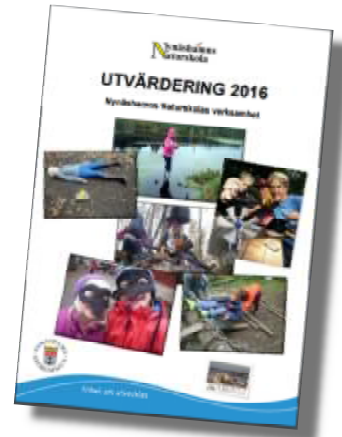


The Nature School designed the postcard that promoted the conference



EVALUATION OF THE WORK

The last big recurring evaluation of the Nature School's work was done **during 2015-2016**. The evaluation was put together during autumn 2016 and can be found [here](#) at the Nynäshamn Nature School website under the title 'About Nynäshamns Naturskola'. Evaluation is also done orally with the pupils after each nature school day. Teachers have the possibility to answer a survey after a day at the Nature School on our website or on paper.



Extract from the evaluation

The responding teachers think that the nature school days are good concerning organisation, content and pedagogy, which they also thought during the previous evaluations. A bit more than 50% of the respondents think that it is enough to visit the Nature School once a year, whilst the rest of the respondents think that it is too seldom. The number of those who think it is important with preparation and follow-up work for the days at the Nature school has increased a lot during the last years (79 % resp 80 %). The number of those who think that the nature school day is now integrated with the regular classes has also increased a lot, 84% of the respondents. This is very positive, mainly because the pupils are given more learning opportunities within the actual theme. The reason for this increase is probably because we now describe more clearly which main content of Lgr 11 that the pupils are working with during the nature school days.

NYNÄSHAMN NATURE SCHOOL IN MEDIA



Article in Nynäshamnsposten (local newspaper) in June about the three large oak tree trunks that were placed at the Nature School. The oak trees were cut at Norvik where the large harbor is being built.



Article in the local newspaper in May about the study visit from Sapporo in Japan.



Article in Lärarförbundets magazine Origo no 6/2017 about the Nature School's theme for grade 6 about energy, technology and sustainable. The coverage was done in connection with Eva Ahl's visit with her class from Svandammsskolan.

Article in the local newspaper in May about the trip to St Petersburg and Viborg in Russia.





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Article as an interview with Robert and Mats about outdoor teaching in the 'Competence development for the school' catalogue by Läromedia 2017/2018



Article in Nynäshamnsposten (local newspaper) in September about the big conference 'Ute är inne' in Nynäshamn.



Article in the local newspaper in December about the trip to Japan.



Article in Japanese media in November about the workshops that the Nature School held in Japan.



Article on Nynäshamn municipality's website in December about the trip to Japan.



Article in Japanese media in November about the workshops that the Nature School held in Kyoto in Japan.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Visits and study visits

- The Family central (Open preschool) in Ösmo visited the Nature School on May 3 and Oct 18. The children were guided around the different terrariums, and they grilled their food on the campfire outside.
- The Dietary Department visited the Nature School on May 30 where they performed different activities around a path of senses.
- Breddal preschool walked the Nature School's 'Lost path' on May 31.
- The Department of Childcare and Education held their permanent meeting at the Nature School on June 8. The Nature School presented a function plan for how schools' and preschools' outdoor environment could work. The department members also got a mathematical and language assignment to solve outdoors.
- Hallängen preschool visited us on June 13 to see the animals in the terrariums.
- The Japanese organisation and the nature school TEC (Tobetsu Ecological Community) visited us on October 11-13. See detailed text.
- SFI-students from Nynäshamn had a day at the Nature School on October 19. They ate snacks around the campfire, took a nature stroll and studied the most common trees, different nature words and colours.
- Two classes from Svandammskolan participated in camp school on October 26-27.
- Study visit from Upplands Väsby Nature School on December 11.

