



LIFE17 NAT/FI/000469

## **Deliverable “Environmental Education Package”**

Action E3

English summary

The purpose of this material is to share information and provide educational tips on the flying squirrel. The material is produced by Kuopio Natural History Museum, Finnish Nature Center Haltia and the City of Jyväskylä as part of the Flying Squirrel LIFE project. The goal is to increase the knowledge on the flying squirrel and its habitats and thus increase the valuing of nature and biodiversity.

The package includes the following sections:

- Introduction (page 4)
- Flying squirrel as a part of multidisciplinary learning module (pages 5-9)
- What is the flying squirrel? (pages 10-23)
- Literature and websites related to the flying squirrel (pages 24-25)
- Tips for flying squirrel related teaching (pages 26-34)
- Attachments for teaching (35-62)

Tasks are grouped by different subjects and functionalities. The package includes practical exercises for all age groups from early childhood education to primary and secondary school. The material is made to support the current curriculum and multidisciplinary learning modules. The tasks are functional and many of them can be implemented outdoors.

The flying squirrel is well suited into the multidisciplinary learning module. The main themes can be, for example:

- Forests, tree species, aspen
- Finnish mammals, forest species, hole-nesting species, interactions between species
- Biodiversity
- Endangered species, nature conservation
- Human impact on the environment
- Urban green networks, urban planning
- Nearby nature, multiple use of nature
- Flying and gliding (as a physical phenomenon)
- Adaptation of species to the environment, evolution

The tasks of the material can be combined to entities of different lengths and focus, for example, on outdoor learning or art education. Pupil participation and inclusion plays an important role in the current curriculum. Several tips for participation and inclusion are presented in this material, along the tasks.

The flying squirrel is more than just one species: its habitat and conservation are linked to many ecological and social aspects. Therefore, the flying squirrel is an excellent model species for educational purposes.