

### SPRING 1 2021 NEWSLETTER

***Happy New Year and welcome to our first Outdoor Learning Newsletter of 2021 and it really is a bumper edition!***

*As we step into spring, let's hope once lockdown 3.0 is over, we have plenty of opportunities to take our young people outdoors, both locally and on school visits and residential! In the meantime, this newsletter whilst aimed for use in school, has ideas that can also be used to enrich home learning.*

Our theme this newsletter is **Habitats** and we've got lots of ideas and activities for you to try once children are back in school, taken from **Trailblazer Habitat Activities Outdoors**. (See also other Trailblazer Activity Sheets: [Pond Dipping](#), [Minibeasts](#) as well as [Food Chains and Web Activities Outdoors](#) all on our [Outdoor Learning and Trailblazer website](#)).

Capture imaginations by turning Key Stage 1 pupils into **Habitat Hunters** using [this](#) lesson plan by the [RSPCA](#), which encourages children to use all their senses as they look for places where animals might live.

#### **School Grounds Wildlife Survey**

Older children could survey their school grounds for different wildlife and habitats and record their findings on a map of their school. It's important too for them to think about the impact humans have on wildlife and what we can do to protect it. How could they improve habitats for wildlife in their school grounds?



#### **Build a Home!**

This activity can be done by children of any age, even adapted as an activity to do at home. With a soft animal toy, ask children to choose a site and go and build a home for their creature. Discuss with the children why have they built their home for their creature there? What does it need to survive? What else would their creature need from their habitat? How would their creature feel if this place was destroyed?

Back in the classroom they could develop an estate agent style advert for their creature's home, to persuade other creatures to come and live there!



## **Snakes in the Heather** - Outreach

This is an exciting and ambitious project led by Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (ARC), which aims to conserve the Smooth Snake throughout its range in Southern England.

They have a school's outreach programme which is free of charge and can be delivered in a number of settings from virtual via zoom, through to the classroom or outdoors.



Contact the education officer for more information: [Education.Officer@arc-trust.org](mailto:Education.Officer@arc-trust.org)

## **Travel Costs** can often affect whether a school visit goes ahead.

Here are two opportunities for funding for travel for visits to Hampshire's local National Parks.



### **New Forest National Park Travel Grant**

The New Forest National Park is the ultimate outdoor classroom offering opportunities to discover, explore, investigate, understand and enjoy the variety of habitats and heritage that makes the New Forest so special. The New Forest National Park Travel grant is available to eligible schools to help subsidise transport costs if you are bringing your class to the New Forest or to an education provider within the New Forest, before 31st March 2021. Contact Helen Robinson [education@newforestnpa.gov.uk](mailto:education@newforestnpa.gov.uk) for more information.

### **South Downs National Park Travel Grant**

Likewise the South Downs National Park is also facilitating school visits to it or to a site within the South Downs National Park Education Network.

The South Downs National Park Authority Travel Grant helps over 2,000 pupils to visit the South Downs National Park each year. Look on their website for more specific details or contact [travelgrants@southdowns.gov.uk](mailto:travelgrants@southdowns.gov.uk).



# Ultimate STEM Challenge: A home for nature

**BP's Ultimate STEM Challenge** is inviting young people across the UK to get creative and design a home for nature, using natural and technical solutions, to improve biodiversity in their local community. The competition is open to ages 9-11 and 11-14 and can be entered individually or as a group. There are fantastic prizes for the winning pupil(s) and their school. The pupil/team with the most creative and innovative design will win £3,000 to bring that home for nature to life, while the runners up will receive £1,000 each to make their designs a reality. **Competition closes on 3 March 2021.**

On their website are plenty of free resources for primary and secondary year groups including easy to use lesson plans, engaging homework activities and video lessons with wildlife presenter, Michaela Strachan.



We are holding our **Outdoor Conference for Primary Schools on Friday March 19 2021** at Stubbington Study Centre, Fareham. The theme is '**Discovery on your Doorstep**' with a focus on using the school grounds and local area to deliver exciting outdoor learning across the whole curriculum. We have two keynote speakers. Sue Waite – visiting research fellow at The University of Plymouth and co-author of The National Curriculum Outdoors series of books; and Matthew Dampier – headteacher at Droxford Junior school, a fully integrated outdoor learning school.

