



GREENDIVING

Project Green Diving

Module 6: Ocean Literacy boosting
green and sustainable VET maritime
schools

INOVA+



Funded by the
European Union

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a red string. The string is looped around the fingers of both hands, creating a complex geometric pattern of overlapping lines. The background is a blurred grey fabric. The text "Practical Activity" is overlaid in the center in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

Practical Activity



Shape your future.
Little waves make a big ocean!

NETWORK OF EUROPEAN BLUE SCHOOLS

European Projects: Blue Schools



Blue Schools

- The Network of [European Blue Schools](#) is an initiative of EU4Ocean, the European Ocean Coalition that connects diverse organisations, projects and people contributing to ocean literacy and the sustainable management of the ocean. EU4Ocean is the place where new ideas and joint actions come to life to make a bigger change. Supported by the European Commission, this bottom-up inclusive initiative aims at uniting the voices of Europeans to make the ocean a concern of everyone.
- The program challenges schools to *Find the Blue* and explore their connections to the ocean while creating networks all across Europe. The Network of European Blue Schools is an initiative of the European Commission, supported by DG MARE and was developed by the EU4Ocean Coalition partners.



Why become a European Blue School ?

- Schools that take up the *Find the Blue* challenge shall identify an ocean-based topic that is relevant to their students, and collaborate with their pupils to create a school project.
- The aim is to make the ocean a relevant part of the school curriculum through project-based learning. Student ownership, collaborations with other organizations and people involved with the ocean and creating a community with the same passion will be key values of these projects.
- By successfully completing the *Find the Blue* challenge, schools will receive a European Blue School certification.

Why become a European Blue School ?



All certified European Blue Schools become part of the Network of European Blue Schools, where teachers and students:

- ❖ become agents of change for ocean sustainability;
- ❖ share experiences with teachers and students from other schools;
- ❖ connect to the wider ocean literacy community.

How to become a European Blue School ?



Develop a project with interlinked activities:

1. A project consists of several complementary activities under the umbrella of one central topic. Enable students to gain more in-depth knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to explore and investigate an ocean topic, question or problem.

Produce a clear output:

2. The initiative encourages students to be active learners and develop a product, object, event or service that can be exhibited or used as a tool for communication. Be resourceful and start creating.

Involve all students:

3. Students play an active role in all phases of the project. The teacher facilitates learning and guides students to become independent workers, allowing them to show what they can do.

Collaborate with a local partner:

1. Collaborative work is key to success. Invite an expert, marine scientist, NGO, science centre, maritime company and/or government body to help facilitate the creation, implementation and communication of the project. **Go to the [EU4Ocean Platform members](#) to find a partner!**

Communicate project results:

2. Let students improve their communication skills and feel more engaged with their local community by talking about the project in a meaningful and informed way, starting with their own social environment.



Practical Activity: Create your Blue School Proposal

- Let's put in practice all you learned so far and prepare a fictional submission for Blue Schools Initiative.
- [Here](#) you can find the original submission platform, which provides you the necessary information and can inspire you to submit a project in the future.
- In the next slides you have a list of information's you must provide. On the next session you can present your proposal.



Practical Activity: Create your Blue School Proposal

1. Name of the School
2. Country
3. Sea Basin (Atlantic Ocean, Baltic Sea, Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea, North Sea).
4. Name of the project
5. Summary of the project (What are the objectives of the project?; What are they working on?; What is their approach?) (300 words)
6. Start and End date of the project.
7. Is it linked to school curricula? (If yes, define the subjects)
8. Identify possible partners for the project (local companies, municipalities, NGOs, other schools, museums, science centres, universities...)
9. Teachers will be involved?
10. Students will be involved?
11. School Level
12. Specify the category of the project (Health and Clean Ocean; Food from the Ocean, Climate and Ocean, Biodiversity, Maritime Culture, Other...)



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