

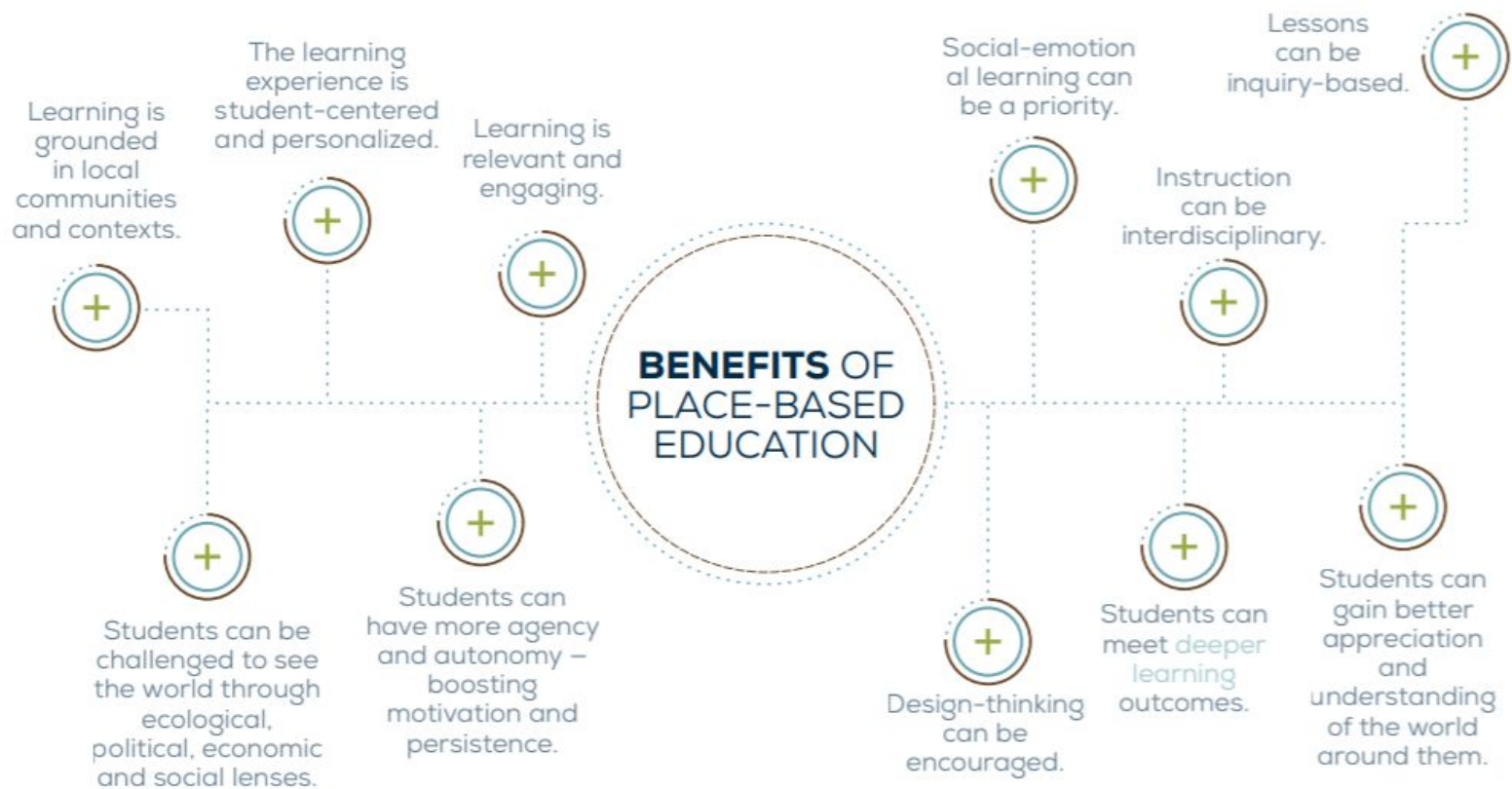
A photograph of a forest path with tall, slender trees and a sunlit canopy. The path is covered in green moss and low-lying plants. The sun is shining through the trees, creating a warm, golden glow. The text is overlaid on the image.

Utilising Place in Language Learning

**Rebecca White
Green Space Education**

Utilising place: rationale

- Engagement & connection
- Interaction opportunities
- 21st Century skills
- Local assets
- Community impact

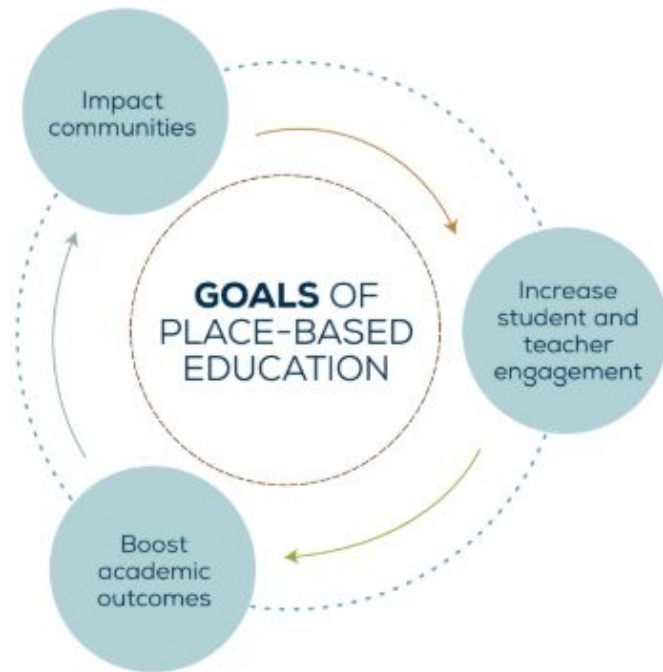


Goals of Place-Based Education

Impact communities

Increase student and teacher engagement

Boost academic outcomes



Place-based Education and Next Gen Learning

NGL = designed from a learner's perspective

personalised

collaborative

flexible

challenging, but achievable

interactive & engaging

accessible

relevant (to life now and the life I want to lead)

clearly defined and understood goals

Developing PBE: Design Principles (Teton Sciences Schools)

