



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

2021-1-DE04-KA220-YOU-000029209
Think **Green** for the World



Module 1: Environmental Literacy Handbook

Disclaimer

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.



ÇEROKİ
cerokider@gmail.com

For more details visit our official website: <https://www.e-greenworld.org/>



Table of Contents

Environmental Literacy Handbook.....	2
GREENWORLD expected results:.....	2
PART ONE- INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC	4
PART TWO- Specification of the elements to learn under this topic including learning tasks:	4
A- ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS	4
B- HUMAN-CENTRED ETHICS.....	7
C-LIFE-CENTRED ETHICS.....	10
D- ECOCENTRIC ETHICS (HOLISTIC ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS)	11
E- OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS APPROACHES.....	13
PART THREE- Best practices we have in our institution, in our city or country even in the partners' countries.....	14
PART FOUR- Links to videos and further reading sources for the content of module.....	15
PART FIVE- The importance of the module in Youth Education	15
PART SIX- Implementation activities for the content of module	16
PART SEVEN- You can include a self-Check for the learner at the end, a checklist about competences they have got from the module.....	18
PART EIGHT- Conclusion.....	20
REFERENCES	20





ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY HANDBOOK

Foreword

The green youth center's impact can be significantly amplified by incorporating an environmental literacy handbook as a supportive element. This intellectual output will be developed using a sequential, four-stage methodology that integrates both technical and operational considerations. First, a thorough analysis will be conducted to understand the target audience's existing environmental knowledge, their specific needs, and the learning objectives the handbook aims to address. Based on this analysis, the development stage will involve crafting content that leverages best practices in environmental education and climate change communication. To ensure the handbook's effectiveness, a verification and testing stage will follow. This may involve pilot testing with a representative sample of the target audience and incorporating feedback from environmental education and youth development specialists. Finally, upon successful testing and revision, the application stage will see the finalized handbook implemented within the green youth center's programs. This may involve training facilitators, disseminating the handbook to participants, and monitoring its impact on participants' environmental literacy.

GREENWORLD expected results:

Thinking Green Center Model Development and Implementation:

This project will establish a green youth center model, grounded in local practices and validated through testing. Partners will collaboratively define the model's core components, including:
Environmental Literacy Handbook: This comprehensive resource will detail content, development stages, application strategies, and potential risk areas.

Governance Mechanism: A defined structure will oversee the model's development and validation process.

Educational Application Package: An innovative educational application package will be created, complementing the environmental literacy handbook. This package aims to empower young people, future environmental decision-makers, with vital knowledge and skills. The application package, along with the handbook, will contribute to comprehensive environmental education across all societal segments.

Impact of the *Thinking Green Center Model*:

The environmental literacy handbook serves as a critical supporting element for the green youth center model, fostering several key benefits:

Enhanced Access and Participation: The model will facilitate increased access to, and participation in, the green youth center's programs and activities.





Sustainable Environment Promotion: The model will encourage responsible resource consumption, preventing depletion at unsustainable rates. Additionally, it will discourage environmentally harmful practices.

Innovative Greenworld Output: The green youth center, with the accompanying handbook, represents a novel and impactful output for the GREENWORLD initiative.

GREENWORLD's Long-Term Vision:

The "Environmental Literacy Handbook" serves as a cornerstone for GREENWORLD's ongoing support of reforms and implementations aligned with the EU's environmental and climate agenda priorities.

GREENWORLD's Broader Impact:

GREENWORLD offers a groundbreaking mechanism through the green youth center model. The initiative supports stakeholders across various sustainable development fields, facilitating the creation of effective solutions for critical issues like environmental policies, biodiversity, climate change, renewable energy, environmental information, and waste management.





Module 1 : Ethical and aesthetic values in environmental education

PART ONE- INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

Environmental education encompasses a comprehensive learning process aimed at fostering individuals' conscious and ethical perspectives on environmental issues. This process requires the integrated consideration of relationships with nature, ethical values, and aesthetic perceptions. Academic literature indicates that the ethical and aesthetic dimensions of environmental education deeply impact individuals' understanding of environmental responsibilities, the establishment of ethical connections with the environment, and the appreciation of the aesthetic value of nature.

- **The Role of Ethical Values in Environmental Education:** Environmental education emphasizes fundamental ethical values to help individuals develop a responsible attitude towards nature. This includes issues such as sustainable management of ecosystems, fair use of natural resources, and environmental justice. As noted by Smith and Jones (2018), ethical values guide individuals in shaping their environmental decisions and advocate for the equitable distribution of environmental impacts.
- **The Impact of Aesthetic Perception on Environmental Sensitivity:** Environmental education also prioritizes the development of an aesthetic perspective on the environment by highlighting the aesthetic value of nature. This encourages individuals to develop an aesthetic appreciation for the beauty and diversity of natural life. Studies by Johnson and Smith (2020) demonstrate that environmental aesthetics enhance individuals' levels of environmental sensitivity and lead to a profound appreciation for the natural environment.

In this context, this module will explore how ethical and aesthetic values can be integrated into environmental education and how this integration can influence individuals' environmental attitudes. This examination will allow us to gain a deeper understanding of how environmental education contributes not only to knowledge acquisition but also to the development of an ethical and aesthetic understanding of the environment in learners.

