



MISSION

"Creating environments for healthy human development and a healthy biosphere for generations to come."

Natural Learning Initiative **Activity Areas**

Creating environments for healthy human development and a healthy biosphere for generations to come

Design Assistance

Childcare/development centers, schools, museums, zoos, botanical gardens, nature centers, park & recreation systems, and residential neighborhoods—everyday places of children and families.





Starting in year zero

Biophilia

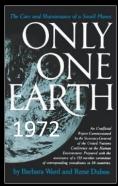
LOVING

UNDERSTANDIN §

Planet Earth

Born

Curious





Through childhood / youth engagement with nature

Evolutionary time





? Digital Age

99.9999% in nature

0.0001% in city

Juliana v. United States

Juliana v. United States

MEET THE YOUTH PLAINTIFFS

Click on their portraits to learn more about ea



Eugene, Oregon



Satellite Beach, Flor





Jaime Butler, 18 Flagstaff, Arizona

ALL SPECIES KNOWN & UNKNOWN

BIOSPHERE

ALL ANIMAL LIFE

SOCIAL/CULTURAL/ RACIAL/ETHNIC/

KIN

SELF



Kapaa, Kava'i,



Rayne, Louisiana



Research evidence

Green & blue are good for you!

- Physical activity increased (Sallis et al, 1993)
- Attention functioning improved (Faber Taylor et al, 2001; Grahn et al,
- Executive functioning, self-regulation enhanced (Kaplan & Ber
- Cognitive abilities enhanced (Wells, 2000)
- Attention deficit symptoms reduced (Kuo & Taylor, 2004)
- Gross motor development supported (Grahn et al, 1997)
- Sickness reduced (Grahn et al, 1997)
- Richer play stimulated (Boldemann, 2006)
- Stress reduced (Wells & Evans, 2003).
- Smarter, healthier, happier kids result (Burdette & Whitaker, 2005).
- Environmental stewards as adults (Chawla 2006).
- Myopia risk reduced (Rose et al 2008).



Environmental diversity, micro-organisms, asthma & allergies



"Hygiene Hypothesis"

Children who lived on farms had lower prevalence of asthma and allergies.

Children exposed to greater variety of environmental micro-organisms than children in reference group.

Markus J. Ege et.al, 2011

Environmental biodiversity = stronger immune system & allergic protection



Lehtimäki (2018) Skin microbiota and allergic symptoms associate with exposure to environmental microbes Gensollen, et al (2016). How colonization by microbiota in early life shapes the immune system. Ruokolainen, et al (2015). Green areas around homes reduce atopic sensitization in children.

Haahtela, et al (2013). The biodiversity hypothesis and allergic disease: World Allergy Organization position statement. Ilkka Hanskia et al. 2012

North Carolina State University © All righ

Environmental diversity & brain development



Neuroscience shows that interaction with the environment improves the structure, chemistry, and function of the brain.

Dr. Mark Rosenzweig, UC, Berkeley

Ensuring sensory richness indoors/outdoors

Brain Cells

Fruit fly 100,000 cells

Mouse 5 million cells

Monkey 10 billion cells

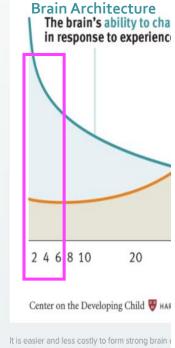
100 billion cells HUMAN

Millions of brain cell connections on a pinhead

Newborn child M 253

Eight-month-old M 572

Twelve-year-old M 354



Center on the Develor HARVARD UNIVERSITY

WHAT IS EPIGENETICS?

AND HOW DOES IT RELATE TO (HILD DEVELOPMENT?

"Epigenetics" is an emerging area of scientific research that shows how environmental influences-children's experiences-actually affect the expression of



During development, the DNA that makes up our genes accumulates chemical marks that determine how much or little of the genes is expressed. This collection of chemical marks is known as the "enigenome." The different experiences children have rearrange those chemical marks. This explains why genetically identical twins can exhibit different behaviors, skills,



idea that genes are "set in stone" has Nature vs. Nurture is no longer a debate. It's near



EPIGENETICS EXPLAINS HOW EARLY EXPERIENCES CAN HAVE LIFELONG IMPACTS.



inherit from their biological parents provide information that guides their development. For example how tall they could eventually become or the kind of temperament they could have



epigenetic marks that govern gene expression, they can change whether and how genes release the



Thus, the epigenome can be affected by positive experiences, such as supportive relationships and opportunities for learning.



toxins or stressful life circumstances .

which leave a unique epigenetic "signature" on the genes. These signatures can be temporary or permanent and both types affect how easily the genes are switched on or off. Recent research demonstrates that there may be ways to reverse certain negative changes and restore healthy functioning. But the very best strategy is to support responsive relationships and reduce stress to build strong brains from the beginning.

