

Date:



## ENVIRONMENT & INNOVATION:

Theme 2007/2009

climate change:

let's save energy!

## Final Project Report

### Environment and Innovation

#### 1. Delegation Identification

Coutry:	Finland
Organisation:	The Finnish Association for Environmental Education
Project Name:	Environment & Innovation - A project to promote schools' innovative environmental problem-solving By International Eco-Schools Programme (FEE) in partnership with Toyota Motor Europe
Activity Name:	daycare
Date:	9.6.2009

#### 2. School Identification

School Name / Group of Schools Name:	Neulanen
Address:	Neulapadontie 6 A & B 00920 Helsinki Finland
Region:	
Telephone:	+358 9 31062951
Fax:	
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:pk.neulanen@hel.fi">pk.neulanen@hel.fi</a>
Website or Project website:	
Contact person for this project:	Reetta Rintakumpu
- Position in school	special educator teacher
- Direct email	<a href="mailto:reetta.rintakumpu@hel.fi">reetta.rintakumpu@hel.fi</a>
- Direct telephone	+358 9 31062951
Type of school (kindergarten, primary, secondary, etc.):	Kindergarten

Date:

Age of students involved in the project:	1-7 years
Number of students directly involved in the project:	about 121
Total of students in the School:	121
Number of staff/teachers directly involved in the Project:	24
Total of staff/teachers in the School:	28
Other participants involved (individuals and/or organizations) and the number of them:	<p>Within the school All teachers and almost all of the other staff in kindergarten</p> <p>Outside the school Helsinki City College of Technology (Heltech) students and Pertti Laaksonen</p> <p><b>Different publishers</b></p>
The other participants role:	To make the drying rack, to deliver teaching material and towel system.
Rural / Urban setting:	<input type="checkbox"/> urban
Other relevant information:  (maximum 100 words)	

### 3. Project Identification

Project Title	DRYING RACK
Project keywords	drying, rack, airing cupboard, clove, accessories
Project Summary  (maximum 100 words)	<p>Our kindergarten dries kid´s gloves and other accessories in this drying rack instead of airing cupboard. By this we save energy and costs of electricity.</p> <p>We have been using these since 1990´s. Afterwards these racks were misplaced by airing cupboard. But luckily there were found in storage and taken back in use.</p> <p>We couldn´t find anywhere these in market so we decided to order them in Helsinki City Collage of Technology. Because these were made by students, price reduced a lot. This way we also favour finish handmade job and handcraft!</p>

<p>Introduction and outline of the challenge addressed by your schools or group of schools.</p> <p>(Please submit a description of the problems that your project addressed. How was the situation prior to the project? )</p> <p>(maximum 1 page)</p>	<p>Every kindergarten in Finland has many airing cupboard per group. This means that every group has two machines in 3-6 year old children group.</p> <p>Finland weather conditions require lots of drying. Children don't always have enough clothes in reserve. Clothes get very easily outside. We go outside twice a day.</p> <p>Airing cupboards are expensive and costs lots of energy. Five kg laundry takes time 3 hours and it takes electricity 4,8 kWh. They can be on for two hours after outdoor activities. At the same time our heating systems are on through whole year. We have water circulated radiators.</p> <p>Little accessories, gloves, hats and socks are often wet after outdoor activities. When they are places in airing cupboard it's not full, more half empty and consume even more energy. On the other hand, children can't place their own, for example, gloves into these machines. They need to be helped out by the teachers.</p> <p>We want to solve a problem that leads to this unnecessary use of energy and electricity. By these drying racks we save energy, electricity and money. These machines blow hot air to dirty gloves etc. in entryway. It's not healthy for anybody. By this we can keep the room air cleaner.</p> <p>Our drying rack is made of metal wire. It is placed on the warm radiator. Metal leads heat very well. On the other hand it is not too hot so it doesn't harm children's expensive clothes etc. Many products are forbidden to put in to these airing cupboards and without some kind of warming these accessories won't get dry after first outdoor activities for the second one.</p> <p>When children come inside, they put their own stuff in this rack to dry. It is easy for even the smallest kinds to handle. Gloves, hats, socks etc. can stay in this rack all afternoon. And when children go outside later again, they take their own products with them. Like this the personnel don't have to put these dirty accessories back to children's coat rack. They can dirty even the clean clothes.</p>
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#### 4. Project Description

##### Project description

Please include also the following points:

- . Phases of the project;
- . Calendar/timing of the school project;
- . Financial information / budget needed.

(maximum 2 pages)

Kindergarten Neulanen is an old day care centre. This is built in 1977. Late 1980's in Finland we had the same problem with weather. Children were outside a lot and feet and hands got wet very easy. The manager at the time designed this drying rack to ease this problem. Afterwards when airing cupboard came in to the picture, these racks were forgotten in to storages.

First we thought that this invention is too simple and too old-fashioned. But we got some courage and after thinking we realised that this really is a great invention for this competition.