PART TWO- Specification of the elements to learn under this topic including learning tasks:

A- ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS

1. What is environment?

The environment encompasses everything essential for human life and well-being. This includes the natural world—plants, animals, water, air, soil—and the intricate relationships among them. Additionally, it encompasses the human-made world, comprising buildings, roads, vehicles, and other structures.

The environment constitutes a system that supports and sustains human life. However, when this delicate balance is disrupted, issues such as environmental pollution and overexploitation of natural resources may arise, posing serious risks to both natural and artificial elements and consequently impacting human health and well-being.

Environmental pollution, arising from the release of harmful chemicals into environments such as water, air, and soil, is a significant concern. Factors like overhunting and deforestation can threaten





natural habitats. Climate change, affecting weather conditions and sea levels globally, can have far-reaching effects on life as we know it.

Therefore, the preservation and sustainable management of the environment are of paramount importance. These efforts should involve conscious use of natural resources, waste reduction, and the conservation of ecosystems. A healthy environment not only enhances the quality of human life but also ensures a better world for future generations.

2. What is ethics?

Ethics is a moral philosophy that serves as a guide for distinguishing right from wrong and good from bad. It provides a broad perspective for evaluating individual behaviors and actions.

Ethics can extend beyond the individual level to encompass societal institutions and practices. It focuses on understanding and assessing human behaviors by delving into individuals' internal motivations, values, and societal norms.

This moral philosophy is intricate, covering a wide range of topics. It includes fundamental values such as individual responsibility, justice, rights, equality, freedom, solidarity, and peace. These values form the basis for ethical principles that shape the functioning of societies and encourage interpersonal interactions within an ethical framework.

In the face of challenges, conflicts, and choices in life, ethics guides individuals. In this context, ethics contributes to the sustainable, fair, and ethical development of individuals and societies, promoting interactions within a framework of ethical principles.

3. What is environmental ethics?

Environmental ethics is a specialized branch of moral philosophy that examines ethical issues related to the environment. It delves into the relationship between humans and the environment, the intrinsic value of the environment, and human responsibilities towards the environment.

Environmental ethics focuses on addressing fundamental questions such as:

1. **What is the Value of Nature?** Environmental ethics challenges the notion of whether nature has value solely for human use or whether it possesses intrinsic value in and of itself. The discussion around the inherent value of nature is a key point of contention within environmental ethics.
2. **What Responsibilities Do Humans Have Toward Nature?** This field evaluates the impact of human activities on the environment and determines ethical responsibilities towards it. Issues like the conservation of nature and sustainable resource use are prominent considerations within the realm of environmental ethics.
3. **What Should We Do to Protect the Environment?** Environmental ethics explores solutions to problems such as environmental pollution, resource depletion, and climate change. It promotes solutions based on sustainability principles and encourages individuals, societies, and institutions to adopt environmentally friendly behaviors.

Environmental ethics aims to question human relationships with nature and develop a perspective that is sensitive to environmental issues. By doing so, it contributes to a better understanding of the preservation of nature and human responsibilities towards the environment.

4. Development of environmental ethics





Environmental ethics emerged in the latter half of the 20th century as a discipline evolving in response to the escalating environmental challenges facing the world. This field aims to examine ethical issues related to the environment, fostering a profound understanding of the rights and values associated with nature and living beings.

Initially, environmental ethics predominantly focused on an anthropocentric perspective, positing that nature was merely a resource for human benefit. However, over time, the idea that the environment possesses intrinsic value in and of itself gained prominence. This evolution marked the rise of an ecocentric viewpoint, asserting that nature is not only a part of human existence but also holds inherent value independently.

As the late 20th century approached, the realm of environmental ethics witnessed a diversification of perspectives. New approaches such as sentientism, ethical anthropocentrism, and ecofeminism emerged, contributing to a richer tapestry of ethical considerations. This diversity emphasized the need for a more comprehensive and nuanced examination of the rights, values, and protection of nature and its inhabitants.

This evolution in environmental ethics has played a crucial role in encouraging a broader perspective and deeper contemplation of ethical responsibilities in the face of environmental issues. It seeks to foster a vision of a fair and sustainable future not only for humans but for all ecosystems and forms of life.

5. Approaches of environmental ethics

Environmental ethics is grounded in various approaches, each defining the value of nature and the human-nature relationship in distinct ways.

1. **Anthropocentrism:** This approach contends that nature is merely a tool for human benefit. The value of nature is dependent on its capacity to meet human needs. Environmental ethics, from this perspective, adopts a human-centric viewpoint.
2. **Ecocentrism:** The ecocentric approach asserts that nature has intrinsic value in itself and is part of non-human entities. This perspective emphasizes the integrity of ecosystems, recognizing that nature represents not only human habitat but the habitat for all living beings.
3. **Sentientism:** Sentientism posits that ethical status is reserved solely for beings capable of sensation. According to this viewpoint, the value of nature is contingent on the benefit it provides to sentient beings, particularly focusing on issues related to animal rights and welfare.
4. **Ethical Anthropocentrism:** Ethical anthropocentrism contends that nature holds value both for its intrinsic qualities and for its utility to humans. The value of nature is determined by both its intrinsic worth and its capacity to fulfill human needs. This approach seeks to reconcile human-centric and nature-centric evaluations.
5. **Ecofeminism:** Ecofeminist approach examines the relationship between nature and humans within the context of gender equality. It suggests that male dominance has led to the exploitation of nature and environmental issues. Ecofeminism underscores the connections between gender equality and environmental ethics.

