

THE MOVEMENT

On the initiative of the International Day of Forest Kindergarten, the day of action celebrated every year on May 3rd, we founded the movement “Children of Nature worldwide Hand in Hand” in 2018.

The movement supports all nature groups worldwide from forest, nature and wilderness education to network globally. The forest children's song “I am a forest child”, which exists in 27 languages, connects nature children worldwide.

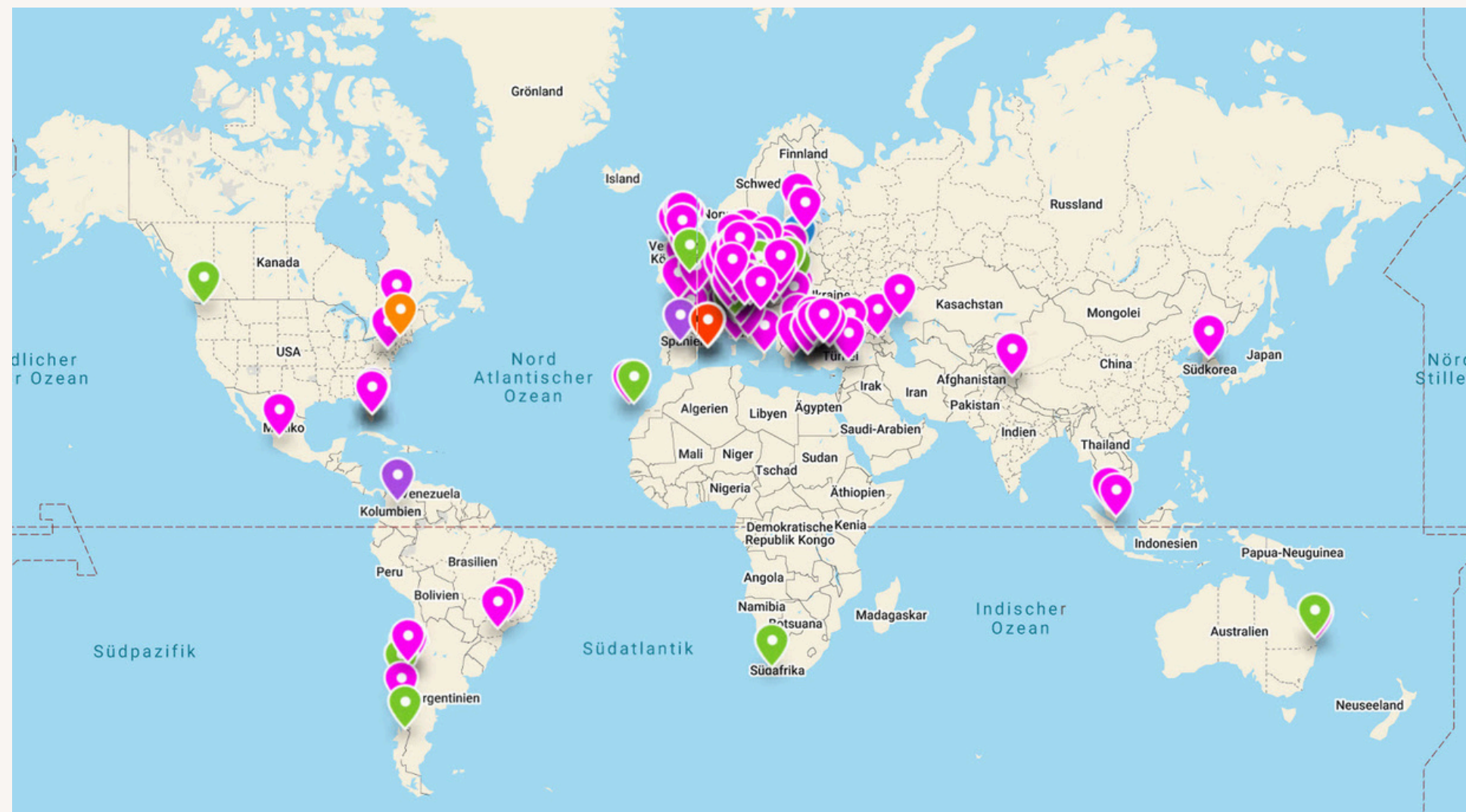
Since 2018, the movement has been giving countries the feeling that they are not alone and that they can network with like-minded people who work with people outdoors in nature.

An illustration featuring a light green globe with dark green landmasses. Below the globe, two hands are shown in a light pinkish-red color, cupping a small green plant with several leaves. The hands are positioned as if they are gently holding the plant. The entire illustration is set against a light blue background.

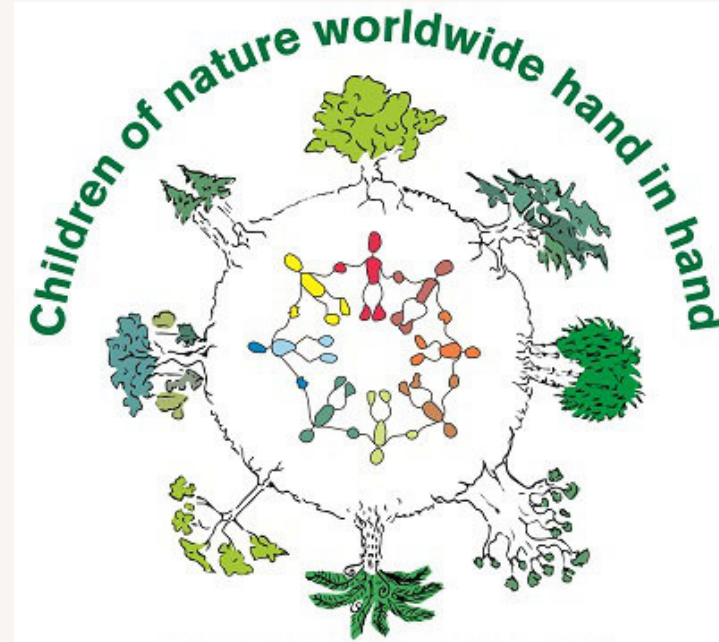
**Start May
2018**

WORLDWIDE

You can network worldwide on our world map with over 250 locations of nature and forest kindergartens.



