



Sweden is a secular country where you might say that nature has taken the place of a religion. For Swedes it is necessary to spend time outdoors in nature. In schools we want children to learn to *Experience Nature* as well as to *Protect Nature*

Some Applicable Goals in the Swedish Curriculum

The school is responsible for ensuring that each pupil on completing compulsory school:

- has obtained knowledge about the prerequisites for a good environment and sustainable development,*
- can use and understand many different forms of expression such as language, art, music, drama and dance, and also has developed an awareness of the range of culture existing in society,*
- can use modern technology as a tool in the search for knowledge, communication, creativity and learning.¹*

Some Fundamental Values of the Swedish School

The national school system is based on democratic foundations. The education act (2010:800) stipulates that education in the school system aims at pupils acquiring and developing knowledge and values. It should promote the development and learning of all pupils, and a lifelong desire to learn. Education should impart and establish respect for human rights and the fundamental democratic values on which Swedish society is based. Each and every one working in the school should also encourage respect for the intrinsic value of each person and the environment we all share.²

Some Tasks of the Swedish School

The task of the school is to promote learning by stimulating the individual to acquire and develop knowledge and values. --- an environmental perspective provides opportunities not only to take responsibility for the environment in areas where they themselves can exercise direct influence, but also to form a personal position with respect to overarching and global environmental issues. Teaching should illuminate how the functions of society and our ways of living and working can best be adapted to create sustainable development.---

Pupils should have the opportunity of experiencing knowledge in different ways. They should also be encouraged to try out and develop different modes of expression and experience feelings and moods. Drama, rhythm, dance, music and creativity in art, writing and design should all form part of the school's activity. Harmonious development and educational activity provide opportunities for exploring, researching, acquiring and communicating different forms of knowledge and experiences. Creative ability is a part of what the pupils should acquire.

¹ The overall Swedish curriculum contains three parts: 1. Fundamental values and tasks of the school 2. Overall goals and guidelines for education 3. Syllabuses which are supplemented by knowledge requirements. (The syllabuses contain the aim of the subject and its core content.)

² From the curriculum for the compulsory school, preschool class and the recreation center, 2011