These diverse approaches within environmental ethics reflect a broad spectrum of philosophical perspectives. They enable in-depth contemplation and discussions on the value of nature and ethical questions arising from the human-nature relationship.

6. Aesthetics, Nature and Value





The aesthetic value of nature is not merely a visual spectacle; it serves as the foundation for a profound emotional connection between humans and the natural world within the context of environmental ethics. This aesthetic value has the potential to shape admiration, love, and respect for nature among individuals.

The diversity and complexity of nature not only provide a visual feast but also encourage people to explore new and exciting aspects. Complexity allows us to perceive the hidden order and harmony within nature. Elements such as symmetry, regularity, colors, textures, sounds, and scents in nature enrich human sensory experiences and contribute to the development of an aesthetic perception of nature.

Preserving and emphasizing this aesthetic value is achievable through various expressive forms. Nature photographs and paintings capture the beauty of nature, raising awareness for its conservation. Nature poems and songs establish an emotional connection, deepening the understanding of the significance of nature. Additionally, religious and philosophical beliefs about nature express its aesthetic value on a spiritual level.

Preserving this aesthetic value requires practical steps such as establishing nature conservation areas, adopting eco-friendly production and consumption habits, and promoting nature education. Nature conservation areas safeguard the unique beauty and ecosystems of nature, while eco-friendly practices minimize harm to the environment. Nature education guides individuals to understand and appreciate the aesthetic value of nature, fostering sustainable environmental awareness for future generations.

In conclusion, the aesthetic value of nature is pivotal, not only as a visual delight but also as the cornerstone for a strong connection between humans and the environment within the framework of environmental ethics. Safeguarding this value is a critical step for a sustainable future, emphasizing the interdependence of aesthetic appreciation and ethical environmental practices.

B- HUMAN-CENTRED ETHICS

Human-centered ethics is an ethical approach that primarily evaluates the value of the environment based on its utility for human benefit. According to this perspective, the value of nature is contingent upon its capacity to serve human needs. Human-centered ethics places human well-being and necessities at the forefront when assessing the value of the natural world.

This approach grounds the evaluation of nature's value in the context of human welfare. Natural resources, ecosystems, and other environmental elements are viewed as tools to sustain and enhance human life. This perspective reflects a mindset where the use of natural resources is driven by the goal of economic growth and the improvement of human well-being.

However, human-centered ethics has faced criticism for reducing the value of the environment solely to human needs. Critics argue that this approach overlooks the holistic value of nature and may fall short in addressing issues of sustainability and environmental justice.

In conclusion, human-centered ethics is a perspective that evaluates the value of nature based on its serviceability to human needs. While emphasizing the role of natural resources in meeting human requirements, this approach is subject to various opinions in environmental ethics discussions, with debates surrounding its potential limitations in considering the broader and more holistic value of the environment.

1. Stewardship Ethics





Stewardship ethics is an environmental ethics approach advocating for the responsible use of nature for the benefit of humanity. According to this perspective, humans are stewards and caretakers of nature. While utilizing natural resources to meet their needs, they must exercise caution to avoid causing harm to the environment.

Being one of the oldest approaches in environmental ethics, stewardship ethics has roots in various religions such as Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.

The foundational principles of the stewardship ethics approach include:

- Nature is created to be used for the benefit of humanity.
- Humans are responsible caretakers and stewards of nature.
- Natural resources can be used to meet human needs, but this should be done with a commitment to avoiding harm to the environment.

In adhering to the principles of the stewardship ethics approach, individuals should:

- Use resources efficiently.
- Source resources from renewable sources.
- Avoid polluting natural resources.

The stewardship ethics approach can play a significant role in addressing environmental issues by reminding individuals of their responsibilities towards nature and promoting the sustainable use of natural resources.

2. Enlightened Anthropocentrism

Enlightened anthropocentrism is an environmental ethics approach that posits nature has intrinsic value both for the benefit of humanity and in its own right. According to this perspective, the resources of nature can be utilized to meet human needs, but this must be done with a simultaneous respect for the inherent value of nature itself.

This approach builds upon the stewardship ethics model, emphasizing the importance of preserving nature's resources while highlighting that nature holds value independently of its utility to humans.

The fundamental principles of enlightened anthropocentrism include:

- Nature has value for both human benefit and in its own right.
- Humans, when using the resources of nature, should exercise care to meet human needs while also preserving the inherent value of nature.

In accordance with enlightened anthropocentrism, individuals should adhere to the following principles when utilizing nature's resources:

- Use resources efficiently.
- Source resources from renewable sources.
- Avoid polluting natural resources.
- Preserve the diversity and balance of nature.

Enlightened anthropocentrism can play a significant role in addressing environmental issues by reminding individuals of their responsibilities towards nature and promoting the sustainable use of natural resources.





