

LYKE-network



10 April 2024

Sanna Saari-Vesterinen

**Finnish Association for Nature
and Environment Schools**



Photo: Sanna Saari

The Finnish Association for Nature and Environment Schools

- Staff: 3–4 people
- Funding: Ministry of Education and Culture (OKM) + grants



Photo: Satu Hiekko



Our aim

Children and
youth

will grow up with
a strong relation
with nature and
a sustainable
way of life.



Photo: Hanna Risku

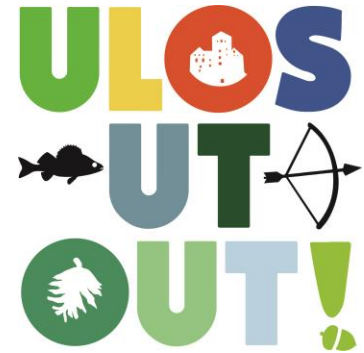
The Finnish Association for Nature and Environment Schools



- Coordinates the network



- Maintains the open MAPPA.fi service



- Organizes the BIG outdoor educational event ULOS-UT-OUT

Is the link between researchers and schools!



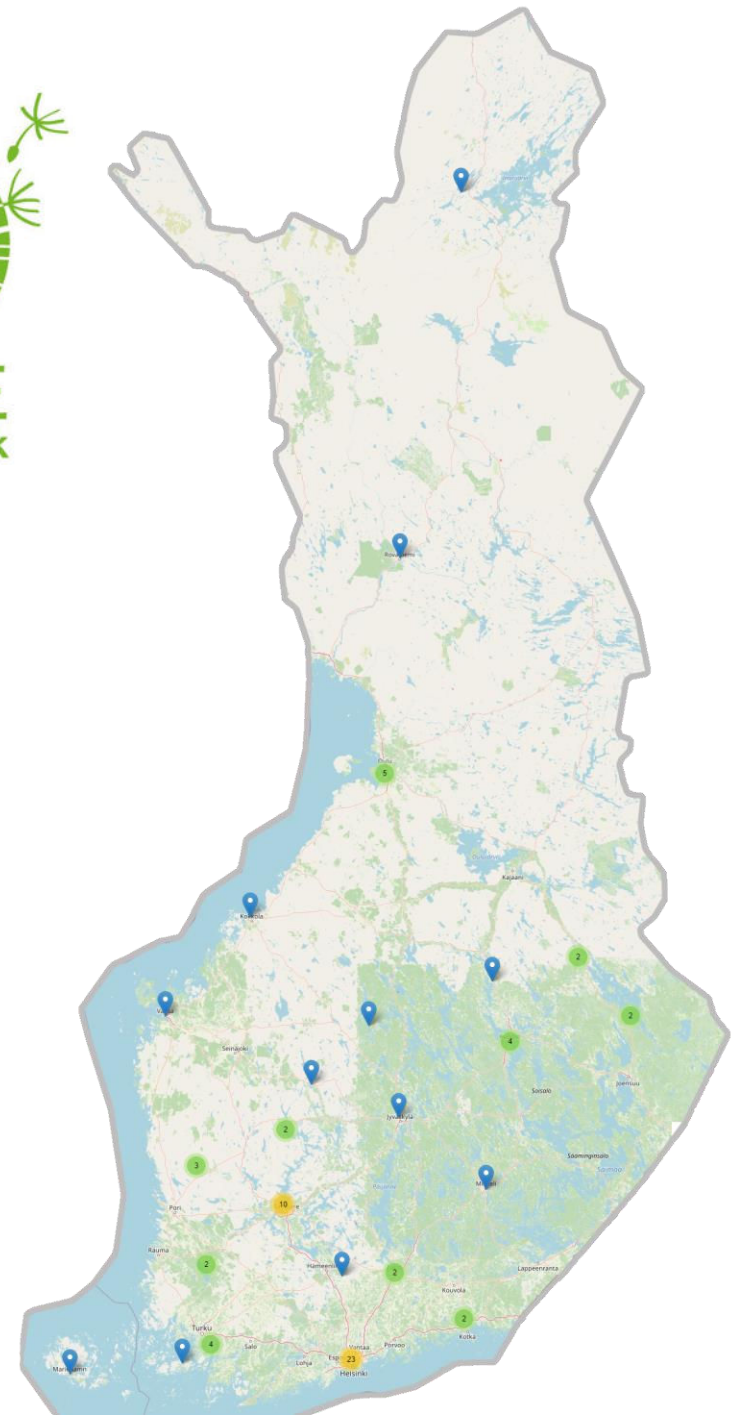
Power of LYKE-network!

Photo: Sanna Saari

LYKE-network



- Nationwide, over **50** centers
- Members of the Finnish Association for Nature and Environment Schools
- Offer environmental education (EE) services for schools and kindergartens on local level
- **Diversity:** Nature & environment schools, Visitor Centres of National Parks, Youth Centres, Camp School Centres, Museums, Zoos...
- Big or small, ambulatory or stationary





Example 1

- **SMALL** Nature School
- Governed by the city of Porvoo
- **Ambulatory**, goes to schools
- 1 employee



Photo: Pia Lindström



Example 2

- **BIG** Environment School **Polku**
- Part of the Reuse Centre (Helsinki area)
- **Ambulatory**, goes to schools
- 20 employees



Photo: Polku



Example 3

- MEDIUM size
- Nature School **Korento**
- Governed by the city of Tampere
- Permanent premises
- 2 employees



Photos: Laura Happo



Example 4

- **BIG** Center
- Finnish Museum of Natural History
- Part of the University of Helsinki
- **Permanent premises**
- **3 locations**
- 3-9 employees working with environmental education



In nature and environment schools...