Local to global context (model for understanding)

Learner-centred (personal relevance to enable agency)

Inquiry-based (observing, asking, predicting, collecting data)

Design Thinking (creating, evaluating, problem-solving, impacting)

Community as classroom (expand the walls of your classroom)

Interdisciplinary (integrated approach, project-based learning)

How does this look?

Experiential Learning: projects, work experience, service-learning, innovation challenges

Project-Based Learning: investigate and respond to a question, problem or challenge

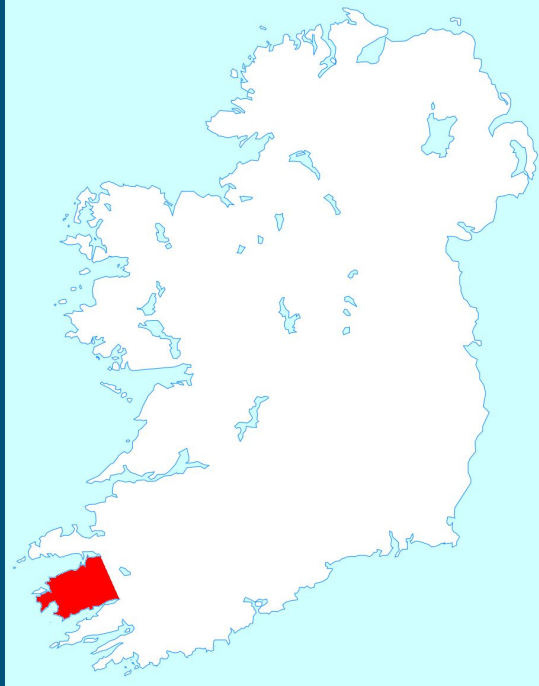
Service Learning: volunteering, community projects/events

Work-Based Learning: work experience, internships

Social & Emotional Learning: relationship and empathy-building between people, places and the environment

Informal Learning: 'anytime, anywhere'

Utilising Place: The Iveragh Peninsula





Caherciveen, Co Kerry

Junior Summer Programme / Adult Eco-Centre

Student profile:

Italy, Spain,
France,
Germany,
Switzerland,
Kazakhstan,
Russia, Poland,
Laos, Guinea

Staff Profile:

ELT teachers, local
artists, musicians,
story tellers, nature
enthusiasts



Learning Profile:

holistic,
communicative
work experience
project-based
exam preparation

**Place as a pillar
of learning**

Scavenger hunt



Teamwork

Communicative skills development

Thematic Focus

Summarising/paraphrasing

Language

- forming questions
- asking for directions
- asking for help

Build a tour



Project-based

Planning to delivery

Skimming and scanning

Paraphrasing

Language

- sequencing
- prepositions of place
- place-specific vocab
- making recommendations

Community Engagement

Town Mural



Music & Arts Festival:
Opening Parade



Tidy Towns: Beach Clean



Using host families as a learning tool



Interview

Conversation skills

Themes of the week

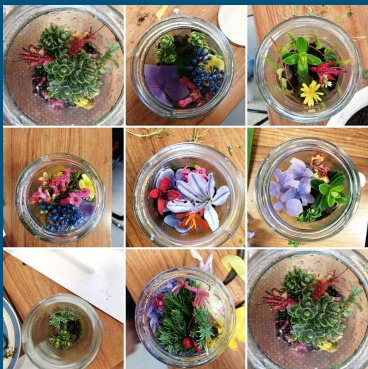
Tribal Challenge



Explore Your Shore



Terrariums



Conversation Prompts



Photography Exhibition



Find Someone Who
Running Dictation
Surveys
Similes
Creative Writing

Utilising Place: In your ESL classroom

- ★ Urban vs rural settings
- ★ School curriculum constraints & making connections
- ★ Involving agencies
- ★ Events in place
- ★ Making use of primary and post-primary resources

Where to start?

April 22nd: Earth Day

<https://www.earthday.org/>

May 21st: Outdoor Classroom Day

<https://outdoorclassroomday.org.uk/>

Online Resources

- ★ One Stop English: Get Out of the Classroom
- ★ Cambridge English: Learn English through Outdoor Play
- ★ Busy Teacher: Outdoor Activities for your ESL Students

Further Reading

- ★ *'Where in the World am I? Place-Based ESL Curriculum Design'* [Daniel S Harper]
- ★ *'Place, Identity and Language Learning; The Transformative Role of Place-Based English Language Instruction'* [Daniel S Harper]
- ★ *'What is Place-Based Education and why does it matter?'* [Getting SMART/eduInnovation]

GREENSPACE

education

www.greenspaceeducation.com



greenspaceeducation@gmail.com

References

What is Place-Based Education and Why Does It Matter?

GETTING SMART in partnership with eduInnovation & Teton Science Schools

Asana School of English

asanaireland.com

PHOTO CREDITS:

Alexandra Bocharova, Always Study & Travel

<https://www.a-ways.ru/>

Sean O'Laoghaire

<https://twitter.com/scarydollies>