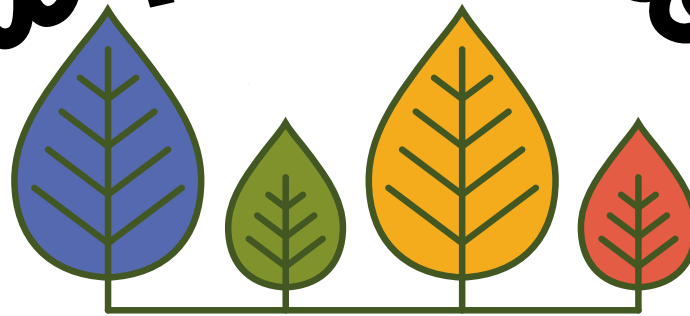
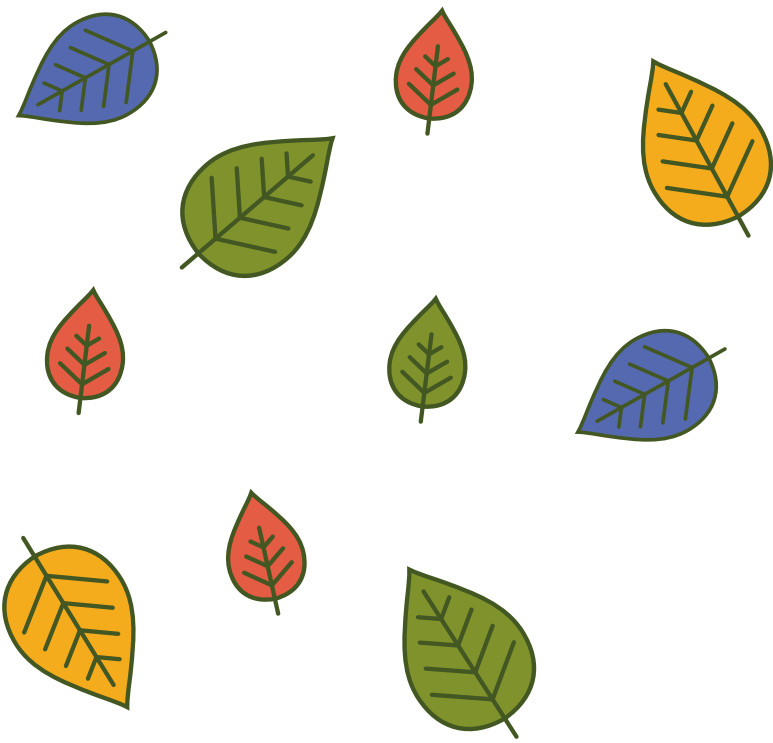


*il Frassino*



scuola foresta

*Children's Summer Camp  
in the Sicilian Forest School*



## The Forest School

The Forest School is an educational approach where the development in the child occurs over a long period of time. The main aim of this project is to activate a process of continuous learning in the child, in a respectful way and in a natural context.





*Motivation = Concentration*

The Forest School's educational approach comes from Scandinavia. The philosophy of the forest school is to increase the emotional, social, cognitive and psychomotoric development of the child. Tutors use teaching strategies that promote an increase in self-esteem, develop a sense of trust and independence, and promotes literacy, impacting the child's fundamental communication and helps with socialization.

Each forest school experience is unique as it is propelled by the interest and inclinations of the participants. However, there are some fundamental principles common to the Forest School: repetitive learning, that is based on the repetition of what has been learned, which takes place in a natural space.

The teaching philosophy is to adopt a specific learning method that focuses on processes rather than results and therefore allows each student to develop a relationship with space and time independently and with the rhythm that is most natural.

Students develop a strong sense of space through repeated contact with the natural world throughout the year and in all weather conditions.

The Forest School instils in children and young people the awareness of taking responsibility for their own learning and development.

The philosophy behind this is to encourage children to learn indirectly through play. This opportunity favors greater fun, cooperation, motivation and concentration in children. In fact, children are able to concentrate on their activities because they are highly motivated.