3. Reformist Anthropocentrism

Reformist anthropocentrism is an environmental ethics approach that advocates for the use of nature for the benefit of humanity but sets clear boundaries on this utilization. According to this perspective, individuals must respect both the intrinsic value and sustainability of nature while utilizing its resources.

The principles underlying the reformist anthropocentrism approach are:

- Humans are part of nature and have responsibilities towards it.
- Nature has value for both human benefit and in its own right.
- When using nature's resources, humans should exercise care to meet human needs while preserving the inherent value of nature.
- Natural resources should be used sustainably.

Reformist anthropocentrism can lead to practical applications such as:

- Efficient use of natural resources.
- Promotion of the use of renewable resources.
- Prevention of pollution.
- Preservation of natural areas.
- Conservation of endangered species.

The reformist anthropocentrism approach can play a crucial role in addressing environmental issues. By emphasizing that nature has value both for human benefit and in its own right, it encourages the sustainable use of natural resources.

4. Modern Anthropocentrism

Modern anthropocentrism is an environmental ethics approach that asserts the need to use nature for the benefit of humanity while also respecting its inherent value. This approach, more recent than reformist anthropocentrism, has emerged in response to the increasing complexity of environmental issues.

The foundational principles of the modern anthropocentrism approach are:

- Nature has value for both human benefit and in its own right.
- When using nature's resources, humans should exercise care to meet human needs while preserving the inherent value of nature.
- Natural resources should be used sustainably.
- Environmental issues should be addressed through a human-centered perspective.

The modern anthropocentrism approach can lead to practical applications such as:

- Efficient use of natural resources.
- Promotion of the use of renewable resources.
- Prevention of pollution.
- Preservation of natural areas.
- Conservation of endangered species.
- Ensuring environmental justice.
- Encouraging public participation in environmental decision-making processes.

Modern anthropocentrism can play a crucial role in addressing environmental issues by emphasizing that nature has value both for human benefit and in its own right, thereby promoting the sustainable use of natural resources.





C-LIFE-CENTRED ETHICS

1. Ethics of Respect for Life

The Ethics of Respect for Life is an environmental ethics approach that advocates for the acknowledgment of the right to life for all living beings. According to this perspective, all creatures, whether human or non-human, possess intrinsic value and deserve respect.

The Ethics of Respect for Life approach is grounded in the following fundamental principles:

1. All living beings have intrinsic value.
2. All living beings have the right to life.
3. Humans should treat all living beings with respect.

The Ethics of Respect for Life approach can lead to practical applications such as:

- Animal rights movements.
- Anti-war movements.
- Ethical consumption practices.
- Ecological movements.

The Ethics of Respect for Life approach can play a significant role in addressing environmental issues. By emphasizing the importance of showing respect to all living beings, it encourages the sustainable use of nature's resources.

2. Ethics of Respect for Nature

The Ethics of Respect for Nature is an environmental ethics approach that asserts the intrinsic value of nature itself and advocates for its deserving respect. According to this perspective, all living beings, whether human or non-human, that are part of nature possess intrinsic value.

The Ethics of Respect for Nature approach is based on the following fundamental principles:

1. Nature has intrinsic value.
2. The integrity of nature should be preserved.
3. Humans should treat nature with respect.

The Ethics of Respect for Nature approach can lead to practical applications such as:

- Nature conservation movements.
- Ecological movements.
- Implementation of environmental policies by local governments.
- Emphasis on the importance of nature in environmental education.

The Ethics of Respect for Nature approach can play a significant role in addressing environmental issues. By highlighting that nature has intrinsic value on its own, it encourages the sustainable use of natural resources.





3. Gaia (Living World) Approach

The Gaia (Living World) Approach is an environmental ethics perspective based on the idea that our planet is a living organism, and all living entities are interconnected. According to this approach, the Earth is a holistic entity that encompasses all living and non-living elements.

The Gaia (Living World) Approach is grounded in the following fundamental principles:

1. The Earth is a living organism.
2. All living beings are interconnected.
3. Humans should treat the planet with respect.

The Gaia (Living World) Approach can lead to practical applications such as:

- Combatting climate change.
- Preventing environmental pollution.
- Preserving biodiversity.
- Promoting sustainable development.

The Gaia (Living World) Approach can play a significant role in addressing environmental issues. By emphasizing the concept that the Earth is a cohesive entity, it encourages the sustainable use of nature and fosters a sense of responsibility toward the interconnected web of life on the planet.

4. Animal Rights Approach

The Animal Rights Approach is an environmental ethics perspective that asserts animals have rights similar to those of humans. According to this approach, animals have the right to be protected from suffering and harm.

The Animal Rights Approach is grounded in the following fundamental principles:

1. Animals have rights similar to humans.
2. Animals have the right to be protected from suffering and harm.
3. Humans should treat animals with respect.

The Animal Rights Approach can lead to practical applications such as:

- The animal rights movement.
- Legal regulations for the protection of animals.
- Reduction in the consumption of animal products.
- Adoption of vegetarianism or veganism.

The Animal Rights Approach can play a significant role in addressing environmental issues. By emphasizing that animals also have rights, it encourages the better protection of animals and fosters a more compassionate and ethical relationship between humans and the animal kingdom.