As well as the key note speakers, we have a range of workshops delivered to equip school teachers and outdoor education leads with the resources, ideas and inspiration to deliver outdoor learning across the whole curriculum.

See [here](#) for more information, including how to book. Places are issued on a first come, first served basis, so book now to avoid disappointment!

**HAMPSHIRE OUTDOORS**  
**DISCOVERY ON YOUR DOORSTEP**  
ENGAGING, RELEVANT AND COST EFFECTIVE OUTDOOR IDEAS FOR THE WHOLE CURRICULUM

**19TH MARCH 2021**  
**STUBBINGTON STUDY CENTRE**  
**£100 - INCLUDES WORKSHOPS AND REFRESHMENTS**

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**  
**SUE WAITE - VISITING RESEARCH FELLOW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH**  
**MATTHEW DAMPIER - HEADTEACHER AT DROXFORD JUNIOR SCHOOL (FULLY INTEGRATED OUTDOOR LEARNING SCHOOL)**

**FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO BOOK VISIT:**  
[www.hants.gov.uk/hampshireoutdoors](http://www.hants.gov.uk/hampshireoutdoors)

**Hampshire Outdoors**  
Skills & Participation



# In the News...

## Gardening Success!

**St Albans CE (Aided) Primary School**, won second place in the Cultivation Street Best School Garden Category 2020 for gardening with wildlife in mind.

**Redwood Park Academy, Cosham, Portsmouth** was highly commended. Why not enter your school garden in next year's competition?



## Outdoor Challenge

**Chandlers Ford Infant School** have launched their 2020-2021 Outdoor Challenge with each class pledging to carry out a minimum of 50 hours of outdoor learning each year. They launched the challenge with a special video assembly which you can view [here](#).



## Outdoor Art

This Andrew Goldsworthy inspired leaf art was sent in from **ICollege Alternative Education**.

Do send in any news or pictures of your outdoor learning successes that we can share.  
[outdoor.education@hants.gov.uk](mailto:outdoor.education@hants.gov.uk)



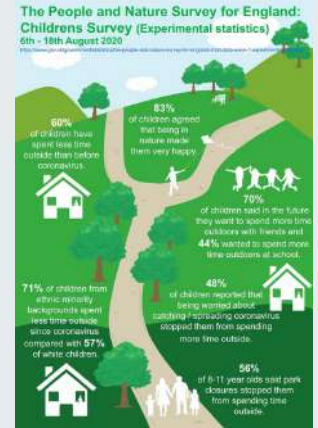
# Free Useful Resources...

The Council for Learning Outside the Classroom (CLOTc) have neatly summarised some of the data from

## The People and Nature Survey for England.

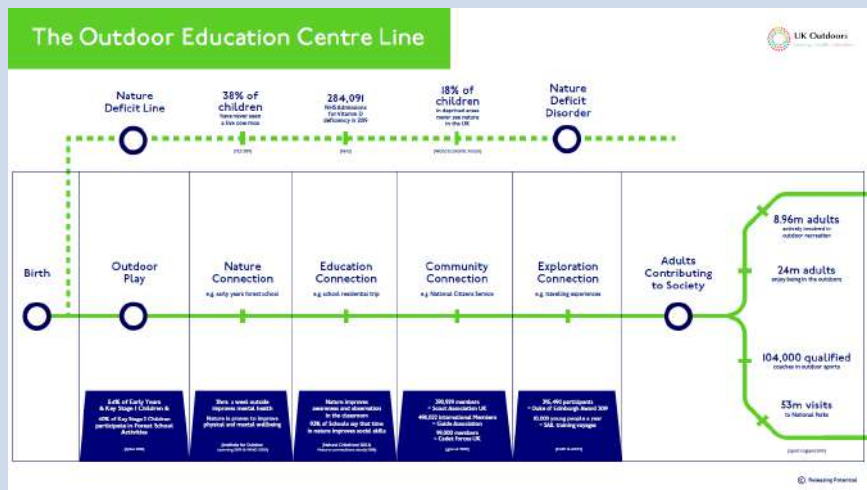
Natural England commissioned research to understand the perspective of children and young people relating to nature during Covid-19.

With 83% of children agreeing that being in nature made them very happy, the research shows just how important it is for children's health and mental wellbeing to have access to nature and green spaces.