The tutors prepare, from one session to the other, the environment by introducing unstructured stimuli so that children are free to evaluate and handle them independently according to their natural inclinations.

Children and young people are offered goals to be achieved through the overcoming of previously assessed obstacles that nature presents, so as to foster a sense of trust in themselves and in others.

The Forest School promotes a holistic approach, a personalized teaching aimed at a harmonious growth of the individual. And for this reason it is suitable for all ages. The maximum result is obtained by working with groups of up to 15 children in order to have an adequate proportion between adult and child.



*Physics concepts*



*Fine motor skill*



*Empathy*



*Balance and confidence*

The natural environment helps to stimulate all the senses, thus activating all areas of visual, auditory as well as kinesthetic development.

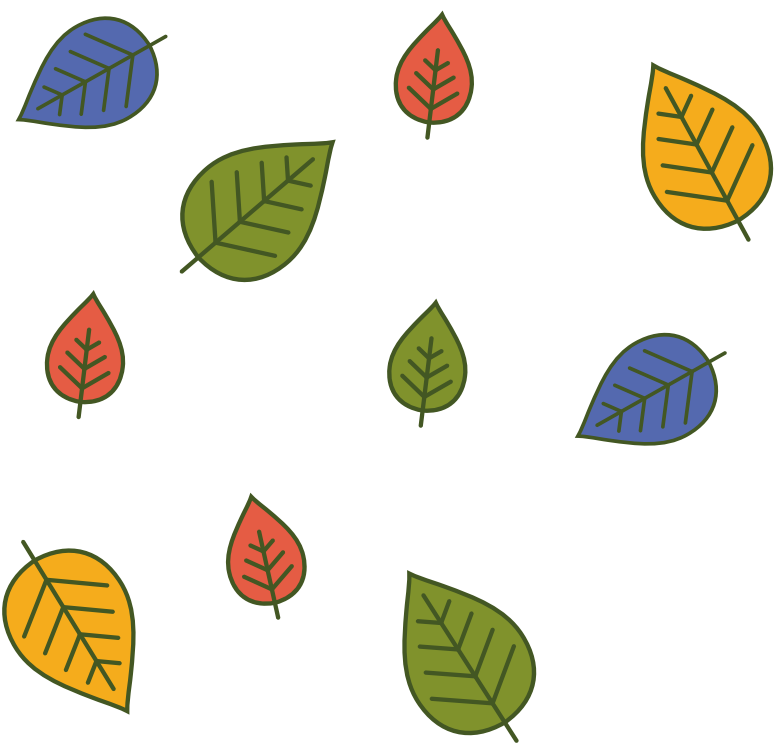
The Forest School in its safe context is perceived as a sheltered and hence reassuring place that promotes in the individual emotional growth, self-esteem, trust and independence.

We could thus say that the Forest School evokes “emotional literacy” in both adults and children.

The tutors establish with the children a relationship of trust. They constantly observe the dynamics of the group and of the individuals, which will help them to plan the following sessions.

The repetitive experience in the environment, within the Forest School, brings about a profound respect for the natural world that surrounds us, favouring the rebirth of a deep, instinctive and respectful contact towards it, reconnecting us all to this ancient heritage.

The Forest School allows participants to observe the real life of nature, to witness its causes and its effects. This provides an experience that will help everyone to become aware of our role and our responsibilities towards it.



# Activites





## **What will be learned**

How to approach the natural habitat with its animals, how to use the tools to create natural toys with a safe and precise procedure; how to make knots to build a shelter; how to light a fire for cooking outdoors, etc. Activities will also be organized to encourage the familiarization of children with the animals that live on site (goats, sheep, donkeys, horses, farm animals and pets), and to let them experience the connection between animals and humans as it has historically been shaped by the local peasant tradition.

The focus on outdoor activities provides children with the opportunity to get to know themselves and increase their sense of responsibility.

These activities provide the opportunity to focus on a goal and to develop their concentration, creativity, patience and teamwork.

