

What's happening in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

3rd - 9th January 2022



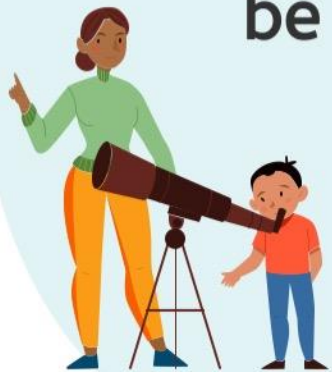
Should more of our learning take place outside?



Let's look at this week's story



A recent pilot project, called Growing Among Trees, provided outdoor activities for urban schools around London and sought to create a model for effective and transformational change in urban schools, giving pupils the opportunity for everyday connection with nature. The Outward Bound Trust, who run outdoor trips and experiences such as white water rafting and climbing agree, saying outdoor learning should be a priority for children following increased time indoors during the pandemic.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Assembly [here](#).



How does it make me feel?



sad	angry	happy	confused	excited	worried	shocked	afraid
despondent disconsolate dismal doleful downhearted forlorn gloomy melancholic miserable woeful wretched	aggrieved annoyed discontented disgruntled distressed exasperated frustrated indignant offended outraged resentful vexed	beaming buoyant cheery contented delighted enraptured gleeful glowing joyful	addled baffled bemused bewildered disorientated indistinct muddled mystified perplexed puzzled	animated elevated enlivened enthusiastic exhilarated exuberant thrilled	agitated anxious apprehensive concerned disquieted distraught distressed disturbed fretful perturbed troubled uneasy	astonished astounded disconcerted distressed dumbfounded horrified staggered startled stunned surprised	alarmed apprehensive daunted fearful frantic horrified petrified terrified



Look at the resource below, where some children share their experience of learning outside.

"At school, we spend as much time learning outside as possible. In the summer, we need sun cream, sun hats and cool clothes and in the winter, we need thick coats, waterproof trousers, wellies, hats and gloves."

Oliver



"I take part in Forest Schools. We use lots of resources we find in our environment such as sticks, pebbles, leaves but we also have some equipment like a pan for making hot chocolate around the fire!"

Acker



"We have an outdoor area at school with equipment such as bikes, scooters, sand and water trays, tyres, ropes and crates. I like using the equipment to build dens! We also have a garden, where we grow vegetables."

Radomila



"We spend the day at an outdoor adventure centre. One of the activities we do involves rock scrambling. We need helmets and walking boots."

Natasha



"I organise a five-day residential for all our children in Year 6. Some of the activities we take part in include rock climbing, orienteering, canoeing and stream scrambling. There is a lot of specialist equipment needed that we don't have in school such as ropes, canoes, paddles, helmets, full waterproofs."

Mrs. Jeffries, teacher



What equipment do you use when you are learning outside?



Look at the resource below sharing some learning that takes place outside.

PE

PE lessons outside, either on playgrounds or school fields, can be great because there is the space to develop skills such as throwing, catching, running, jumping, balancing etc. Teams can compete against one another, which means values such as respect, confidence, resilience and teamwork can be learned too.



Gardening

Gardening is an outdoor activity some schools take part in. It can help children learn about plants and what they need to survive but also being responsible and taking care of something.



Art

Being outside, sketching landscapes and objects in the natural environment, gives children the opportunity to fully immerse themselves in their work.

Cycle training

Some schools take part in an annual cycle training, where children learn practical skills and learn to cycle on today's roads giving them a skill for life.

Science

Some science lessons take place outdoors, such as observing wildlife and their habitats and weather investigations.



Outdoor residentials

Many schools take part in a residential trip, where they visit an outdoor centre to take part in activities such as rock climbing, canoeing, orienteering. These trips not only allow children to experience new outdoor sports and activities, they can also provide an opportunity to experience being out of comfort zones and overcoming a fear. This might be heights, water or sleeping away from home. Children learn more about themselves and each other when experiencing trips like these. They also develop independence: get up, get dressed, have the correct equipment, make the bed etc!



Do you think these outdoor learning sessions could be adapted so they could happen in our classrooms?

Reflection



As well as our school classroom,
the wider world can be a place to learn too.
There is a lot we can learn from different
places and experiences outside.





Individual liberty

There are many benefits of being outside and learning from the natural world around us. We can choose to take the opportunities that arise to get us outdoors and connect us with nature.





UN Rights of a Child



It is important we have information about how to stay healthy. Being outdoors can form part of our healthy lifestyle.