Meetings and other activities

- Meeting about the 'Ute är inne' conference with the Housing and Urban Development Office on January 10.
- Meeting with the manager of the Section for Support and Resources on Jan 1 about the new organisation that the Nature School will be part of.
- Meeting with Andreas Bolt at Viaskolan on Jan 1 and May 11 about development of the schoolyard.
- Meeting with Utenavet on Jan 19, April 27, Aug 17 and Sept 19 about the 'Ute är inne' conference.
- Phone meeting with the national schoolyard group on Jan 23 and physical meeting on Aug 24 about schoolyards and preschools' playgrounds.
- Meeting with the Nature School's web designer on Jan 23 about updates on our website.
- Swedish Network in Uppsala on Jan 24 where municipal conference centers from the whole of Sweden met and the Nature School promoted the 'Ute är inne' conference.
- Meeting with Akademikonferens on Jan 26 about the 'Ute är inne' conference.
- Meeting with Arbetsförmedlingen (Employment Agency) on Jan 31 about rehab training at the Nature School.
- Meeting with the authors and the publisher on Feb 2 about the *Outdoor Learning* book series.
- Meeting with Utsikten Meetings conference center on Feb 3 and 7, and Sept 6 about the 'Ute är inne' conference.
- Physical meeting with the SFI group on Feb 6, March 29, Aug 18, as well as Skype-meeting on May 17 and June 12 about the new teaching material for SFI.
- Field observations in the parks Svandammsparken and Stadsparken on Feb 7 before the 'Ute är inne' conference.
- Meeting with the environmental strategist on Feb 9 about non-toxic schools and preschools.
- Phone meeting with the national schoolyard group on Feb 9, March 21 and May 8 about the development of schoolyards and preschool playgrounds.
- Phone meeting with a Swedish-Japanese interpreter on Feb 9 about the trip to Japan in November.
- Phone meeting with Jönköping municipality on Feb 15 about the 'Ute är inne' conference 2019.
- Meeting with the Child and Education Committee's chairman Johan Augustsson on Feb 20, about for example a function plan for schoolyards and preschool playgrounds, and non-toxic schools and preschools.

- Meeting with a lead teacher at Viaskolan on Feb 20 and May 22 about the progression within the technology subject.
- Phone meeting with a Swedish-Japanese interpreter on Feb 21 about the trip to Japan.
- Meeting with the Nature School Association's region Stockholm on March 6 about for example workshops and planning before the education days and the annual meeting in Stockholm in April.
- Meeting about the EU project KIKA at Landsort on March 8 and April 5.
- Field observations at Lövhagen on March 9 and May 3 before the 'Ute är inne' conference.
- Meeting with Sunnerbyskolan on March 14 about the Torp grazing land.
- Phone meeting with Jönköping municipality about the 'Ute är inne' conference 2019.
- Meeting at the municipal planning department on March 28 about function plan for schoolyards and preschool playgrounds.
- Meeting with PRO (Retired people org) on March 29 about guides to the 'Ute är inne' conference.
- Meeting in connection with principal conference on April 5 about for example the 'Ute är inne' conference.
- Meeting with the Water and Sewage department on April 7 and 24 about an app for the Alhagen wetlands.
- Meeting with foreign student from Linköping on May 2 about interview in connection with thesis.
- Meeting with Vansta preschool PUG group on May 8 about the outdoor environment.
- Meeting with the preschool managers on May 10 about for example the HF network.
- Meeting with property responsible at the Department of Childcare and Education on May 23 about development of schoolyards and preschool playgrounds.
- Meeting with the environmental strategist on June 2 about the new local environmental goals.
- Planning day with the Section for Support and Resources, which the Nature School is part of, on June 12.
- Meeting with Viaskolans staff on June 20 about development of the schoolyard.
- Meeting with the chairman of the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation in Nynäshamn on June 20 about cooperation.
- Meeting with Lastbilscentralen (Trucking Central) on June 21 about tree trunks to be transported to Viaskolan's schoolyard.
- Meeting with the municipal communicator on Aug 28 about the 'Ute är inne' conference.
- Clearing up in Alhagen on Aug 31 before the 9th grade theme: *The process of nitrogen through the wetlands*.
- Transportation of material to Alhagen on Sept 5 before the 9th grade theme: *The process of nitrogen through the wetlands*.
- Employee meeting for the Section for Support and Resources on Sept 6, Oct 4 and 25, and Dec 6.
- Meeting with the production company Prospericon on Sept 7 before filming of the 'Ute är inne' conference.
- Visit at Tallbackaskolan's schoolyard on Sept 28 about development possibilities for the outdoor environment.
- Meeting with the Section for Support and Resources on Oct 23 about the new organization within the Department of Childcare and Education.
- Meeting with Kyrkskolan's principal on Oct 24 and Nov 29 about their outdoor profile, future courses and development of the outdoor environment.
- Meeting with project group in Jönköping on Oct 25 about the 'Ute är inne' conference 2019 that Jönköping municipality is hosting.
- Meeting with the manager of BUF (Department of Childcare and Education) on Oct 30 about the new organisation within BUF.
- Skype-meeting on Nov 7 with the Jönköping representative for the 'Ute är inne' conference 2019.
- Meeting with labour market advisor at SOC (Social Welfare Department) on Nov 8 about trainee placement at the Nature School 2018.
- Meeting and presentation on Nov 23 with Kyrkskolan's parental council about the outdoor environment.

