

Introducing 'BUCKET SCHOOL' learning...



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LOtC

Learning
Outside the
Classroom-

An essential part of .. 'A broad and balanced curriculum'







Let's consider the research...

For some time experts have been concerned that that children are becoming dissociated from the natural world.

Louv (2005) refers to this as 'Nature Deficit Disorder'. 'Our children are the first generation to be raised without meaningful contact with the natural world' (Louv, 2005: 391)

'More than one in nine children have not set foot in a park, forest, beach or any other natural environment for at least 12 months' (DFE, 2016)

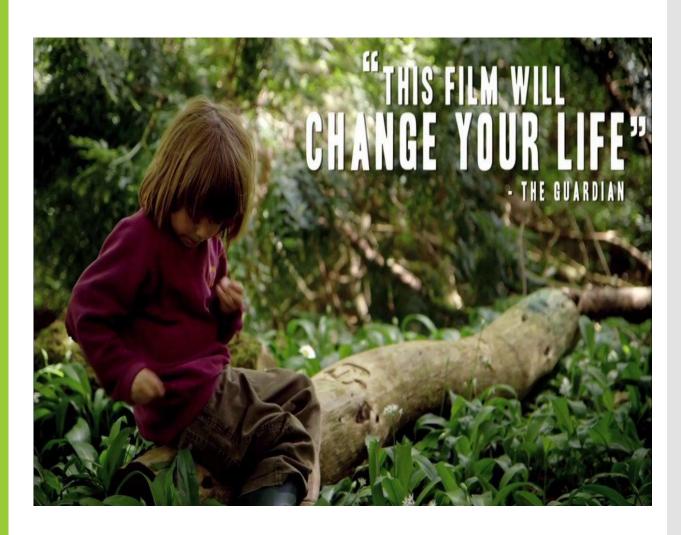
'Three quarters of UK children spend less time outdoors than prison inmates' (Carrigan, 2016: 1)

Natural childhood report, 2012

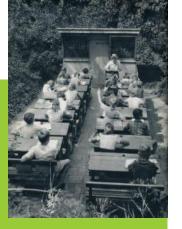


'The likelihood of children visiting any green space has halved in a generation' (House of Commons, 2009: 11)

<u>Project</u> <u>Wildthing</u>



RSPB (2010) Every Child Outdoors



How has the pandemic affected the time children spend outdoors?



- Natural England's recent survey of 8-15 year olds shows that six in ten children have spent less time outdoors since the start of coronavirus and more than four in five spent less time outside with friends.
- This trend was heavily skewed by background, with the most dramatic reductions found among children from ethnic minority backgrounds and poorer families. (Natural England, 2021)
- The Government's 25 Year Environment
 Plan notes a similar trend stating that "the poorer you are... the less likely you are to enjoy ready access to green spaces."

So why is outdoor learning so important?

'The basic literacy of the living world is slipping from us...'

Robert McFarlane 'The Lost Words'



Why Conservationists Should Heed Pokemon (2002) Balford.A, Clegg,L., Coulson.T & Taylor,J.

What are the benefits of LOtC?

'When planned and implemented well, learning outside the classroom contributed significantly to raising standards and improving pupils' personal, social and emotional development'.

(OFSTED, 2008: 5)

'Science can be rigorously taught through LOtC', (House of Commons, 2009: 10)

Natural Connections Demonstration Project: Schools report positive impacts of outdoor learning:

Makes lessons more enjoyable (95%)

Improves social skills (93%)

Improves pupils' health & wellbeing (92%)

Engages pupils with learning (92%)

Has a positive impact on behaviour (85%)

Leads to a greater understanding of nature (94%)

'LOTC supports
pupils learning
and
development. It
has the potential
to enrich and
enliven teaching
across all
subjects'.
(House of
Commons, 2009:4

Natural Connections, 2016

What are the benefits of LOtC?

Children's mental health and wellbeing improves...