NETWORK



Every tree whispers stories, every root carries the legacy of generations, and an unshakeable bond of friendship and community hovers over everything. People from all over the world can be found here in our movement “Children of Nature worldwide Hand in Hand”, united by their passion and commitment. The movement is more than just a loose association – it embodies a way of life, a symbolic compass for the future, nourished by experience, wisdom and intensive exchange among like-minded people.



2026 - 3RD OF MAY - MAGAZIN



Expert insight with Petra Jäger, co-founder of the Flensburg Forest Kindergarten



Wiebke Schomaker
is a German speech and language therapist, author and founder of the parenting blog "Starke Sprache", which is dedicated to providing sound language support for children.

grew up in northern Germany. Wiebke studied speech language therapy from 2001 to 2005 at Fresenius University of Applied Sciences in Idstein and at the University of Utrecht (Netherlands), where she earned her PhD in Health Sciences.

We spoke to a speech therapist, author and founder of the parenting blog "Starke Sprache"

Mission & Values

Wiebke's main priorities are equality of opportunity and evidence-based practice: she wants all children – regardless of their initial language skills – to receive the support they need to communicate with confidence. To this end, she makes her expertise available free of charge online and combines it with her second passion writing. Her blog and courses are aimed at parents who are concerned about their child's language development and are looking for practical, playful support for use at home.

Publications & Projects

- 2024: Book "Play, Speak, Have Fun!" featuring over 100 game ideas to support language development
- 2025: Children's non-fiction book "Ida and the Miracle of Breathing" (HappyWu Verlag)
- 2025: "Rhyming, Drawing, Learning to Speak!" – 80 ideas for speech-drawing and creative rhyming activities



Video interview with Wiebke Schomaker, author and speech therapist for the past 20 years

Hands-on activity for the practice featuring alphabet rhymes in 5 languages by Nadja Hillgruber



In this way, she not only weaves, links and stitches together natural materials, but also spins fine, invisible threads between people, places and countries: with care and foresight, she connects information and her ideas for the "Children of Nature Worldwide Hand in hand" movement, carrying them out into the digital and international world. Like a growing network, this forms a vibrant web of friendship in which forest kindergartens, nature playgroups and nature-based educational institutions around the globe can connect.



Through her work, which she carries the name "Ferox Natura Artis - Crafts", she creates spaces to reconnect – with nature. Her work is characterized by a deep connection to the natural world and a commitment to creating a sustainable future for all.

Video/ Download

2025 IN FRANCE AND TURKEY

AUGUST



At the end of August, 41 nature-based educators from across France – along with guests from Switzerland – gathered near Limoges for the national meeting of the association Le réseau des pédagogues par la nature.

SEPTEMBER



During the nature education seminar led by Petra Jäger, a small patch of woodland in Istanbul was transformed into a place of wonder, play and hands-on learning.

WHERE CHILDHOOD TAKES ROOT



What do children need to grow up healthy? This film powerfully demonstrates just how valuable nature is for their physical, emotional and mental development. Outdoors – through free play, wonder and discovery – children experience the world with all their senses and thrive as a result.

The natural environment is revealed as a living learning space that strengthens community, fosters self-confidence and enables authentic experiences. Inspiring images and voices from the field and from families offer an insight into a mindful approach to education that lovingly supports children in their development.

Featuring: Gerald Hüther, Petra Jäger and Reinhild Eggenwirth



Video to buy

TEAM BEHIND THE MOVEMENT

Petra Jäger and Nadja Hillgruber, who initiated the movement, are constantly supporting and helping to shape international meetings such as the 2019 International Conference in Zurich/Switzerland and the 2024 Summer School in Louti/Czech Republic – and will continue to do so. Through their commitment, they raise awareness of the “Children of Nature worldwide Hand in Hand” movement. The reports about the International Day of Forest Kindergartens and the movement spread in the virtual world, are commented on, shared and continue to reach numerous people who are enthusiastic about nature and forest kindergartens all over the world.



OUR VISION

The meetings in Zurich and Louti have opened our eyes! It showed us that we are not even aware of the inexhaustible reserves of creativity, inventiveness, patience, perseverance, community and inspiration that lie dormant deep within us.

It was simply incredible to feel what is available to us all – if only we have the courage to embark on this journey together and unleash our full potential. The possibilities of how we can shape the future of nature children around the world together are so diverse and limitless. If we trust in the inner power that resides within each of us, just waiting to be unleashed – for life itself and for all that is yet to come.

Every little spark that is ignited in the countries reminds us how much we can achieve together if we focus on our dreams and work towards them with united forces. Let's use this energy to grow together, shine and change the world!



An artistic illustration of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, gently cupping a small globe. The globe is depicted with green landmasses and white oceans. The hands are rendered in a soft, painterly style with visible skin texture. The background is a light, warm-toned gradient with a subtle, larger-scale globe pattern.

CHILDREN OF NATURE WORLDWIDE HAND IN HAND

www.feroxnaturartis.ch