## The Outdoor Education Centre Line.

This downloadable poster, from the Institute of Outdoor Learning (IOL) uses the idea that as we travel from birth to adulthood, Outdoor Education can play a key role in someone positively contributing to society. The train line analogy explains the journey we go on when engaged with the outdoors and the consequences of either engaging with or not engaging with nature.



## Get Outside – Supporting Teachers to Take Learning Outside the Classroom

Wanting to get outside more, but not sure where to start? This free guide and toolkit from OEAP and CLOTc, are designed to help you understand how to use learning outside the classroom to deliver learning safely and effectively; what you need to consider when using different places and spaces; and how to assess where you are now and what you need to focus on.



**MONTH OF OUTDOORS**  
With Love Outdoor Learning

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
<b>Activity:</b> Can you collect leaves and make a leaf collage?	<b>Challenge:</b> Can you find 10 different types of leaves?	<b>Game:</b> Can you play a game with leaves?	<b>Activity:</b> Can you make a leaf sculpture?	<b>Activity:</b> Can you make a leaf collage?	<b>Activity:</b> Can you make a leaf collage?	<b>Activity:</b> Can you make a leaf collage?
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## Month of Outdoor Activities

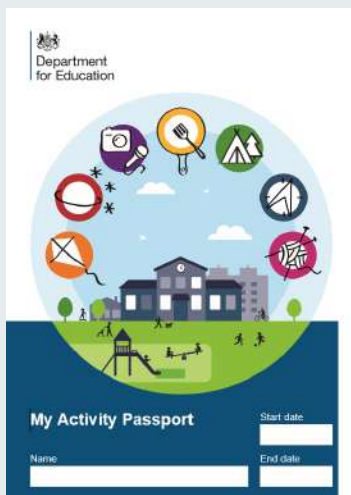
Here is a month of different outdoor activities that will help your children learn but are fun as well. Use in school or send it home for parents to use with their children whilst out for their daily exercise.



# Free Useful Resources...

## School's Enrichment Booklet

Produced by the DfE, this **Activity Passport** is a checklist of activities for children for each year group from Reception to Year 6, to introduce them to a wide variety of experiences and fulfilling activities. Giving young people the opportunity to try new things and develop new skills can be hugely beneficial. It can help children to grow in confidence, expand their understanding of the world around them, or introduce a hobby or passion that could last for years to come. Teachers and/or Parents can use this checklist to plan activities or encourage a child to plan activities for themselves.



## How to Set Up a Forest School – From the Roots Up!

The Forest School Association (FSA) have released the first in a series of new, free to download, booklets that support Forest School practitioners and participants in taking their first steps on the Forest School journey.

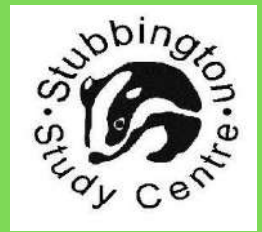
'How to set up a Forest School - from the roots up!' is designed to help you reflect on and consider all aspects of creating a Forest School, from understanding the principles to working through your business case.

## Outdoor Learning Webinars FREE to View

Education Scotland have been running a series of outdoor webinars on a variety of themes and subjects: eg Learning and teaching numeracy and maths outdoors; Literacy in the outdoors; Outdoor learning and religious & moral education; to name but a few. Juliet Robinson of Creative STAR Learning Ltd is now hosting the recordings of them in one place on her website. Although they are targeted at the Scottish National Curriculum, the ideas and activities are applicable to outdoor learning in England too.



# News from Stubbington Study Centre...



## When schools re-open, why not try out Stubbington Study Centre's new Anglo-Saxon Experience session!

Wow!  
Amazing!



Well worth  
the wait!

These are the some of the common responses that are being received when visitors step into the new Longhouse building at Stubbington Study Centre. The long awaited Longhouse is complete and now in use as a multi-purpose space enjoyed by visitors to the site.

An Anglo-Saxon Experience has been added to the menu of extensive sessions on offer at the centre. This two hour session is based in and around the Longhouse and is very much a hands-on session.

