

Green Professions

Summary of the project

The Green Professions project in Germany, provides school children the opportunity to, in the words of the project, "peek over the shoulders of an organic farmer". This two day workshop was run by Ökomarkt e.V., for pupils of a vocational training school in Hamburg. On the first day, a theoretical session was run in the school and this introduced the concepts of organic farming and ecology. After this theoretical session, the second day involved a visit to Gut Wulksfelde, an organic farm in the north-east of Hamburg, to see and experience the different jobs that exist on an ecological farm.

Who is involved?

The participants from the vocational school included six pupils and three members of staff. One member of staff from the Ökomarkt ran the session.

Key steps

After having made links with the school, the member of staff from the Ökomarkt e.V. worked with the teaching staff to prepare the theoretical material which was to be used on day one of the two day workshop. The material was designed to be able to support the requirements of the school and the vocational students.

How are the children involved?

The children actively participate in both workshop days, using them as an opportunity to learn more about green professions and to answer any questions they may have. During the days, they get an insight into what types of jobs there are on an organic farm, as well as being able to explore the grounds of the farm and to see how things are run. Children also have the opportunity to come into contact with the farm animals and to learn about their needs and animal welfare.

How is the project linked to farming?

As one of the workshop days was held on the farm, the children had a direct insight into farming life. They got to talk with farm staff and developed a deeper understanding of how to manage a farm like Gut Wulksfelde.





CASE STUDY

How is the project linked to the school curriculum?

The children in this group were all part of a programme designed to prepare them for vocational training. As they haven't chosen a profession yet, they are presented with a variety of possible professions linked to the local economy. The aim of this programme was to give the group a better understanding of the food and farming industry.

Positive outcomes

The children were surprised by how many different professions, both trained and untrained, are necessary to manage Gut Wulksfelde. It is hoped that this kind of project will enthuse more children to consider jobs in the farming industry.

