



Qudwa 2017 – Global Teachers' Forum Coffeehouse Sessions

“Teaching STEM – Environmental Sustainability”
Naomi Volain
Sunday, October 8, 2017

Students must learn to observe, investigate and respect all the natural resources that we have on planet Earth to secure a safe, healthy and sustainable future. Because they are young they need to learn about natural resources as a way to take stewardship of the environment and to promote environmental sustainability.

A way to do this in education is through outdoor education, where students are taken outside to investigate nature; temperature, clouds, soil, water, plants, wildlife are a few things that can be observed.

Plants are a great source of study because they do not run away. They are essential and can be linked to everything we do, eat, buy or process. They provide beauty, serenity; they photosynthesis, secure soil, absorb water, provide shade, and more.

Naomi said what she wanted to do at Qudwa was a Forest in the Coffeehouse. Ideally, she would have taken the teachers out to see what they could see in the field. Her goal was for teachers to think of one way they could bring the students outside to link it to one of their lessons.

Outdoor education is a way to make students concerned about the environment and environmental sustainability. “If we do not care about the earth, we care about nothing.”

