

CICLO 2014

By Nild Regout and Julie Dufour Wiese December 2013



Our hood – the beach

Architecture and design

Lately there has become more focus on children, architecture and design. More and more schools are including architecture and design in their education, children and youngsters are able to attend architecture lessons in their spare time at The Children's Culture House Ama'r and at The Danish Architecture Centre, and the ministry of culture as well as the ministry of education is looking into implementing architecture in school education.

At The Children's Culture House Ama'r the children are surrounded by architecture of high quality – a building design and process children have been taking part in.

The sense of space and design is strengthened, when we are implementing our physical surroundings. By giving children an understanding of their physical surroundings right from their own bedroom, their school to the open city space and their culture house, we are giving them qualifications to take part in the debate regarding our surroundings and the ability to come up with their architectural and design solutions for the future.

Theme

This year's CICLO theme is 'our neighborhood'. How does the theme affect the children? What does it mean to them? Does it strengthen the community to have a 'hood'? And what characterizes 'our hood'? With his year's theme the students will be working in a large scale as well as in a smaller scale regarding architecture and design.

Location

The Children's Culture House Ama'r is participating in CICLO with the beach as 'our hood'. The beach is for everybody. All children know the beach either from trips to the beach with their families or school outings to the summer culture days of the children's culture house.

Amager Beach Park has been transformed by an exciting and interesting development regarding landscape architecture as well as design. The beach park contains a lot of different activities and relaxation zones, and it has become easy to reach the beach by Metro.

Our hood – project description

Everything is possible when we are working on 'our hood' - the beach – as this year's CICLO project. What if the students were to decide the future of the beach park? As part of the project the students will be looking into how to strengthen the community e.g. do we need more pavilions to hang out? Or perhaps new activities? Is it possible to move the school to the beach – or onto the water? Can we utilize the sand, the water and the air in an innovative way? And is it possible to use the beach all year round?

The school classes will be building a landscape model including their proposals as well as a model of a new design e.g. furniture design.

Materials

The materials consist of recycled materials such as cardboard from the local supermarket, lids from their school milk, other plastic packaging etc. adding more traditionally model materials such as foam board, wood and scale figures.

Implementing architecture and design

It is possible to implement architecture and design in most school subjects. E.g. practical mathematics when we are using scale in the model workshop, Danish, when the students are describing their projects, English in the dialog with a class from another country part of the CICLO project, nature- and technique, exploring the landscape and fauna of the beach and last but not least arts.

Educators

Nild Regout, product designer

Julie Dufour Wiese, architect MAA



Photos:

Amager Beach Park (www.amager-strand.dk)

Children attending architecture in their spare time at The Children's Culture House Ama'r. Photo by Julie Dufour Wiese.