



**FIELD  
TO SCHOOL**

**GARDEN OF THE SENSES**  
**WALDORF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BRNO**

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union





# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## PROJECT GOAL

The aim of the project “Garden of the Senses” was to transform the school garden at the Waldorf Elementary School and Kindergarten in Brno into a natural classroom, as well as place of relaxation and play.





# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURE

- Set up an Action Group. The group included pupils, educators, kitchen staff, parents and school management.
- Run an introductory session for parents explaining the principles and objectives of the project.
- Run an introductory session for teachers on how to teach in a school garden.
- Develop the school garden as a natural classroom - the aim was to create a “natural classroom” on the school grounds and thus support non-traditional forms of education in the field of environmental education for children. Children would also grow crops for use in school kitchen or cooking classes.





# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## PREPARATORY PROJECT PHASE

**June to August 2009**

- Preparation of an introductory meeting on the project for parents, teachers and the public.
- Preparation of a session for children of the primary school.
- Preparation of a session for parents and supporters of the school garden.

**An introductory meeting was held on September 10th 2009 at the school.**

Its aim was to explain the principles and objectives of the project "Garden of the Senses". We also wanted to gauge any interest in linking healthy eating to the garden project.

After this, the Healthy Eating Action Group was established. It discussed solutions to improve children's meals in the school canteen through greater inclusion of healthy food, organic food, reducing salt, animal fats, etc.

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union





# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## A SMALL EXHIBITION WAS HUNG IN THE SCHOOL CORRIDOR

A1 posters were lent from the Partnership Foundation and hung to inspire the children, parents, school staff other supporters of the garden's development.



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union







# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## SEMINAR FOR SCHOOL GARDEN PLANNING

**On September 25, 2009 a seminar was held with primary school children.**

In the seminar, the children expressed their wishes about the school garden. Everything was written in a 'table of wishes' that included deciding on plants, structure, etc.

**On September 26, 2009 there was a seminar for planning the school garden.**

In this seminar, a natural garden plan was made. The plan was based on the children's wishes, which they formulated in the previous seminar.





# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## THE GARDEN DESIGN



Through the seminars, the design was decided upon.

This design was viewable on the presentation board at the school, which kept people informed about the project during the whole school year.

Anyone was able to comment and discuss the proposal on the board.







# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## BUILDING THE GARDEN POND

On October 2009 the first session was held to help with the building of the pond.

About 35 people came, including children. The group leader was Čestmír Holuša, an experienced builder of lakes and permaculture designer.



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union







# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## TRAINING SESSIONS

**On November 2009 a session was held for teachers on the topic “How to teach in a natural garden”.**

Teachers were trained in how to manage the school garden with the pupils.

### **February 2010 Organic club meeting**

The meeting was held for parents and supporters of the Waldorf School, as well as Tři Sudičky – The organic-box system providers, and Pospisil's suppliers from the “Holubí Zhoř” farm nearby.

At the meeting, the parents learned about the contents of organic food boxes, how to order them, the growing plan for the next year and what else an organic box can offer.

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union





# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## SPRING VOLUNTEER DAY IN THE GARDEN

April 2010

A Saturday morning volunteer day achieved the following:

- Clearing old shrubs
- Cleaning old beds
- Reclamation of existing beds and preparation of new elevated beds
- Managing the pond area
- Planting perennials



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union







# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## MAY VOLUNTEER DAY

A May volunteer day achieved the following:

- Preparation of a site for the construction of dry walls and a herbal spiral
- Planting of water plants
- Construction of new elevated beds
- Preparation of interpretation boards
- Installation of drainage
- Planting bushes, roses and herbs
- Locating benches



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union







# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## STUDENTS WORKED IN CRAFT CLASSES

In class, children created a range of items for the garden including:

- Feeders for birds
- Birdhouses
- Benches



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union





# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## CONSTRUCTION OF DRY STONE WALLS

June 2010

The construction was attended by children of 3rd grade who could experience the work of a dry stone waller.

With the kind help of professional dry stone wallers and parents, the first dry stone wall was built over the course of two days.



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union







# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## GARDEN PARTY

The garden party was held on 12th of June 2010.

- The grand opening of the garden took place on a beautiful sunny day in June 2010. The session included parents, teachers and former school graduates.
- A creative workshop for children was attended by parents. Under the shade of the pine trees, the parents could enjoy this quiet corner of the garden for the first time. The local school canteen and parents prepared a picnic and given the opportunity to taste organic food.
- A representative of the Tři Sudičky veg box scheme were there to talk to parents.
- We also managed to produce and install interpretation boards on the subjects composting and ponds. The panels were placed near the compost pile and the new pond.



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union







# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## LEARNING IN THE GARDEN



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



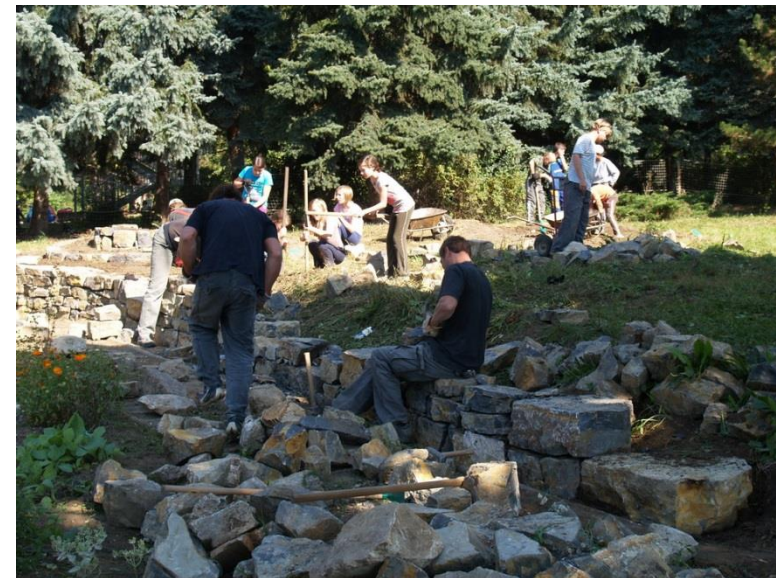




# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## THE SCHOOL GARDEN PROJECT CONTINUES

- In September, 2010, construction was started on a second dry stone wall and herb spiral.
- Professional dry stone wallers returned to help with the work in the garden.
- This time children from 6th grade came to help.



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union







# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## THE SCHOOL GARDEN PROJECT CONTINUES



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union







# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## THE SCHOOL GARDEN PROJECT CONTINUES

Before the project started - Summer 2009



Today – Autumn 2019



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union







# FIELD TO SCHOOL

## SCHOOL ORGANIC FAIR

On September 30th, 2010, a school organic fair was organized.

Companies that offered organic goods included Country Life, Biofarma Machovi, Racio, bio nebio, Tři Sudičky, Polabské mlékárny. There was also the chance to taste organic food provided by local company Rebio