When we got the financing for this project we decided to make more of these to those radiators to groups that didn't have the rack yet. We made some measuring and phoned to Pertti Laaksonen in Helsinki City College of Technology (Heltech).

We counted that we need two more. We ordered them from this school. We drew drawings and measured these radiators. then we took these documents and one radiator to the school. Foreman Pertti Laaksonen told that one rack would cost 100-200 euro. Finally the costs were 350 euro from two drying rack. the price consists from metal wire and paint that tolerate heat.

The manager found out about how we can have money to our kindergarten. It wasn't easy 'cause normally kindergarten just spends money, not get any!

## 5. Project Implementation

<p>Project Implementation:</p> <p>Please include also the following points:</p> <p>Innovation: How was your project was innovative and unique in solving the problem or challenge mentioned?</p> <p>Implementation outcome- Which were the results obtained? What are the major differences between before and after implementation of your project?</p> <p>Teamwork Did your project involve a wide range of stakeholders? Who/what organisations were involved in what? Did your project create or improve teamwork?</p> <p>Effectiveness – How effectively was your project implemented? Was your project implemented within the planned budget? If not, how did you compensate? Please attach a financial report (expense breakdown)</p> <p>Was your project implemented according to the planned time schedule? If delayed, why?</p> <p>Environmental and societal impact - Which were the benefits to the environment, or the local community?</p> <p>How can this project be used by other Eco-Schools? Any advise to schools which would be interested in implementing a similar project?</p> <p>How sustainable is the solution found? How will it be maintained in the future?</p> <p>What were the main difficulties found during the implementation process?</p> <p>You may annex illustrations, maps, charts, etc..</p> <p>(maximum 4 pages)</p>	<p>We think this is a great innovation because we have taken back something old which has been found better than new one. By this we save our clients products which nowadays don't stand the heat in airing cupboard. Parents like to buy good products for children. On the other hand, products are so fabulous that they damage the fabric in too hot. If we don't dry them somehow, children don't have dry clothes for afternoon outdoor activities.</p> <p>Electricity bills are getting higher all the time and airing cupboard cost lots of it.</p> <p>Before this competition this was taken for granted in our kindergarten and most of us didn't even think this as something special in saving energy and nature. This easy to put on a radiator and easy to clean. It doesn't weight much.</p> <p>Children can use this drying rack by themselves. When they come inside, they put their gloves, hats etc. on the rack and leave them to dry there. This is also familiar to parents who know where to look for accessories when going home. We use these all the time and they really are working!</p> <p>We have lack of two drying rack. One was missing in pre-school and another one was missing in little children's groups. Drying racks are placed so that different aged children can reach them. Even 2-3 years old know how to use this.</p> <p>This drying rack is removable to another kindergarten and school. All you need is radiator. It doesn't cost very much, less than airing cupboard. By this we save lots of money in electricity payments not to mention energy and nature. Because this is handmade you need to take notice that it takes time to get them. Our timing went too late, cause we didn't get new racks in time, before time project timing was supposed to be ready.</p> <p>Because our financial budget was bigger than the costs of manufacture we decided to use rest of the money to improve our environmental education.</p>
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Date:

	<p>First, we decided to buy new educational material for teachers and children. We buy more storybooks for little children about environmental issues. One book handles climate change and that is for personnel. We get some new games too.</p> <p>Second, we buy new chargeable batteries and battery for digital cameras. By these we don't make any dump that is harmful for environment.</p> <p>Third, we order an extra drying rack which can be used when we go presenting our invention to another day care center. Rintakumpu took a "Green flag –educator" –education this spring. She can present our invention when she goes to keep an education.</p> <p>Last but not least we decided to order a towel system for personnel toilets to avoid dump that comes from wet hand paper. We save this 500 euro for cost that is enough for whole year towels and rent.</p>
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## 6. Dissemination Strategy

<p>Dissemination Strategy:</p> <p>Please include also the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>. How was the project communicated to the wider community?</li><li>. Which means of communication did you use?</li><li>. What was the communication /disseminations plan?</li><li>. Were there any training actions?</li></ul> <p>(maximum 1 page)</p>	<p>Our drying rack has been in use for some years now. Parents, personnel and children think this as a common, familiar invention.</p> <p>After this competition our chief has asked us to talk about "Green flag" to another kindergarten in our own area. Same time we can present this drying rack too.</p> <p>Day care centres manager has informed all personnel about this competition in meetings. We have decided together in "Green flag" – meetings what to do next and last about the money. Rintakumpu and Iivonen presented to others ideas what to do next and after that we got consensus about details.</p> <p>We are going to present to parents what we have achieved and won. We are intended to make brochure about this competition to all parents. Though many already most parents already knows this invention because our win has been in many newspapers. We've got lots of congratulations from different people in</p>
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Date:

Helsinki day care organisation.

Signature/name of the project responsible:

Place: Helsinki  
Date: 10.6.2009