

Instructional Plan

“Brunch with Nature: Working with Nature Through Sustainable Making and Green Entrepreneurship”

Curated by:

Center for Social Innovation (CSI Cyprus) – Cyprus Learning Venture Team

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Summary

Subject(s): Sustainability, Regenerative Agriculture, Biodiversity, Circular Economy, Entrepreneurship

Topic or Unit of Study: Climate Action through Nature-Based Learning and Green Innovation

Grade/Level: Young adults, university students, early-career professionals

Key Skills Being Developed: Ecological literacy, systems thinking, sustainable making, teamwork, critical thinking, circular business design, reflection

Time Allotment: 8 hours (can be adapted to modular sessions)

Objective(s):

Learners will be able to:

- Understand core principles of regenerative and organic agriculture.
- Recognize the role of biodiversity and pollinators in food systems.
- Apply sustainable making practices using natural materials.
- Develop green business ideas using the Circular Business Model Canvas.
- Reflect on their personal agency in climate action and sustainability.


Context and Purpose:

This lesson plan was developed through the Cyprus Learning Venture of the LEVERS Horizon Project. It responds to the need for meaningful, place-based climate education that combines ecological knowledge, creativity, and entrepreneurship. Delivered at Ktima Christoudia, a rural estate connected to local food culture and sustainable land practices, the programme immerses learners in real-world examples of regenerative agriculture, nature-based production, and circular business thinking. The purpose is to empower young people to explore sustainability not as abstract theory, but as tangible practice and potential career pathway.



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Method/Procedure

Step 1 – Initiation: Welcome & Setting the Scene

- Registration and introduction to LEVERS and the Cyprus Learning Venture
- Framing questions:
- What does it mean to work with nature? Where do we see climate challenges locally?

Step 2 – Session 1: Working with Nature

Facilitator: Nicolas Pattichis – Vavla's Treasures

- Introduction to regenerative and organic farming
- Key concepts: soil health, biodiversity, ecosystem services, circular use of by-products
- Demonstration: local products and carob syrup-making process
- Guided observation activity: "reading the land"
- Discussion: career opportunities in regenerative agriculture

Methods: storytelling, demonstration, outdoor observation, group discussion

Step 3 – Session 2: Sustainable Making with Nature

Facilitator: Georgia Shoshilou – Ecophys

- Short video and discussion on bees and pollinator ecology
- Introduction to traditional ecological knowledge
- Hands-on making: beeswax candle and natural lotion using local ingredients
- Discussion on circular design and low-impact production

Methods: video input, demonstration, hands-on workshop, peer learning

Step 4 – Session 3: Green Entrepreneurship

Facilitator: Antonia Christou – Cyprus University of Technology

- Introduction to sustainability-driven entrepreneurship
- Presentation of Circular Business Model Canvas
- Team activity: develop a circular business idea based on nature-based products or services
- Group pitching and feedback

Methods: interactive lecture, teamwork, canvas tool, peer feedback

Step 5 – Session 4: Reflection & Sharing

Facilitator: Dr. Stella Karra – CSI Cyprus

- Reflective circle
- Guiding questions:
- What did I learn? What inspired me? How can I apply this?
- Sharing insights and future ideas
- Closing remarks

Methods: guided reflection, group dialogue, consolidation of learning



Materials and Resources

- Natural environment (Ktima Christoudia estate)
- Local raw materials (beeswax, olive oil, herbs)
- Carob syrup demonstration materials
- Circular Business Model Canvas templates
- Flipcharts, markers, post-its
- Visual slides and short educational videos

Assessment

No formal assessment. Learning is evidenced through:

- Participation in hands-on activities
- Completed Circular Business Model Canvas
- Group discussions and reflections

Outcomes & Impact

Short-term:

- Learners gain awareness of regenerative agriculture and biodiversity
- Hands-on experience in sustainable making
- Introduction to green entrepreneurship tools

Medium-term:

- Increased confidence in developing sustainability ideas
- Greater motivation to explore green career paths
- Enhanced collaboration and critical thinking

Long-term:

- Learners situate their agency in climate action
- Inspiration for future sustainable ventures or community projects
- Contribution to cultural shifts toward sustainability and circular thinking

Why this lesson plan matters for LEVERS

This lesson plan demonstrates how **place-based, experiential learning** can combine ecological knowledge, creative practice, and entrepreneurial thinking to empower young people as climate innovators. It provides a replicable model for Learning Ventures seeking to link **nature, culture, and green innovation** through meaningful, action-oriented education.