24

HEALTH, WATER, FOOD, ENVIRONMENT

A pink rectangular card with a white silhouette of a person. Below the silhouette are four icons: a heart with a checkmark, a water drop with a checkmark, an apple with a checkmark, and another water drop with a checkmark. The number '24' is in the top right corner, and the text 'HEALTH, WATER, FOOD, ENVIRONMENT' is at the bottom.

Useful vocabulary



Pilot

An experiment or test before introducing something more widely.

A recent **pilot** project, called *Growing Among Trees*, provided outdoor activities for urban schools around London.

Priority

A thing that is more important than others.

...saying outdoor learning should be a **priority** for children following increased time indoors during the pandemic.

Sought

Tried to do or achieve something.

...and **sought** to create a model for effective and transformational change in urban schools.

Traditionally

Something is happening according to a tradition: the way it's been done for a while.

Traditionally, most of our learning takes place in the classroom.

Transformational

Able to produce a big change or improvement in a situation.

...and sought to create a model for effective and **transformational** change in urban schools.

Urban

Belonging to or relating to a town or city.

The pilot in this week's news story involved **urban** schools in London.

Can you use them in your writing this week?



Visible mending service



What do you do when a piece of clothing becomes tattered, worn or has a hole in it? Do you continue wearing it, fix it, replace it or throw it away? There is an alternative - you could get creative and become a visible mender! Flora Collingwood-Norris is a knitwear designer, maker and mender based in Scotland. She offers a bespoke visible mending service, meaning rather than discreetly fixing the holes or worn patches on knitwear, they become a new feature. Flora said: 'You need very little by way of equipment to start mending, just a needle, some yarn, a pair of scissors and something holey.' Flora provides online workshops and digital guides to help others learn the techniques used to mend items and create

“ You need very little by way of equipment ”

a sustainable wardrobe: 'Extending the life of the clothing you own is the best way to have a sustainable wardrobe.' Perhaps you could have a go at visibly mending an item of clothing that has a hole in it. We'd love to see it if you do!

Pictured: A jumper mended by Flora Collingwood-Norris
Source: @collingwoodnorr Twitter page

Lego announces plans for new factory

Danish toymaking giant, LEGO, have announced plans to build a new manufacturing operation in Vietnam. It will be the second factory in Asia (its first was opened in China five years ago) as the company aims to keep up with the demand for its products. There are plans to match the factories energy consumption with solar panels on its roof and a nearby farm. Lego's chief operations officer,

Carsten Rasmussen, said in a statement: 'We are very grateful for the support of the Vietnamese government in helping us achieve our ambition to build our first carbon neutral factory.' LEGO, founded in 1932 by Ole Kirk Kristiansen, is now owned by Kjeld Kirk Kristiansen, Ole's grandchild. LEGO is an abbreviation of the two Danish words 'leg godt', meaning 'play well'.

Pictured: Toys manufactured by LEGO **Source:** Canva





Pictured: A hazel dormouse Source: Canva

Miniature bridge for dormice

Wild hazel dormice are incredibly difficult to spot – not just because they only come out at night and spend a huge amount of time hibernating, but because they can only be found in a small number of places in the UK. According to the conservation charity, the People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES), hazel dormice have nearly halved in population over the last 20 years. In an attempt to save the vulnerable species from

extinction, engineers are building a tiny railway crossing to link habitats either side of the Furness line in Lancashire. Ian White, from the PTES, said: 'We hope that this new bridge will enable two neighbouring populations to create a local metapopulation in the area, which will really help to bring this rare and beautiful species back from the brink.' The bridge, which will hopefully open in the summer, will be the first of its kind over a railway.

Last week's topic:

Do we need to create a virtual universe?



I think that headsets would be bad for your eyes if you wear them all of the time. Also, it might stop you socialising with friends in the real world.

Kayden – age 13

I think we do need a virtual world because covid-19 is now starting to affect us again so we must be cautious about what we do in public and also because we do so many things online to protect us.

Nolan – age 9

Yes because it can be nice for people who can't do something in real life to do it virtually. Real experiences are better than virtual ones however the virtual ones over lockdown could transport people away from their homes and into a different world.

Annie – age 10

Let us know what you think about this week's news?

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TAKEHOME



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Things to talk about at home ...

- Do you prefer being outside or inside? Why?
- Do you enjoy any parts of the school day that are outside? If so, which parts?
- What skills do you think you can learn from being outside?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

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