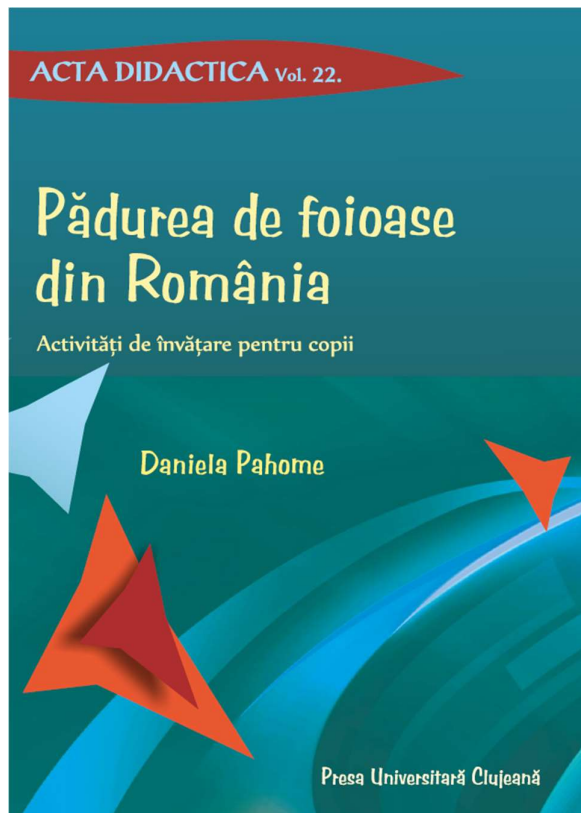


Book Review

"The Deciduous Forest of Romania: Learning Activities for Children" by Daniela Pahome



The book "The Deciduous Forest of Romania: Learning Activities for Children", written by Daniela Pahome, a primary school teacher and Ph.D. student at Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, was published by Cluj University Press in 2023.

This work is part of the *Acta Didactica* collection and focuses on promoting education within the context of Romania's deciduous forests. The book, with ISBN 978-606-37-1853-3, contains 228 pages.

Chapter 1, "The Deciduous Forest – an Optimal Learning Environment," highlights the characteristics of Romania's deciduous forests, describing the flora, fauna, and ecological significance of this habitat. Chapter 2, "Educational Games," includes 10 educational games designed to facilitate active learning and engage children in exploring knowledge about the forest. Chapter 3, "Learning Activities," presents 40 activities centered around transdisciplinary approaches, which can be organized both in forest environments and in parks or gardens. These activities are aimed at fostering knowledge about plants,

animals, and natural phenomena, involving learning through play and direct interaction with nature.

The book makes a significant contribution to promoting ecological education and alternative learning methods for children, offering valuable resources for educators, parents, and NGOs involved in youth education. It emphasizes the development of skills through direct contact with nature, using innovative activities based on experiential pedagogy.

An innovative aspect of the book lies in the integration of gamification into the educational process, using online educational games that help children consolidate their knowledge about nature in a fun and engaging way.

The book is well-documented, with the author providing a detailed overview of plant and animal species found in deciduous forests, complemented by illustrations and precise descriptions. Academic standards are upheld, and the theoretical structure is well-supported by research and references from specialized literature.

The educational activities and games are clearly structured, easy to understand, and applicable in various educational contexts. They offer concrete examples of good practices for educators and parents, who can use the natural environment to enhance children's education. One limitation of the work is the lack of regional comparisons, which could have provided a broader perspective on Romania's natural diversity.

The Deciduous Forest of Romania is a valuable resource for environmental education, particularly useful for primary school teachers, parents, and NGOs involved in children's education.

The author successfully highlights the importance of experiential pedagogy, offering well-structured activities that combine play with practical learning in nature.

It is recommended to expand the work by integrating comparative studies between different types of forests or ecosystems and including more examples of practical application of activities in various educational contexts.

Bibliographic reference of the reviewed book:

Pahome, D. (2023). *Pădurea de foioase din România: Activități de învățare pentru copii* [The Deciduous Forest of Romania: Learning Activities for Children]. Cluj-Napoca: Presa Universitară Clujeană.

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