Children work as archaeologists and historians, including digging for historical finds in the archaeological pit. The session then moves on to getting into role as Saxons and trying their hand at everyday tasks, including making pots, wattle and daub, playing typical Anglo-Saxon games, making braids and much more. This exciting new session, aimed at Key Stage 2, will be available to all visiting groups.

If you're interested **day visits and extended day visits**, please get in touch with Stubbington Study Centre: [stubbington.sc@hants.gov.uk](mailto:stubbington.sc@hants.gov.uk) or 01329-662244. Rest assured, any booking with us is covered by our super flexible COVID-19 booking guarantee.



Schools interested in **booking a residential place at Stubbington Study Centre for next academic year** (2021 to 2022) are invited to apply online via the [Stubbington website](#), by 31 January 2021. Prices are frozen for next year.

**Hampshire Outdoor Centres & Hampshire Outdoors**  
**Book with Confidence**  
**COVID-19 Guarantee**

We guarantee that if your plans have to change due to COVID-19, you can either:

- Transfer your booking to a new date (subject to availability).
- Cancel your booking and receive a full refund.



# Physical Education

## 5 Top Tips for Ofsted Deep Dives in PE

In the Autumn term, the Primary PE Subject Leader meeting was led by Simon Francis, Senior Advisor for Early Years and Ofsted Inspector. In his role as an Ofsted Inspector, Simon has worked with PE subject leaders on PE Deep Dives, so from his presentation, here are 5 top tips that are useful for all teachers to know!



### 1. Be clear on Curriculum Intent, Implementation and Impact.

Whilst most teachers are confident with the curriculum intent for the school PE curriculum, as part of a deep dive in PE an inspector will look at whether you actually do what you say you think is important and also what the children get from it. I worked with PE subject leaders a lot last year on planning the 3 Is of their curriculums so if you are not sure where to start with this, please get in touch [jodie.bascombe@hants.gov.uk](mailto:jodie.bascombe@hants.gov.uk) and I would be more than happy to work on this with you.

### 2. Why this? Why now?

In the discussion with PE subject leads, the Ofsted inspector will ask them to talk through their long and medium term planning documents to ask why they have chosen to sequence lessons and units in the way they have. As class teachers, you will also then be asked 'Why this? Why now?' So for example, if you are teaching a gymnastics unit of work in Autumn 1 around sequencing in Year 4, how does this build on the work the children did in Year 3? How does it link to what the children will go on to do in Year 5? How does today's lesson link to what you did last week? Why have you chosen to do gymnastics in Autumn 1? One of the key words is 'connectivity'. How do lessons, units of work and work between year groups and key stages connect together? Are children are aware of these connections?



Please do get in touch at [jodie.bascombe@hants.gov.uk](mailto:jodie.bascombe@hants.gov.uk) if you have any PE or PA questions.



# Physical Education

## 3. Are connections made clear to children?

The Ofsted inspector will ask children similar questions about their lesson. So it is important that links are made clear to children e.g. in the gymnastics example above, a Year 4 teacher might explain that in Year 3 children worked on sequences in pairs and using the floor area; whereas now we are in Year 4, we are moving into sequencing using apparatus, as this will challenge us more as we have to use more balance to control our moves when we are off the ground. They might also be working in bigger groups which will challenge their collaboration skills. Of course these links are not just made for Ofsted, making these connections for children helps them to make progress within lessons and across units of work and also helps them to transfer skills such as balance in gymnastics into the importance of balance in a games lesson.

## 5. What is PE like for vulnerable children in your class?

If PE is chosen as a subject for a deep dive, 6 children will be chosen from the PE lessons the inspector will see. The inspector will ask for vulnerable children to be included in this sample e.g. SEND pupils and pupils receiving Pupil Premium. What is PE like for these children? Are children with SEND missing PE lessons due to interventions? Can they explain what they did last week? Do they know how that is linked to what they are doing this week? Do you have suitable equipment to adapt these lessons to meet these children's needs? Do all children make progress within your lesson and do you know what this looks like for different levels of attainment?

## 6. Celebrate what you do!

Whilst the subjects chosen for a deep dive are ultimately decided by the inspector, they will discuss this with the headteacher in the phone call prior to the inspection. A lot of the PE subject leaders I work with have a fantastic curriculum for their children and are still providing this for children despite Covid restrictions. They work with superb teachers who know how important PE is and not only work hard to ensure PE is a good quality, but physical activity (PA) and school sport (SS) too. Celebrate all the things you do that contribute to the PESSPA curriculum in your school including: outdoor learning, forest schools, daily physical activity, yoga etc.