- Children's lives now far more stressful than in the past, alongside higher academic expectations, there are pressures created by social media use, which can monopolise children's time and attention, affect their body image, or expose them to age-inappropriate content.
- Many children are under more time pressure, more peer pressure and more pressure to succeed. Getting outdoors is the cheapest and easiest way to reduce this pressure so children (and adults) feel less stressed. Outdoor Classroom Day 2018 Muddy Hands report

Happier, healthier children are more motivated and eager to learn; a winning outcome from all angles.



Children's relationship with nature improves...

- "If children don't grow up knowing about nature and appreciating it, they will not understand it. And if they don't understand it, they won't protect it. And if they don't protect it, who will?" Sir David Attenborough
- A four year study (and the largest of its kind) conducted by Natural England showed that 94% of the teachers involved reported that outdoor learning led to a greater understanding of nature. (Natural England, 2016).



LOtC helps to build ...Science Capital.

And even ...Nature Capital!

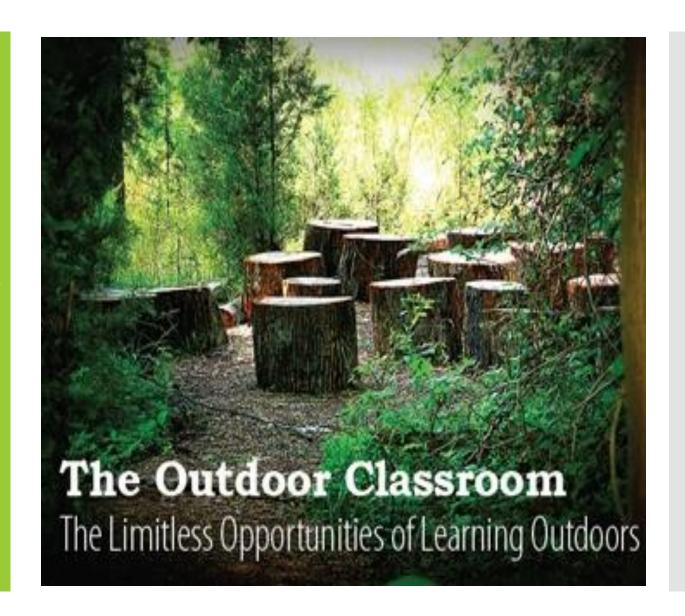


It's time to rewild the child...



George Monbiot's article 'Rewild the Child', argues for a radical rethink of how we educate children by getting them out of the classroom and taking them outdoors.

Many schools have developed outside areas that could be used for effective science teaching.



Outdoor classrooms can take many forms.









But are they using them?

A new approach...

Introducing Bucket Schools.





An economical approach to teaching science outdoors with infinite possibilities!

Why use the Bucket School approach to deliver science lessons?

- Versatile, portable, <u>localised</u> learning.
- Fraction of the cost of building an outdoor classroom.
- Can be tailored to satisfy almost <u>all</u> of the NC 2014 objectives.

Makes learning engaging, creative and

messy!

- Creates an interest in the local environment.
- Promotes healthy living and a love of the outdoors.

Is there a bank of lesson plans?











Monday 29th February 1.15- 3.15pm

Please wear warm clothes and outdoor shoes.

Your chance to become zookeepers for the afternoon and discover exactly what animals might eat in the wild near to our twin school in Uganda. You may like to research the meaning of the following words: herbivore, carnivore, omnivore, food chain and nutrition. This is an outdoor "Bucket School" session.

Identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat

Food chains/webs..









Naming a skeleton..



Stone Age...

Dandelion tea, rye bread and charcoal painting





An observation post...





Bucket School provides the perfect opportunity to explore cross curricular themes.



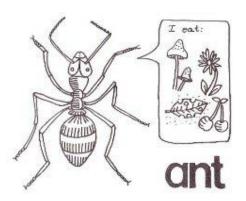
4 quick Bucket School activities...



Y3 Identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement.



Y5 Compare and group everyday materials on the basis of their properties.



Y4 construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.



Y5
Properties
of materials:
explain that
some
changes
result in the
formation of
new
materials.

Are you prepared to take your lessons outdoors?

One last thought...







Imagination costs nothing....

