'Specialization in ICTs and Special Education: Psychopedagogy of Integration' Postgraduate Program DEMOCRITUS UNIVERSITY OF THRACE Department of Greek Philology in collaboration with NCSR DEMOKRITOS Informatics and Telecommunications Institute

SPECIAL EDUCATION-SCHOOLYARDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

TZORTZIS ANTONIS

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ABSTRACT

Within the framework of schoolyards, environmental education includes practical and theoretical approaches in which is needed the use of all senses and with emphasis on the experiences of students is required. These teaching and learning methods are particularly well adapted for children with special disabilities, as special education works with direct learning approaches. The literature shows that children with disabilities are positively affected through the outdoor environmental education, both in terms of learning outcomes and in improving their sensory-motor activities. This research is a bibliographical review that focuses on the teaching of the environmental education in school yards to children with disabilities. In particular, it focuses on special education, environmental education, school yards and the school yard as a field of environmental education in special schools. The conclusions of the survey is the importance of introducing environmental education into special education school curricula, taking advantage of the use of school yards and outdoor education practices.

KEY WORDS: disabilities, environmental education, inclusion, outdoor education school yards, special education.

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