

Team EnviroMates Final Report

Meet our team!



@iek_sosyal_etki_yaratanlar



Ece Ülkü



Bade Soybakış



Su Yazıcı



Melis İtir Kaplan



Lara Saybaşıllı



Rana Aydınır

TESTIMONIALS

Yelda Zoral Yücebaş-İşikkent Schools-Cooperate Communication Administrator

Our EnviroMates students act as a model for their friends with their level of awareness. They know how important is to take action today to create a better future. The little steps they take today will grow like a drop in the water. We are proud of them, believe in them, and support them whole heartedly.

The EnviroMates group met with our kindergarten students in a joint project. They made a great impact on our students' environmental awareness and made compost together. They gave preliminary information and acted as leaders to protect nature and the world. Overall, they established a great work together.

Handan Yılmaz-İşikkent Schools-Kindergarten Principal

Our Project Aim

As EnviroMates, we are a team of 6 İşikkent students who care about environmental issues and came together to find sustainable solutions to the problems that our world faces today. We decided to carry out our awareness activities on this issue with 4 different projects. These were;

- Removal of Single use Plastic Bottles
- Secondhand Campaign (Clean, well-maintained clothes, usable items and accessories that are not used anymore)
- Food waste that comes out of our school's kitchen every day after meal preparation
- Waste management awareness activities with our kindergarten students



Community partners and involvement

- Ran an online survey and got 245 responses from the students and teachers at our school asking questions about their awareness of sustainability and daily practice of waste management.
- Made partnerships with the Secondhand-Charity Shop of the Çağdaş Yaşamı Destekleme Derneği.
- We had a meeting and agreement with Ms. Dilan from Sofra-Eurest Dining Services, company which supplies food for the school.
- We talk about our projects to nature activist Mr. Güven İslamoğlu, who prepares programs for TV channels aimed at raising awareness about environmental problems.
- Cooperated with the Eco Club team of our high school to raise awareness and instigate an action.
- We held a meeting with the school's general management and asked for their support to put an end to the use of plastic bottles in our school, and we set January 1, 2022.
- We received compost training from the owner of the Eco Store Turkey company.
- We reached 541 followers on Instagram!



GLOBAL
SOCIAL
LEADERS

Highlights

Single use Plastic Bottles

- We installed corners to collect plastic bottles, wastewater and plastic lids throughout the school and constructed a tree made from 800 plastic bottles that were collected in a span of 2 weeks
- We started a 'bring your own bottle' campaign and stopped the sale of single-use plastic bottles in the canteen and the free distribution in the cafeteria.



Secondhand Campaign (Clean, well-maintained clothes, usable items and accessories that are not used anymore)

- Started a campaign to collect secondhand clothes, shoes, kitchenware and home accessories, etc.
- These items were donated to the Secondhand-Charity Shop of the Çağdaş Yaşamı Destekleme Derneği which helped provide educational scholarships for children in need through our donations.
- We collected 18 boxes of suitable items for sale in 3 weeks.



Food waste that comes out of our school's kitchen every day after meal preparation

- We started making compost with the raw vegetable and fruit waste that went to bins during the preparation of meals for 1000 people every day.
- We bought 5 garden compost bins that were suitable for outdoor use.
- We created the budget for the garden compost bins by organizing bake sale's every week.
- We are responsible for the whole composting process with full commitment.



Waste management awareness activities with the kindergarten students

- We organized a presentation on waste management for the kindergarten students at our school.
- We taught 60 kindergarten students how to make compost and led them through the process; now they're in charge of recycling their own leftover foods.



Obstacles

- Covid-19 (classes closing due to the virus led to us being behind schedule or having to postpone our actions).
- Many students were lack of awareness of recycling, so we arranged meetings, made announcements, and organized activities to raise awareness.
- We asked for a loan from the school and now paying it back to the school with what we earn from our weekly bake sale's.
- Some parents and students were concerned about the removal of all plastic bottles from the school, as well as the possibility of not being able to get water. However, with the support of the school administration, we were able to address these issues by giving each student a free reusable water bottle and placing water dispensers in hallways where everyone could reach.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repeat!