

## Key messages

- The outdoor environment has unique characteristics and features.
- Outdoor learning has equal value to indoor learning.
- Outdoor learning has a positive impact on children's well-being and development.
- Children need the support of attentive and engaged adults who are enthusiastic about the outdoors and understand the importance of outdoor learning.
- Outdoor learning is enhanced by the environment which is richly resourced with play materials that can be adapted and used in different ways.
- An approach to outdoor learning that considers experiences rather than equipment places children at the centre of the provision being made.

The Early Years Foundation Stage 2007

Outdoor play offers added space that encourages children to be more active and work on a larger scale across all areas of learning and supports collaborative learning.

Gail Ryder Richardson- Creating a Space to grow  
David Fulton 2006

We see the special nature of the outdoors as part of a bigger picture- to provide children with the positive experiences necessary to enable them to become lifelong learners and happy, well adjusted adults.

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