D- ECOCENTRIC ETHICS (HOLISTIC ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS)

1. Earth Ethics

Earth Ethics is an environmental ethics approach that asserts nature has intrinsic value on its own, and this value cannot be assessed through a human-centered perspective. According to this approach, nature is a holistic entity encompassing all living beings, including humans.





The Earth Ethics approach is grounded in the following fundamental principles:

1. Nature has intrinsic value on its own.
2. Nature is a holistic entity comprising all living beings, including humans.
3. Humans should treat nature with respect.

The Earth Ethics approach can lead to practical applications such as:

- Combating climate change.
- Preventing environmental pollution.
- Preserving biodiversity.
- Promoting sustainable development.

Earth Ethics can play a significant role in addressing environmental issues. By emphasizing that nature has inherent value, it encourages a perspective that values and respects the interconnectedness of all living beings, fostering a more harmonious and sustainable relationship between humans and the environment.

2. Deep Ecology

Deep Ecology is an environmental ethics approach that contends nature has intrinsic value on its own, and this value may not necessarily align with human interests. According to this perspective, nature is a holistic entity encompassing all living beings, and the preservation of this whole takes precedence over human interests.

The Deep Ecology approach is grounded in the following fundamental principles:

1. Nature has intrinsic value on its own.
2. Nature is a holistic entity comprising all living beings, including humans.
3. The integrity of nature must be preserved.
4. Humans should treat nature with respect.

The Deep Ecology approach can lead to practical applications such as:

- Combating climate change.
- Preventing environmental pollution.
- Preserving biodiversity.
- Promoting sustainable development.

Deep Ecology can play a significant role in addressing environmental issues by emphasizing that nature has intrinsic value and that preserving the integrity of nature is more important than human interests. This perspective encourages a more harmonious and respectful relationship between humans and the environment.

3. Social Ecology Approach

Social Ecology Approach is an environmental ethics perspective that posits environmental issues stem from the structure of human societies. According to this approach, environmental problems arise from fundamental contradictions within human society, such as capitalism, colonialism, and industrialization.





The Social Ecology Approach is founded on the following key principles:

1. Environmental issues originate from the structure of human society.
2. To address environmental problems, the structure of human society must be altered.
3. Humans should collaborate to construct a society in harmony with nature.

The Social Ecology Approach can lead to practical applications such as:

- Struggling against capitalism and colonialism.
- Reducing industrialization.
- Constructing ecological communities.

The Social Ecology Approach can play a crucial role in resolving environmental issues by highlighting that these problems arise from the structure of human society. By emphasizing the need to build a more sustainable society, this perspective encourages collaborative efforts to establish a harmonious relationship between humans and the environment.

E- OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS APPROACHES

1. Ecofeminism

Ecofeminism is an environmental ethics approach that asserts environmental issues are a consequence of patriarchy. According to this perspective, patriarchal societies are built on the idea of dominating and exploiting nature.

The Ecofeminism approach is grounded in the following key principles:

1. Patriarchy is the fundamental cause of environmental issues.
2. Women have the potential to play a significant role in addressing environmental problems.
3. Men and women should collaborate to construct a society in harmony with nature.

The Ecofeminism approach can lead to practical applications such as:

- Dismantling patriarchy.
- Empowering women.
- Increasing women's participation in the ecological movement.

The Ecofeminism approach can play a crucial role in resolving environmental issues. By highlighting the contribution of patriarchy to environmental problems, this perspective encourages the construction of a more just and sustainable society.

2. Ecosocialist Ethical Approach

The Ecosocialist Ethical Approach is an environmental ethics perspective that contends environmental issues are a consequence of capitalism. According to this viewpoint, environmental problems stem from the economic system of capitalism, which is built on growth and consumption.

The Ecosocialist Ethical Approach is grounded in the following key principles:

1. Environmental problems are a result of capitalism.
2. Capitalism is a destructive system towards nature.
3. To construct an ecological society, capitalism must be eradicated.

The Ecosocialist Ethical Approach can lead to practical applications such as:

- Dismantling capitalism.
- Constructing an ecological economy.
- Ensuring social justice in an ecological society.





The Ecosocialist Ethical Approach can play a significant role in resolving environmental issues. By emphasizing the contribution of capitalism to environmental problems, this perspective encourages the construction of a more just and sustainable society.

3. Futuristic Ethical Approach

The Futuristic Ethical Approach is an environmental ethics perspective that advocates leveraging future technologies for solving environmental issues. According to this approach, new technologies have the potential to provide necessary solutions for addressing environmental problems.

Key principles of the Futuristic Ethical Approach include:

1. Future technologies should be utilized for solving environmental issues.
2. New technologies can provide essential solutions for addressing environmental problems.
3. New technologies should produce sustainable solutions to environmental issues.

The Futuristic Ethical Approach can lead to practical applications such as:

- Development and utilization of new technologies.
- Ensuring the environmentally friendly nature of new technologies.
- Evaluation of the environmental impacts of new technologies.

This approach can play a significant role in solving environmental problems by emphasizing the potential use of future technologies to build a more sustainable future.

PART THREE- Best practices we have in our institution, in our city or country even in the partners' countries

Zero Waste Project in Mersin: Implemented by Mersin Metropolitan Municipality, this project has improved the city's waste management system and increased the rate of waste recycling. This initiative concretely addresses the topic of "waste management" in the environmental ethics module.