YOUNG BRAINS ARE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO EPIGENETIC CHANGES.

Experiences very early in life, when the brain is developing most rapidly, cause enigenetic adaptations that influence whether, when, and how genes release their instructions for building future capacity for health. skills, and resilience. That's why it's crucial to provide supportive and nurturing experiences for young children in the

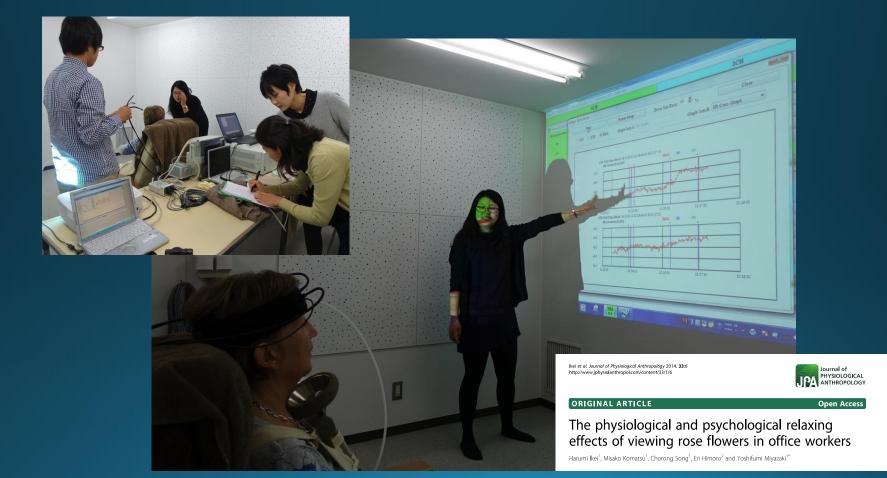


health care for all pregnant women, infants, and toddlers as well as support for new parents and caregivers affect the chemistry around children's genes, Supportive relationships and rich learning experiences enerate positive pigenetic signatures that activate

genetic potential

Center on the Developing Child W HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Miyazaki Lab, Chiba University, Japan



Nature-Based Solutions (NBS)

"Enhancing sustainable urbanisation ... can stimulate economic growth as well as improving the environment, making cities more attractive, and enhancing human well-being."

(Nesshöver et al., 2017)

Carsten Nesshöver, Timo Assmuthe, Katherine N. Irvine f, Graciela M. Rusch h, Kerry A. Waylenf, Ben Delbaere, Dagmar Haase, Lawrence Jones-Walters I, Hans Keune m, Eszter Kovacs, Kinga Krauze, Mart Külvik, Freddy Rey, Jiska van Dijk, Odd Inge Vistad, Mark E. Wilkinson, Heidi Wittmer. 2017 Science of the Total Environment 579 (2017) 1215-1227



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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/scitotenv

The science, policy and practice of nature-based solutions: An interdisciplinary perspective



Carsten Nesshöver ^{a,d,*}, Timo Assmuth ^e, Katherine N. Irvine ^f, Graciela M. Rusch ^h, Kerry A. Waylen ^f, Ben Delbaere ^j, Dagmar Haase ^{c,k}, Lawrence Jones-Walters ^l, Hans Keune ^m, Eszter Kovacs ^{n,o}, Kinga Krauze ^p, Mart Külvik ^q, Freddy Rey ^r, Jiska van Dijk ^h, Odd Inge Vistad ⁱ, Mark E. Wilkinson ^g, Heidi Wittmer ^b

