

Role-play game as method for climate education (after group work)

**ERASMUS ClimEd Blended Learning for Climate Change
01.10.2024**

MSc Peep Mardiste
peep.mardiste@ut.ee

lecturer, Estonian University of Life Sciences
consultant, environment & climate change

Plan until lunch

- Background presentation to explain topic for groupwork
- Groupwork
- *Coffee break*
- Groupwork continues
- Debriefing
- Presentation to explain the method used for groupwork

Role-play game



<https://paliadventures.com/creating-the-perfect-character-for-larp-summer-camp>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Live_action_role-playing_game#/media/File:Hardenstein_2014_-_Adventurers.jpg

Role-playing games, 1/3

- **Role-playing game:** game in which players assume the roles of characters in a fictional setting:
 - Tabletop games (like Dungeons&Dragons) or online computer games
 - Live action role-playing games (LARP)
- LARPs are similar to improvisational theatres
 - participants physically portray their characters
 - fictional setting represented by real-world environments
 - game has rules and may have gamemaster(s)
 - game has plan (can be vague and flexible) and goal

Role-playing games, 2/3

- Live action role-playing games (LARP) can be used in education
- Precondition:
 - possibility to create roles (sufficiently different)
 - possible process/action
 - ideally, conflict as starting point
 - common goal for players

Role-playing games, 3/3

- Erasmus+ financed international project GreenEduLARP developed ideas for LARPs for climate education in schools
- Example:
 - environment/setting: small island
 - characters (player groups): sheep herders, windfarm developers, hotel owners, foresters, ...
 - process: meeting of all islanders once in 10 years (total 50 years)
 - conflict: climate change creates problems on island
 - common goal: islanders decide about priority actions at meeting

Some further reading

2022-2024 GreenEduLARP climate education project
(financed by EU Erasmus+):

- <https://greenedularp.lajvverkstaden.se>
- <https://www.facebook.com/greenedularp>
- #GreenEduLarp

