

# TOPIC, JUSTIFICATION AND CONTEXT

Title: Sustainability and ecotourism

Level: 3rd cycle, 6th of primary

Duration: approximately 1 month

## Justification

We have chosen this topic because nowadays there has been an incremental growth in the industry of tourism. This growth rather than opening the eyes of many, has cheapened the experience to the point many consider it a necessity. The drawback has been that with the increase of demand, the target locations have been drowning in tourists, many of which rarely respect the environment and its inhabitants.

That is why our intention with this project is to deal with this issue right from a very young age, because otherwise this kind of empathy is hard to teach once the students grow up.

The other inspiration behind this proposal are the objectives of sustainable development. This project aligns itself very well with both the objective 13: “Climate action”, which promotes all activities to move towards finding a solution towards climate change, and following it through. Our activities promotes an alternative to the polluting industry of tourism and presents it to children so they deepen their understanding of the issue

And the objective 16: “peace, justice and strong institutions” , which aims to create a peaceful and inclusive society with respect as its main pillar. Ecotourism and sustainable practices are based around respecting the environment and the societies that thrive in it.

We also believe that the proposal of a project based around ecotourism can become very engaging for our classroom, as it gives us the opportunity of developing activities in the exterior, exploring our local surroundings. As well as develop interpersonal skills in a climate of nature, rather than inside the school.

Creating activities where students can learn by doing, we believe can create memorable experiences and achieve significant learning in a subject that often has trouble reaching the bulk of the class.

## CONTEXT

### LOCATION

The Gordon's Bay Primary school is located in Avondrus ST, Gordon's Bay Central, Cape Town, 7140. Around the school there is a sports center where children can sign in and choose among many of the clubs offered. Near the school there is Temperance Town Primary school with which we do friendly competitions.

The school has Natural resources within reach, on the one hand there are the mountainous views from which we can learn the local habiting species. On the other side of the school there is the sea from which we can learn aquatic sports and the different animals that live in it.



### **SOCIO-CULTURAL CONTEXT OF THE FAMILIES**

The students' families attending this school come from various places, they come from Gordon's Bay itself and from other villages around. Some of the students' parents are from Ciudad del Cabo. Although there is a great diversity in terms of the schools social status, the predominance is that the families are more on the rich side since the price of the school per month is 720R per child.

There is a diversity of people attending the school. In order to help parents and students that are in more danger the school started MOOMPI program. In this program, which is run by volunteer parents, there are activities such as 2nd hand school clothes sales or collection of donations for stationary and toiletries.

### **CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SCHOOL**

Gordon's Bay Primary school offers education to around 400 students, all of which belong to primary school. The school is private.

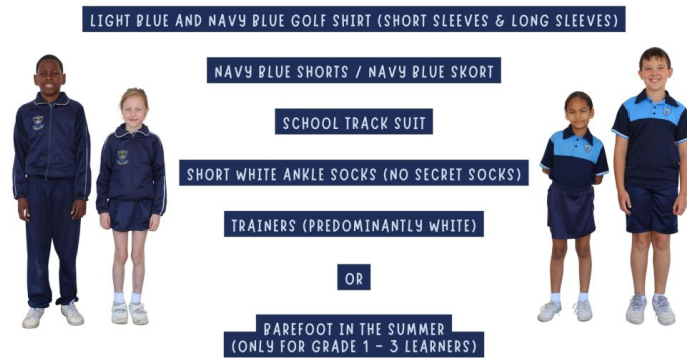
The school itself has 3 buildings: the main building where the classes are held, the gym, and the storage rooms. The school has no canteen and unless the students have extracurricular activities, they are not allowed on the school premises out of the school hours. The teachers will not take responsibility of the students after the schedule.



The school's schedule changes depending on the grade. (altered to the Spanish curriculum)

Grade	Timetable
Grade 0	Monday to Friday 8:00-12:45
Grade 1-3 (primary)	Monday to friday 7:30-13.30
Grade 4-6 (primary)	Monday to thursday 7:30-14:00 Fridays 7:30-13:30

The school has a strict policy about uniforms. Students have the liberty to choose the parts of the uniforms that they want according to whether. Although the only exception is that a student has the liberty to wear civilian clothes when it's his or her birthday. The school has a collaboration with two programs in order to provide the uniforms: Crazy Ideas and Missus K's Mias.



*School uniform policy from Gordon's Bay Primary School.*

## **THE CLASSROOM**

Our class is 6th grade Group A which belongs to the 3rd cycle. The classroom space is organized by

The class is organized by the traditional model in which the students are in pairs facing the blackboard and the teachers desk. This organization encourages working by pairs and independence. The school offers hours of work for the students to have a space where to finish their homework. There is a teacher to the students disposition in case of doubts.



*A class from Gordon's Bay Primary school*

Regarding the resources found in the class, the class has many maps and posters that help students learn the materials with visual material.

## **STUDENTS**

As for the students, the class of 6th grade A is composed of 19 students of 11 and 12 years olds. In this class there are 10 boys and 9 girls.

The students knew each other from other years before, since the classes are mixed every change of cycle. There is 1 student who was transferred at the beginning of the year and has been interacting well with the rest of the students.

Regarding educational needs, there is none of the students who need any curricular adaptation.