

EYFS OUTSIDE LEARNING PROJECT FACT SHEET
USING THE LOCAL PARK OR OPEN SPACE (3 – 5 age range)



Photograph courtesy of All Saints Primary School

Key activities:

- Visiting the local park for a wildlife trail
- Using the large play resources in the park
- Performance in the park
- Observational drawings of nature
- Number, word and alphabet trail in the park
- Having fun and learning through play in the park
- Shared celebrations in the park with parents and carers

Suggested learning and development links:

- Understand 'why' questions, like: "Why do you think the caterpillar got so fat?"
- Increasingly follow rules understanding why these are important.
- Take part in some group activities which they make up for themselves, or in teams.
- Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity.
- Talk about and identify the patterns around them.

- Ask questions to find out more and to check they understand what has been said to them.
- Show resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge.
- Think about the perspectives of others.
- Progress towards a different style of moving with developing control and grace.
- Count objects, actions and sounds.
- Compare length, weight and capacity.
- Draw information from a simple map.

- Explore the natural world around them.
- Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.
- Recognize some environments that are different to the one in which they live.
- Understand the effect of the changing seasons on the natural world around them.
- Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings.
- Create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources and skills

(Taken from the new Development Matters (Non-statutory curriculum guidance for the EYFS 2020)

Characteristics of effective teaching and learning:

- Plan or think ahead about how they will explore or play with objects.
- Make independent choices.
- Do things independently that they have previously been taught.
- Respond to new experiences that you have brought to their attention.
- Know more, so feel confident about coming up with their own ideas.
- Make more links between those ideas.

(Taken from the new Development Matters (Non-statutory curriculum guidance for the EYFS 2020)

Oral Story Telling:

Little Red Riding Hood

Books:

Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins
 Today I will fly by M Willems
 We're going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen
 "Let's get a Pup!" by Bob Graham
 Little Red Riding Hood by Lari Don
 The Bog Baby by J Willis
 We're off to find a Fairy by White and Reid
 The Three Billy Goats Gruff by H Barkow
 The Tree by Neal Layton
 This is my Rock by David Lucas
 We're going on a Picnic by Pat Hutchins
 Bedtime for Monsters by Ed Vere
 Owl Babies by Martin Waddell
 There's a Tiger in the Garden by L Stewart
 A new green day by A Portis
 Trees by Leminiscates
 Too Much Stuff by Emily Gravitt

Rhymes:

Rock a Bye Baby

Useful websites:

RHS Sensory activities: <https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/Resources/Activity/Sensory-nature-game>

How to make a nature trail for children:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/07/nature-trail-ideas/>

Trees, woods and wildlife:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/things-to-do/woods-through-the-seasons/spring/>

Things to do in a wood:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/things-to-do/>

Life cycle of a plant:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2021/03/plant-life-cycle-seeds-shoots-roots/>

Identify wildlife:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/identify-wildlife/>

Identify woodland plants:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/plants/>

Creating a space to explore the interconnectedness of life:

<https://www.communityplaythings.co.uk/learning-library/articles/creating-a-place-to-explore-the-interconnectedness-of-the-earth>

Lesson plans for talk outside:

https://cdn.literacytrust.org.uk/media/documents/Looking_and_talking_outside_session_plan_for_practitioners.pdf

Lesson plans for sharing books, stories and mark-making outside:

https://cdn.literacytrust.org.uk/media/documents/Sharing_books_stories_and_mark-making_outside_session_plan_for_practitioners.pdf

Videos:

Recorded LBHF training on outdoor learning. This includes a powerpoint presentation showing some of the children from the Reception class in All Saints Primary School taking a woodland walk: www.youtube.com/watch?v=22eo9wnliC0

Local community provision:

Phoenix Farm: booked visits: <https://hcga.org.uk/gardens/phoenix-farm-in-white-city/>

HCGA: booked visits: <https://hcga.org.uk/gardens/ravenscourt-glasshouses/>

Your local park or open space – no need to book if you follow the bylaws:

https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/sites/default/files/section_attachments/byelaws_tcm21-151944.pdf

Fulham Palace: bespoke sessions on insects and animals:

<https://www.fulhampalace.org/learning/schools/school-sessions/>

Do you have all the resources you need when you take children on a visit to the local park?



Photograph courtesy of Bayonne Nursery School, part of the Thames Federation

A puddle is a magical portal!



Photograph courtesy of Harmony Neighbourhood Nursery