



Early Childhood
Outdoors

Forest Kindergarten: Local Nature Play – People, Place, Pedagogy
Revised and adapted for the practitioner training

PEOPLE

- 1. Local Nature Play is relevant and responsive to all communities, focusing on their specific contexts and circumstances.**

L.O 2 Understand the different methods of engaging staff, parents, volunteer helpers and the wider community.

- 2. Local Nature Play is centrally about empowering early years practitioners, enabling them to extend their daily practice.**

L.O 1 Understand the equipment required to undertake activity in a woodland/greenspace site.

L.O 3 Be able to explain how to effectively communicate with children before, during and after their nature play sessions.

L.O 3 Be able to develop routines for going outdoors through safety games and activities.

PLACE

- 3. Local Nature Play emphasises relationships with locality and community in building the foundations of belonging to society.**

L.O 1 Understand the benefits of visiting woodlands and less built-up spaces for early years provision.

L.O 4 Understand the different roles and responsibilities for risk management and liability.

- 4. Local Nature Play equally emphasises close relationships with the natural world in providing firm foundations for feelings of belonging in nature and planet Earth as a whole.**

L.O 2 Understand Local Nature Play approach to ecological responsibility in the outdoors.

L.O 3 Be able to conduct a site audit and survey for a woodland or greenspace for its suitability for regular nature play visits.

PEDAGOGY - EARLY YEARS

- 5. The value and benefits of playing in nature for child wellbeing, holistic development and citizenship are understood by the practitioner and full explored on the training and through submitted course documentation.**

L.O 2 Be able to observe and reflect upon children's experiences during a nature play session.

6. Well-informed and robust Early Years, Play and Nature pedagogy guide all of the activities, experiences and planning that participants undertake in training and subsequently offer their children in Local Nature Play.

L.O 1 Understand how the Local Nature Play Leader can prepare and provide for nature-based playful experiences.

(Note 1: Principle 7 & 8 relate to the trainers and adult professional development: See Guiding Principles for Trainer document)