- Meeting with the manager of the Section for Support and Resources on Nov 30 about operational plan.
- Meeting with the manager of the Traffic and Park Administration on Dec 5 about 'We Keep Tidy' 2018 (week 17).
- Meeting with [Safari Sverige](#) on Feb 6 about their film project and how it can be used in the Nynäshamn municipality.
- Meeting with the business developer for Nynäshamn's schools on Dec 14 about the work of the Nature School.
- Meeting at Kyrkskolan on Dec 14 with for example the school's business developer, local coordinator, principal at Kyrkskolan and representative of Property Management Department about application about means from Boverket (National Board of Housing, Building and Planning) for development of outdoor environments on the schools in the Nynäshamn municipality.
- Meeting with the new communicator at the Department of Education and Childcare on Dec 19 about the work of Nynäshamn Nature School.

SFI (Swedish for immigrants) visit in October. A day with activities that inspired cooperation, communication and laughter. During the nature walk they learnt their first Swedish words describing different trees and colours.



TERRARIUM EXHIBITION

The Nature School has a **permanent terrarium exhibition** where we keep several different animals. The aim is to pedagogically use them while reasoning with the pupils about what different animals need for survival and to visualize ecological problems. To care for and nurse animals are also very valuable in developing the children's empathic ability. The animals also have a de-dramatizing effect since many children have a fear of for example snakes, spiders and cockroaches.

At the Nature School we have snakes, lizards, beetles, cockroaches, crickets, walking sticks, tarantulas, etc. The classes, teachers or preschool personnel who want to come for study visit are welcome, and those who want to start nursing animals can take animals with them from the Nature School. The Nature School has also written a **tutorial** (autumn 2000) for teachers and preschool personnel.



A new beauty in our terrarium where the former snake died of age after 20 years. It is a corn snake that normally lives in USA. It's a nice snake that the pupils can touch if they want.

PROPERTY AND OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT

The **maintenance** of the house is taken care of by the Property Administration while other **maintenance and cleaning are done by the personnel at the Nature School**. During the holidays at summer, Christmas and spring, all animals at the Nature School must be given food and water twice a week.

The house is rented some evenings and many weekends by the Ösmo Scouting Association, which has their activities in the house and the surroundings.



One of the three big oak tree logs from Norvik that was placed beside the Nature School's largest oak tree. The oak logs will become habitats for different insects over the years. The children can also sit on them under 'Mother Oak' and count the annual rings.

Nynäshamn Nature School 2017-02-19

Mats Wejdmark och Robert Lättman-Masch

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