- a UFZ-Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Department of Conservation Biology & UFZ Science-Policy Expert Group, Permoser Str. 15, 04318 Leipzig, Germany
- b UFZ-Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Department of Environmental Politics & UFZ Science-Policy Expert Group, Permoser Str. 15, 04318 Leipzig, Germany
- C UFZ-Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Department of Computational Landscape Ecology, Permoser Str. 15, 04318 Leipzig, Germany
- d iDiv German Centre for integrative Biodiversity Research Halle-Jena-Leipzig, Deutscher Platz 5e, 04103 Leipzig, Germany
- e Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE) Environmental Policy Centre, PO Box 140, FI-00251 Helsinki, Finland
- f Social, Economic and Geographical Sciences, The James Hutton Institute, Craigiebuckler, Aberdeen AB15 8QH, United Kingdom
- Environmental and Biochemical Sciences, The James Hutton Institute, Craigiebuckler, Aberdeen AB15 8QH, United Kingdom
- h Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Terrestrial Ecology Department, PO Box 5685, Sluppen, 7485 Trondheim, Norway
- Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Herrestrian Ecology Department, Folkelgarden, 2624 Lillehammer, Norway
- ECNC-European Centre for Nature Conservation, PO Box 90154, 5000 LG Tilburg, The Netherlands
- k Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Institute of Geography, Lab for Landscape Ecology, Rudower Chaussee 16, 12489 Berlin, Germany
- Wageningen Environmental Research (Alterra), Wageningen UR, Wageningen Campus, PO Box 47, 6700 Wageningen, The Netherlands
- ^m INBO & Belgian Biodiversity Platform & University of Antwerp, Kliniekstraat 25, 1070 Brussels, Belgium
- n Szent István University, Institute of Nature Conservation and Landscape Management. Páter K. u. 1., H-2100 Gödöllő, Hungary
- ^o Environmental Social Science Research Group (ESSRG), Rómer Flóris u. 38, Budapest H-1024, Hungary
- P European Regional Centre for Ecohydrology of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Tylna 3, 90-364 Lodz, Poland
- ^q Estonian University of Life Sciences, Institute of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Kreutzwaldi 1, Tartu 51014, Estonia
- ¹ Univ. Grenoble Alpes, Irstea, UR EMGR, 2 rue de la Papeterie, BP 76, 38402 Saint-Martin-d'Hères, France

HIGHLIGHTS

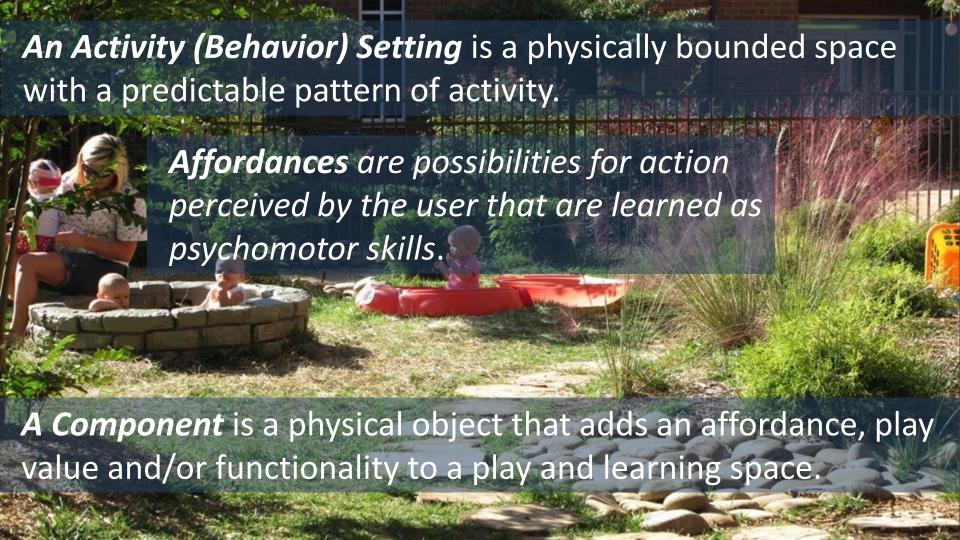
- · Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) is a new term in environmental research and management.
- · NBS has connections to other concepts for managing and understanding ecosystems.
- · Existing experiences provide crucial insights on potential and pitfalls of NBS.
- . The multiple dimensions of sustainability provide a framework to plan and assess NBS.
- NBS holds a potential for both stimulating and preventing economic developments.

Environmental Quality = Experiential quality

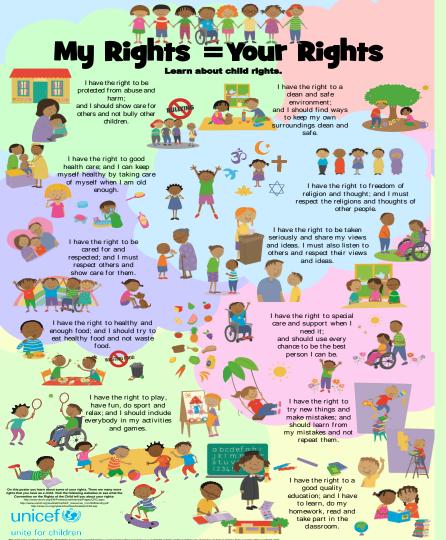


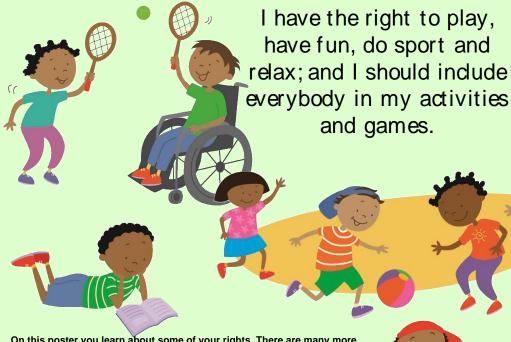
Friendly Ave. Christian School, Greensboro, NO











