

GREEN EDUCATION – Back To The Nature

Tree Planting Activity

Karapınar can be considered as Turkey's only desert land. The Lake Meke – A volcanic lake is located in this district. Karapınar has a chalky soil structure by up to 60%. There are many sinkholes available in the district. The area is famous for its lake Meke, The lake Acıgöl, The lake Meyil and other famous underground lakes, such as the Ciralı. There are also many underground cities in the area.



The most important feature of the area is that it is accepted as the world's largest wind erosion prevention area. The project was started by the Soil and Water General Directorate in 1962, included 13.000 hectares and was completed in 1999. This project has been accepted as one of the top 10 projects implemented on earth.

The **TEMA** Foundation, (The Turkish Foundation for Combating Soil Erosion, for Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats). It is a Turkish non-profit organization, which was established 1992. Its mission is to create effective and conscious public opinion on environmental problems, specifically soil erosion, deforestation, desertification, climate change and biodiversity loss in Turkey for the benefit of future generations.



As a project activity, we organized a tree planting activity tour to Karapınar, with the collaboration of the **Tema** Foundation. The Young Tema group of our university planted over 350 seedlings in Karapınar which is the only desert area located in the southeast of the Konya 100km outside the city and which is quite an arid land in the Central Anatolia Region. In other words; 350 seedlings were brought into the nature.