Please do get in touch at [jodie.bascombe@hants.gov.uk](mailto:jodie.bascombe@hants.gov.uk) if you have any PE or PA questions.

# About Hampshire Outdoors...



## Hampshire Outdoors - Supporting you to get outside!

Hampshire Outdoors can help you with planning a variety of school visits and outdoor learning. Our experienced team are always available to offer advice on a full range of outdoor learning and adventurous activities, off-site visits, residentials and the EVOLVE visit management system.

We offer a wide range of courses covering :

- Outdoor and Visit Leader Training
- Risk Assessment for Outdoor Visits
- Educational Visits Co-ordinator (EVC)
- Evolve
- Outdoor Learning - on and off the school grounds (including Trailblazer)
- John Muir Training
- Team Building
- Orienteering
- Camping in the School Grounds
- Beach and River Studies
- Physical Education
- Duke of Edinburgh Award for participants and training for staff and volunteers
- First Aid courses.

See [here](#) for more information on all the courses we are running and dates. Many of our courses can be offered as bespoke events for your school and can be held on-site at a convenient time for you. Just let us know! Email: [outdoor.education@hants.gov.uk](mailto:outdoor.education@hants.gov.uk) or call 07962 876218.  
[www.hants.gov.uk/Hampshireoutdoors](http://www.hants.gov.uk/Hampshireoutdoors)

## Outdoor and PE Courses - Spring/Summer dates now available to book!

**Next Outdoor Learning Course: 1 April 2021 at Minstead Study Centre SO437GJ**

### Free John Muir Training

The John Muir Award is a UK-wide environmental award scheme. It encourages people to connect with, enjoy and care for nature, landscape, and the natural environment. The Award is free, open to all backgrounds and is suitable for upper primary school and above. It's great to run with Year 6 during what would have been post-SATs!



This 1.5 hour (online) introduction to the John Muir Award is for anyone who would like to find out more about this award and how you can use it on your school site.

This introduction is free and will provide an overview of the award, approaches for delivering it, the resources available and how you could use it to support the curriculum.

Dates: **Tuesday 26th January 2021 4 -5.30pm, Wednesday 3rd February 2021 4-5.30pm.**

Training will be via Microsoft Teams. To book email [outdoor.education@hants.gov.uk](mailto:outdoor.education@hants.gov.uk)





## Dates for Your Diary

This **Folklore Calendar** is useful for stories, sayings and customs, month by month.

Here are lots of events and activities coming up that can be used to support getting children active and learning outdoors!



### **Big Schools' Birdwatch** - January 5 to February 22 2021

A great data gathering and handling opportunity!

Children could sign up at home for the **Big Garden Birdwatch** (29-31 January).

Sign up by 22 January 2021 for **Grow Your Own Potatoes**



GYOP is a free hands-on growing project for primary schools. It teaches children how potatoes grow and how they fit into a healthy balanced diet. Schools that register can receive up to four free growing kits each containing everything they need to grow two crops of potatoes. After harvesting in June, schools can enter their weights online for a chance to win prizes for the school.

### **National Story Telling Week** - January 30 to February 6 2021

Why not go outside and tell stories or even act them out.



### **National Nest Box Week** - February 14 to February 21 2021

Run by the British Trust for Ornithology, it aims to encourage people to put up nest boxes to help breeding birds.

Why not have a go at making your own nestboxes and putting them up around your school grounds?



### **Fairtrade Fortnight** - 22 February to 7 March 2021

Lots of resources available to help schools teach and learn about the climate crisis and how it affects farmers in different parts of the world.



### **British Science Week** - March 5 to March 14 2021

This year's theme is 'Innovating for the Future' and activity packs will be available from January.

### **Hampshire Outdoors Outdoor Conference for Primary Schools** - March 19 2021.

To be held at Stubbington Study Centre, Fareham, the theme is 'Discovery on your Doorstep' with a focus on using the school grounds and local area to deliver exciting outdoor learning across the whole curriculum.



### **Earth Day** - 22nd April 2021

This is the annual event dedicated to awareness about the various environmental challenges that face our planet.