## **Our task**

Encourage, motivate and assist children in a natural environment in their emotional, mental and social development. Each time before a session will start, our staff will take care of preparing and making the outdoor area safe for classes to take place.

## **Other tasks**

Exploration of the flora and fauna of the area; to facilitate the learning process of children by following their natural inclinations in different activities; encourage their artistic sense, using natural materials and creating natural games.



## Duration

The summer camp will be offered from Monday to Friday over the duration of two months – from July 1st to August 30th 2019. Participants **of the ages from 3 to 12 years** can choose different course-options, depending on the length of their stay in Sicily



## The objectives

Introducing children and youngsters (aged 3 and over) to a natural environment will show them how to respect it and how to live it to the fullest, stimulating them to respect themselves, others, the familiar environment and ultimately their daily life.



## Where is it

The five and a half hectares of estate is located in the countryside of Cefalù, one kilometer away from the town of Lascari, just a 45 minute drive from Palermo.

The place contains all the features of the Mediterranean area: open countryside, orchards, olive groves, woods, mountains and the presence of a pleasant river, Rio Campella, offering the participants a wide range of possible manifestations of nature. In the warm months it is possible to explore the flora and fauna present in the riverbed.



## Multilingual groups

The classes can simultaneously take place in English, French, German and Italian creating an intercultural atmosphere.

## July Dates 2019

Type of course	DatesD	atesD	atesD	atesD	ates
Option 1 3-day	1-3	10 - 12	15-17	22-24	29-31
Option 2 5-day	1-5		15-19	22-26	29/7- 2/8

Longer duration possible upon request

## August Dates 2019

Type of course	DatesD	atesD	ates	
Option 1 3-day	5-7	12-14	19-21	
Option 2 5-day	5-9	12-16	19-23	

Longer duration possible upon request





## Prices

Camp fee for 3 days **€153\***

Camp fee for 5 days **€225\***

\*Registration and insurance included

There is a sibling discount: first child pays full amount, second child has a discount of 10%, the third child a discount of 20%.

A non-residential summer camp.



## Booking and Payment

To book please contact  
**+39 331 351 9149**  
or send email to  
**scuolaforesta.ilfrassino@gmail.com**

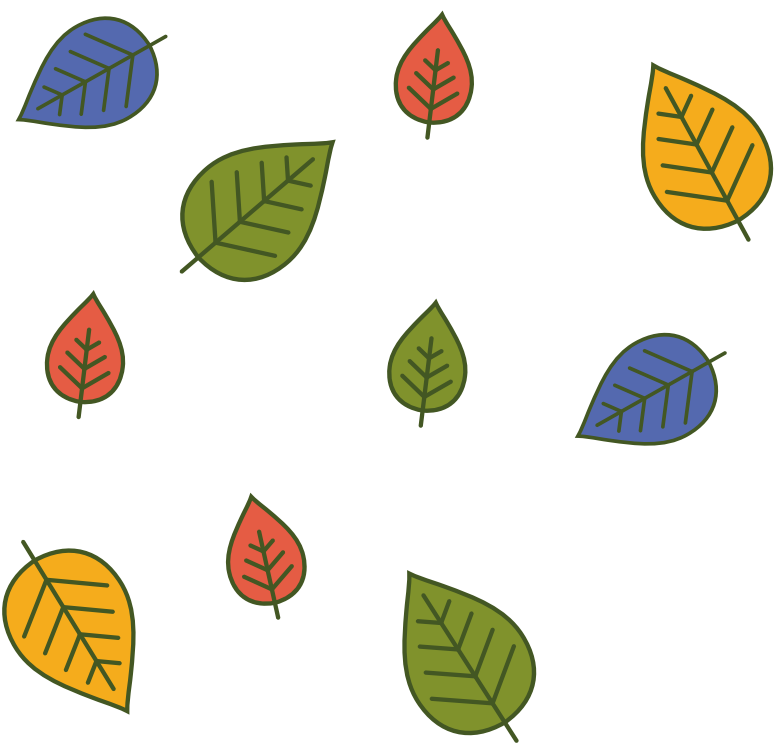
Upon booking, a non-refundable deposit of **54 Euros** needs to be paid. The remainder amount is payable on the first day of your summer camp in cash.