Focus:
environmental
education

Yearly **200 000**
children with
their teachers

Training for
teachers and
other educators

The work is based
on the national
curriculum

Learning is
experimental

Certification
system for
centers

<https://www.luontokoulut.fi>

3 different levels of certification

1. **Test member** develops to meet the criteria
2. **Activity Center** develops **its own** activities
3. **Development Center** (highest level) develops also the environmental education activities of **its own region**

Auditing is done every 2nd year (self & peer-auditing).





- An open site, a material bank, a search engine, a sharing platform and a multifunction tool
- Offers tools for teaching
- Environmental | Sustainability | Biodiversity | Climate | Outdoor | and Science education | Future skills | Nature as a learning environment





70 000

Users yearly



300

Publishers:
Organizations,
Teacher,
Private person



2100

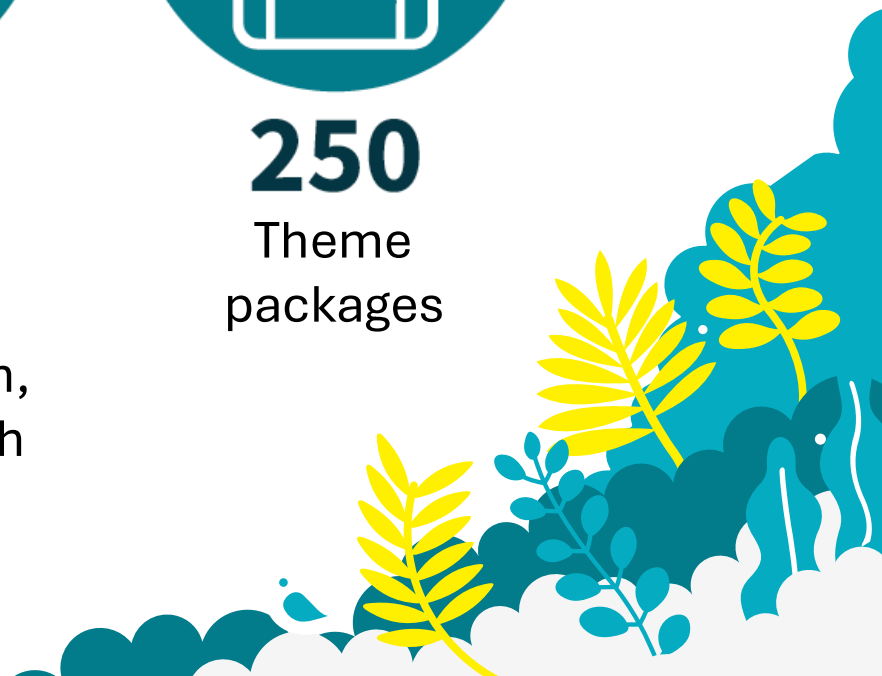
Materials
in Finnish,
also in Swedish,
some in English



250

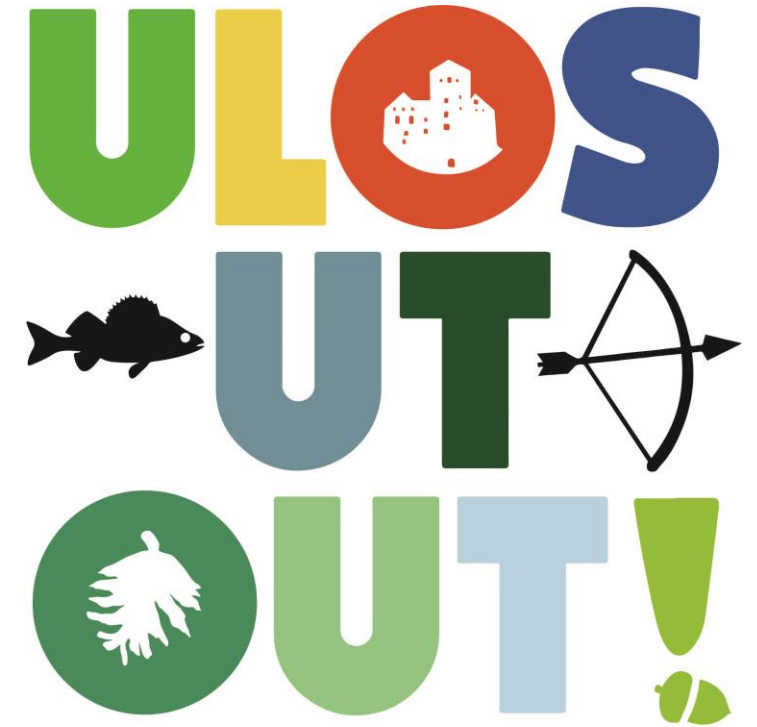
Theme
packages

Sök i [MAPPA.fi](https://mappa.fi)



ULOS-UT-OUT

- Outdoor learning conference in Finland
- 8 organizers (held 3 times: 2017, 2021, 2023)
- Keynotes, workshops, seminars...concert 😊
- The program mainly in Finnish and Swedish, partly in English
- **Next UUO in 2026. Welcome!**
- [Ulos-Ut-Out website](#) also in Swedish and in English
- Streamed videos available in youtube: [UUO2023 playlist](#) of the keynotes





Welcome to Ulos-Ut-Out 2026!



Photos: Vilma Issakainen