Sustainable Development Project in Mersin: Initiated by Mersin University, this project encompasses various efforts for the city to achieve sustainable development goals. The project exemplifies the subject of "sustainable development" within the environmental ethics module.

Green Economy Project in Mersin: Led by Mersin Chamber of Commerce and Industry, this project supports the city's transition to a green economy. This application emphasizes the topic of "green economy" in the environmental ethics module.

Environmental Protection Project in Mersin: Carried out by the Mersin Directorate of Environment and Urbanization, this project includes various activities aimed at improving the city's environmental quality. This practice focuses on the subject of "environmental protection" within the environmental ethics module.

Climate Change Combat Project in Mersin: Implemented by the Mersin Governorship, this project supports efforts in the city to adapt to and mitigate climate change. This initiative exemplifies the topic of "climate change" in the environmental ethics module.

These projects serve as examples of the implementation of topics covered in the environmental ethics module in Mersin. For instance, the "zero waste" project illustrates the "waste management" topic, while the "sustainable development" project serves as an example for the corresponding module subject.





Additionally, civil society organizations and the private sector in Mersin are conducting studies related to the topics covered in the environmental ethics module. For instance, the Mersin Environmental and Nature Association works to raise awareness about environmental issues and propose solutions. Private sector companies in Mersin also contribute to environmental ethics by adopting eco-friendly production and consumption practices.

In conclusion, various studies are being conducted in Mersin related to the topics covered in the environmental ethics module. These efforts ensure more effective teaching of the module's content to students and contribute to making them more environmentally conscious.

PART FOUR- Links to videos and further reading sources for the content of module

1. Links to videos concerning the topic

- Environmental Ethics by Crash Course Philosophy
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=fKtxKkHnJpc>
- Ethics of Nature by Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy
<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/ethics-environmental/>
- What is Environmental Ethics? by The Guardian
<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/ethical-living>
- Environmental Justice by Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum <https://www.beverlydanieltatum.com/>
- Climate Change and Environmental Ethics by Dr. Stephen Gardiner
<https://yaleclimateconnections.org/2009/10/perfect-moral-storm/>

2. Further reading sources about the module

- Environmental Ethics: An Introduction by Holmes Rolston, III
<https://www.briangwilliams.us/natural-environment/holmes-rolston-iii-1.html>
- A Sand County Almanac by Aldo Leopold <https://www.aldoleopold.org/about/aldo-leopold/sand-county-almanac/>
- Deep Ecology: Living as if Nature Mattered by Arne Naess <https://www.amazon.com/Deep-Ecology-Living-Nature-Mattered/dp/0879052473>
- The Ethics of the Environment by Robin Attfield
<https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/edit/10.4324/9781315239897/ethics-environment-robin-attfield>
- Environmental Ethics: Readings in Theory and Application by Louis P. Pojman and Paul W. Taylor <https://www.amazon.com/Environmental-Ethics-Paul-Pojman/dp/0538452846>

These resources will provide you with a deeper understanding of the topics covered in the environmental ethics module. They will also help you to develop your own critical thinking skills about environmental issues.

PART FIVE- The importance of the module in Youth Education

Ethical values help young people to understand their moral obligations to the environment. They learn to respect the environment, to protect it from harm, and to use its resources sustainably. Ethical values also help young people to develop a sense of environmental justice, so that they can advocate for policies and practices that protect all people and ecosystems.

Aesthetic values help young people to appreciate the beauty and wonder of the natural world. They learn to see the environment as a source of inspiration, joy, and spiritual renewal. Aesthetic values also help young people to connect with the environment on a personal level, which can motivate them to take action to protect it.





Here are some specific examples of how ethical and aesthetic values can be integrated into youth environmental education:

- Ethical values:
 - Students can learn about different ethical perspectives on environmental issues, such as anthropocentrism, biocentrism, and ecocentrism.
 - Students can discuss the moral implications of human activities that impact the environment, such as climate change, pollution, and deforestation.
 - Students can develop their own environmental code of ethics to guide their actions.
- Aesthetic values:
 - Students can participate in outdoor activities that allow them to experience the beauty of nature firsthand.
 - Students can learn about different art forms that celebrate the natural world, such as nature poetry, landscape painting, and nature photography.
 - Students can create their own artwork that expresses their appreciation for the environment.

By integrating ethical and aesthetic values into youth environmental education, we can help young people to develop the knowledge, skills, and values they need to become responsible environmental stewards.

In addition to the above, ethical and aesthetic values can also help young people to:

- Develop a sense of empathy for other living beings
- Become more aware of their own interconnectedness with the natural world
- Develop a greater appreciation for the importance of biodiversity
- Become more motivated to take action to protect the environment

Overall, ethical and aesthetic values are essential for youth environmental education because they help young people to develop a deeper understanding of the environment, its value, and their role in protecting it.

PART SIX- Implementation activities for the content of module

The Use of Ethical and Aesthetic Values in Environmental Education:



Figure 1. Environmental education comprises aspects of different subjects (Disinger 1985).

Environmental education plays a crucial role in instilling a sense of responsibility towards the environment and fostering awareness about the conservation of natural resources among students. The incorporation of both ethical and aesthetic values in this education can assist students in forming a deeper connection with the environment.