The course will take place with a minimum of 6 children and there a limited places available (max 12 children per course).

**Ages 3 to 12 years (exceptions can be discussed).**

Type of course	Price
Option 1 3-day	<b>€153*</b>
Option 2 5-day	<b>€225*</b>





# Curriculum and Team



# Curriculum Association Scuola Foresta il Frassino



## 2012

The Forest School il Frassino was founded in Cefalù in April 2012 by Kheli Italiano after 5 years of training and active experience in the English forest schools. In this project, Kheli today works with two psychologists, Beatrice Muscarella and Sara Cicero, and Harvey Koniak, expert in marketing and co-director of the Forest School Association 'Il Frassino'. In the spring and summer of 2012 the Association offered with great success and participation the first three cycles of courses with the children of the Cefalù area (from May to September).



## 2013

In the months of May and June 2013 the Forest School 'Il Frassino' has participated in the "Palermo opens the doors" project organized by the Municipality of Palermo in collaboration with the Department of Public Administration and Education, organizing meetings with children in the pine forest of Monte Pellegrino. In the second part of the year, the president of the Forest School 'Il Frassino' acquired a new space for their classes in the countryside of Cefalù adjacent to the Municipality of Lascari (PA), with a surface of over five hectares along the Rio Campella river.



## 2014–2017

The Forest School has continued to offer courses for the children during the summer months.



## 2018 until today

The Forest School also offers weekly classes for children aged 3 to 6 years and from children aged 7 to 12 years.



# Team

They first met almost four years ago, in 2015, when Sara's and Beatrice's common cousin, who knew Kheli through business connections spoke to them about the Forest School project.

Due to the devastating fire of 2016, Kheli and her husband Harvey had to put all their energy into bringing the estate back on track. Thus, they were forced to put the project on standby for two years. It is in this time-frame that the Sara and Beatrice are trained as psychologists, developing together the idea of wanting to create an alternative educational approach in nature, based on the 'Asilo nel Bosco'. In October last year, with determination, faith and enthusiasm Kheli decides to restart the project. It is in this moment that the path of Beatrice, Sara and Kheli really cross and they start a collaboration that is guided by a special harmony.





## Kheli Italiano

founder

Grew up in Switzerland, speaking Italian, German, French and English. This has led her to develop a strong inclination for communication. The strong interest and motivation towards “learning through play” inspired her to take upon a training and practical course in the English Forest Schools in the United Kingdom. This together with twenty years of experience as Colour therapist in London brought about in 2012 the desire to introduce a different educational approach in her homeland Sicily. Her empathetic and strongly sensitive nature allows her to communicate profoundly and effectively with children.



## Harvey Koniak

co-founder and vice-president

Harvey is a Marketing expert and also Kheli’s husband. In the 80’s, he founded an organic cosmetic company. Taken by the passion for the organic world, he brings to Sicily a passion for permaculture and bio-dynamic growing. With his charismatic presence, he manages to bring tranquillity and harmony in the group.



## Sara Cicero

partner and psychologist

Sara grew up in a small town of the Madonie in close contact with nature, taking her first steps in the family garden. Having been raised in a natural environment, she developed the idea of creating a project for children learning in nature. She has an innate inclination to relate to children, especially those who have special needs. In fact, she manages to establish with them an immediate relationship of trust, play and exchange, also thanks to the professional experiences she had with children with autism.



## Beatrice Muscarella

partner and psychologist

Beatrice is Sara's cousin, sharing the same childhood as her between the countryside of her village and the Madonie woods. Always in close contact with plants and animals, through which she was able to express, with curiosity and enthusiasm, her own ability to explore and discover the natural life cycles. Her working experience in schools, as a psychological support figure for children, gave birth to her desire to create an alternative learning project, which is based on the emotional education of the child, respecting the developmental stages, attitudes and interests.



## **Info and Bookings**

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