

**Theatre and Science
For Middle Schools in Milan
2022 - 2023**

The Project



Plastic Planet

The project was born as a collaboration between **Verdeacqua Cooperativa Sociale**, an association focused on scientific dissemination and environmental education for almost thirty years, and **Theatre in Italy**, a small theatre company founded by Irish-born actor and circus performer Cathal Carroll who has over 20 years' experience as a performer. We aim to bring the show "Plastic Planet" directly to schools to make young people aware of the great value the environment has and why it is so important to protect and respect it, and ... it's performed entirely in English!

ABOUT US

VERDEACQUA www.verdeacqua.org

Verdeacqua is a highly specialized social cooperative in the didactic, scientific and environmental fields and is mainly made up of naturalists and biologists. It carries out educational and edutainment activities and projects for children from infancy to adulthood, addressing nature and science enthusiasts. Since its birth in 1994, its mission has been to transmit and disseminate a system of knowledge, methods and practical experiences through which citizens, starting with the youngest, develop an "environmental awareness". This allows them to assume a correct, responsible and sustainable behavior in order to preserve and enhance natural environments and resources, with particular attention to the marine environment.

THEATER IN ITALY www.theatreitaly.com

It's a small family business whose artistic director is Cathal Carroll, an Irish-born actor and circus performer with a large experience in the field of performance.

Since he began his career in 2000, he has performed in a wide variety of creative situations from circus festivals to Shakespearian theatre. His career has brought him to 14 countries in 4 continents and has seen him performing a variety of shows in 4 different languages.

In this time, he has also worked as a circus and theatre tutor with young people and adults in a wide variety of settings from formal circus training to cross-community projects with sectarian groups in Northern Ireland.

More recently he has turned his hand to the craft of teaching English and now works to combine this new passion with his first love- performance!

The project has four phases:

1. Lesson Pack:
In the weeks before the show we will send you a lesson pack to use with students in the classroom to prepare them for the topics and language used in the show.
2. The performance and scientific corner:
The students watch the show and participate as volunteers, helping to tell the story themselves. After the show the students will be divided into 4 class-groups and will participate in 4 scientific corners set up in the same area in which the show is taking place or, weather permitting, in the school grounds.
3. Info Pack:
After the show we will send you an info pack full of links to websites where you will find articles and videos about all of the topics covered in the show.

The performance and the scientific corner

Description

"Plastic Planet" aims to tackle one of the biggest issues of our time: **plastic pollution** and **climatic emergency**.

The performance begins by explaining that our planet is a beautifully complex system that needs to be protected in order to keep functioning.

Students will learn about the fascinating behavior of animals and the communication of trees, using practical demonstrations to put this in a context that they can understand. The performance also faces the aspects related to our daily life that contribute to climate change, offering practical examples that students can use to make a difference.

The show discusses this huge and complex issue in a down-to-earth style using humor and physical theatre to inform students of the real facts while keeping the show entertaining and dynamic.

The students always play an active part in the performance, helping to put the issue in context for the audience with experiments and practical demonstrations.

After the performance, the student will spend 15 minutes in each of the 4 scientific stands prepared for the lab where they will learn to identify and sort plastic items of daily use. Thanks to **scientific experiments and practical activities** they will tackle important topics such as: the concept of **biomagnification** in the food chain; the effect of plastic items on the ecosystems; how plastic materials get to the sea from land; how the **great Pacific garbage patch** is produced; what is the current condition of the Mediterranean Sea and much more.

Ours is a practical and engaging approach that makes the students the protagonists of a reality that affects us all greatly and that we cannot ignore.

Technical sheet

Durata: 2 h

Luogo: The show needs a large space to be performed, for example, a gym, auditorium, etc.

All equipment: theatrical, technical and scientific is provided by the company.

Language: English

Audience: Students of Lower Secondary School (1° - 3° year)

Topics covered: English, Civic, Science, Geography and Ecology

Number of student: 4 class groups of about 100 students at a time

Number of performances: To optimize expenses and involve as many students as possible it is necessary to perform the show and run the workshops at least twice, and on the same day and/or on consecutive days, ideally on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Price 9,00 euro per student

Installation time: 90 min

Disinstallation time: 50 min

Audio/Light: electrical connection needed

Cancellation: 7 working days

Payment: Bank transfer, the invoice will be issued by Verdeacqua

Contact: segreteria@verdeacqua.org