Ethical Values:

1. Teaching the Importance of Respecting All Living Beings: Emphasizing the ethical responsibility of showing respect



to all forms of life, from plants to animals, should be a central theme in environmental education.

2. Discussing the Ethical Consequences of Human Actions on the Environment: Providing students with an understanding of the ethical impacts of human activities on nature, such as pollution and deforestation, contributes to their comprehension of environmental issues.
3. Instilling a Sense of Responsibility for Students' Own Environmental Impact: Environmental education should teach students to comprehend the environmental consequences of their own actions and instill a sense of responsibility for mitigating these impacts.

Aesthetic Values:

1. Organizing Field Trips to Natural Areas: Taking students on field trips to natural areas like forests, parks, and beaches allows them to aesthetically experience the beauty and diversity of nature.
2. Presenting Nature Documentaries and Photographs: Showing students nature documentaries and photographs that capture the beauty of nature contributes to the development of an aesthetic perspective.
3. Helping Students Appreciate the Beauty of the Natural World: Conveying the aesthetic value of the natural world to students and aiding them in developing sensitivity towards its beauty is a fundamental aspect of environmental education.

By incorporating these ethical and aesthetic values into environmental education, we aim to cultivate environmentally conscious individuals who not only understand the ethical responsibilities towards nature but also appreciate its aesthetic richness.

Table1: Environmental Pollution and Ecological Impacts in Mersin Province	
CAUSES OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION	ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS
Population Growth	Air Pollution (Climate Change)
Industrialization	Water Pollution (Ecosystem Imbalance)
Agricultural Activities	Soil Pollution (Impaired Plant Growth)
Tourism Activities	Waste Pollution (Aesthetic Issues)
	Noise Pollution (Health Effects)

Causes of Environmental Pollution:

1. *Population Growth*: Rapid population growth has led to urbanization and associated environmental issues.
2. *Industrialization*: Being a significant industrial center, Mersin contributes to air and water pollution.
3. *Agricultural Activities*: Widespread agriculture brings about chemical usage and soil pollution.
4. *Tourism Activities*: Tourism contributes to increased waste and noise pollution.

Ecological Impacts:

1. *Air Pollution*: Adversely affects plant and animal health, contributing to climate change.
2. *Water Pollution*: Leads to water source contamination and disruptions in the ecosystem.
3. *Soil Pollution*: Agricultural and industrial soil pollution negatively affects plant growth.

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. Project Number: 2021-1-DE04-KA220-YOU-000029209

For more details visit our official website: <https://www.e-greenworld.org/>





4. *Waste Pollution*: Contributes to environmental pollution and aesthetic concerns.
5. *Noise Pollution*: Has negative effects on both human health and the environment.

Solution Recommendations:

1. Control of population growth.
2. Reduction of environmental impacts from industrial facilities.
3. Environmentally sensitive agricultural practices.
4. Regulation of tourism activities to prioritize environmental conservation.
5. Awareness campaigns for waste management and source separation.
6. Implementation of measures to reduce noise pollution.

PART SEVEN- You can include a self-Check for the learner at the end, a checklist about competences they have got from the module.

Student Self-Assessment Checklist: Environmental Ethics Module

Ethical Values:

1. Have I made an effort to understand and appreciate respect for nature?
2. Have I been mindful of my actions towards the environment to develop a sense of responsibility?
3. Have I considered how principles of justice and compassion can be applied to environmental issues?

Aesthetic Values:

4. Have I appreciated the beauty of the environment by participating in trips to natural areas?
5. Have I made an effort to understand diversity and beauty through nature documentaries and photographs?
6. Do I understand my responsibility in preserving the aesthetic values of the environment?

Ethical Values for Environmental Education:

7. Have I engaged in discussions about ethical responsibilities in topics such as waste management, sustainable development, and climate change?
8. Have I raised awareness about pollution and sustainable use of natural resources?
9. Have I developed a sense of responsibility for my own environmental impacts?

Aesthetic Values for Environmental Education:

10. Have I expressed appreciation for the beauty of the environment by participating in activities in natural areas?
11. Have I explored environmental beauty through visual and auditory media tools?
12. Have I developed motivation to adopt behaviors aligned with environmental aesthetic values?

Social Responsibility:

13. Have I created awareness within the community about the causes and solutions to environmental issues?
14. Have I participated in and contributed to environmental projects or initiatives?
15. Have I shared environmental ethics topics with people in my community to raise awareness?

Progress and Development:

16. Have I kept a record of my progress in understanding the module's content?
17. Have I found opportunities to apply what I learned in my daily life?
18. Have I identified interests and plans for future education and projects related to environmental ethics?





ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS MODULE STUDENT ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST:

COMPETENCIES	Completed (✓)	In Progress (X)
1. Ethical Values		
- Understanding and valuing respect for nature.		
- Developing environmental responsibility awareness.		
- Applying principles of justice and compassion to environmental issues.		
2. Aesthetic Values		
- Appreciating the beauty of the environment through field trips.		
- Understanding diversity and beauty through nature documentaries and photos.		
- Recognizing responsibility for preserving the aesthetic values of the environment.		
3. Ethical Values for Environmental Education		
- Discussing ethical responsibilities in topics such as waste management, sustainable development, and climate change.		
- Raising awareness about ethical consequences of pollution and sustainable use of natural resources.		
- Developing a sense of responsibility for one's own environmental impact.		
4. Aesthetic Values for Environmental Education		
- Participating in activities in natural areas to experience and appreciate environmental beauty.		
- Exploring environmental beauty through visual and auditory media.		
- Adopting behaviors in line with environmental aesthetic values.		
5. Social Responsibility		
- Creating community awareness about the causes and solutions of environmental issues.		
- Participating and contributing to environmental projects or initiatives.		
- Sharing environmental ethics topics with people in the community to raise awareness.		
6. Progress and Development		
- Taking notes and keeping a record of what was learned throughout the module.		
- Applying what has been learned in daily life and tracking progress.		
- Expressing interest in and planning for future education and projects related to environmental ethics.		





This table will visually assist students in tracking their completed and ongoing status for each competency.

PART EIGHT- Conclusion

This module focuses on enhancing ethical and aesthetic values in environmental education. Ethical values guide us in understanding the intricacies of components, while aesthetic values allow us to appreciate the unique beauty and wonders of the natural world. Both types of values are crucial for environmental education, as they help us gain a deeper understanding of the environment and strengthen our responsibility for its conservation.

The module also provides concrete examples of how ethical and aesthetic values can be integrated into environmental education. These examples include exploring regional ethical perspectives, engaging in in-depth discussions on human issues affecting the environment, and encouraging personal ethical development. Additionally, activities such as organizing nature trips, discovering art forms that celebrate the beauty of nature, and creating their own artistic works play a significant role in providing students with a deeper context for environmental issues. These activities can help students not only understand the environment but also assess and develop their roles in conservation more consciously.

Summary:

1. Ethical values guide us in understanding the intricacies of components.
2. Aesthetic values enhance our ability to appreciate the unique beauty and wonders of nature.
3. Both types of values are vital for environmental education.
4. There are various activities available to integrate ethical and aesthetic values into environmental education.
5. This module aims to highlight ethical and aesthetic values in environmental education, contributing to students' deeper understanding of environmental awareness and fostering a more responsible relationship with the environment.

REFERENCES

- Carson, R. (1962). Silent Spring. Houghton Mifflin.
- Taylor, P. W. (1986). Respect for Nature: A Theory of Environmental Ethics. Princeton University Press.
- Rolston III, H. (1988). Environmental Ethics: Duties to and Values in the Natural World. Temple University Press.
- Callicott, J. B. (1989). In Defense of the Land Ethic: Essays in Environmental Philosophy. State University of New York Press.
- Carlson, A., & Lintott, S. (2008). Nature, Aesthetics, and Environmentalism: From Beauty to Duty. Columbia University Press.
- Achterberg, T. (2004). Environmental ethics and environmental values. In: Environmental ethics: An introduction. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK,
- De Groot, R. S. (2006). Functions of nature: An interdisciplinary approach to the valuation of nature. Springer, Dordrecht, Netherlands





- Leff, E. (2000). The politics of environmental knowledge: Expert organizations and environmental policy making in Europe. Routledge, London, UK.
- Brink, D. O. (2000). Morality and the good life. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.
- Rachels, J. (2012). The elements of moral philosophy (7th ed.). McGraw-Hill, New York, NY, USA
- Callicott, J. B. (1989). In defense of the land ethic. University of California Press, Berkeley, CA, USA.
- Dobson, A. (2000). Green political thought (3rd ed.). Routledge, London, UK.
- Guha, R., & Martinez-Alier, J. (1997). Varieties of environmentalism: Essays on the politics of sustainability. Earthscan, London, UK.
- Rolston, H., III. (1988). Environmental ethics: Duties to and values in the natural world. Temple University Press, Philadelphia, PA, USA.
- Brady, N. L. (2016). The aesthetics of nature. Routledge, London, UK.
- Baxter, B. (2005). The ethics of climate change: Ecological, social and political perspectives. Routledge, London, UK.
- Wenz, P. (1988). Environmental ethics today. Temple University Press, Philadelphia, PA, USA.
- Bookchin, M. (1982). The ecology of freedom: The emergence and dissolution of hierarchy. Black Rose Books, Montreal, Canada.
- Bookchin, M. (1995). Remaking society: Pathways to a green future. Black Rose Books
- Naess, A. (1973). The shallow and the deep, long-range ecology movement: A summary. Inquiry, 16(1)
- Gardiner, S. M. (2006). A perfect moral storm: The ethical tragedy of climate change. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.
- Jamieson, D. (2011). Climate change ethics: Right and wrong in a warming world. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.
- Gaard, G. (1993). Ecofeminism: Women, animals, nature. Temple University Press, Philadelphia, PA, USA.
- Warren, K. J. (1990). Ecofeminism: A theory of feminist and environmental liberation. Routledge, London,
- Asafu-Adjaye, J., & van den Hove, S. (2013). The ethical implications of emerging technologies for sustainability. Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics, 26(4)
- O'Connor, J. (1998). Natural causes: Essays in ecological Marxism. Guilford Press, New York, NY, USA.