On this poster you learn about some of your rights. There are many more rights that you have as a child. Visit the following websites to see what the Convention on the Rights of the Child tell you about your rights:

http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx http://www.unicef.org/southafrica/SAF_resources_crochildfriendly.pdf http://www.un.org/cyberschoolbus/treaties/child.asp



unite for children

Text: André Viviers and Mari Payne (UNICEF) Illustrations: Sandy Lightley (sandy@theartdept.co.za) through Sparx Media (www.illustrators.co.za) Concept on Rights





THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Illustrated version by artists from Latin America and the Caribbean

Celebrating 30 YEARS

of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

18, 19 and 20 november 2019Palais des Nations (UN), Geneva, Switzerland

Célébration des 30 ans de la Convention des Droits de l'Enfant

les 18, 19 et 20 novembre 2019 Palais des Nations (ONU), Genève

More information and detailed programme at www.childrightshub.org

Plus d'information et programme détaillé sur www.childrightshub.org















PROTECTION FROM

EXPLOITATION

CHILDREN IN

DETENTION

PROTECTION

IN WAR

CONVENTION ON THE

RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

RECOVERY AND

REINTEGRATION

CHILDREN WHO

BREAK THE LAW

REST, PLAY, PROTECTION FROM CULTURE, ARTS HARMFUL WORK

EVERYONE MUST

RIGHTS

KNOW CHILDREN'S

BEST LAW FOR CHILDREN APPLIES



CONVENTION

PROTECTION FROM

SEXUAL ABUSE

PREVENTION

OF SALE AND TRAFFICKING

SUSTAINABLE GEALS DEVELOPMENT GEALS

Making cities safer, healthier, greener, and friendlier for children





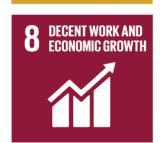
























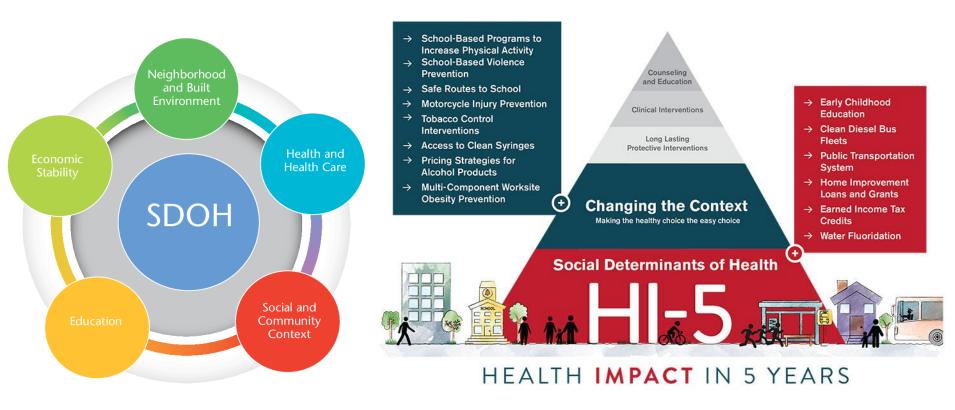








Social Determinants of Health (WHO)



SUSTAINABLE CULTURE:

Integrating CRC, SDG, & SDH



M Sust Conve

"By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, particularly for women and **children**, older persons and persons with disabilities" (Target 11.7).



ne Child

BUILDING CHILD FRIENDLY CITIESA Framework for Action

For every child Health, Education, Equality, Protection ADVANCE HUMANITY



DECLARATION OF THE CHILDHOOD

BY THE CHILDREN OF CASCAIS

CASCAIS



WHAT DOES IT MEAN

BELONGS TO THE CITY?





- > A city Poe all
- > A united city.
- > For me it is a city with peace, Preedom and that teaches us.
- > Is a city with respect.
- > Is a cheerful town because people are Priendly and supportive and help to overcome difficulties and problems.
- It is a city that knows how to teach
- Give value to people.
- All people are special.
- Feel comportable and happy
- For me it is to have Preedom, to belong to everything and to have Pun and play Pun
- Quervone can stay here. Por example. an english person, an spanish or chinese
- Belongs to the city is: "Preedom and respect".
- Have a Pamily.
- Haue a home.
- > It means play with others.
- > The animals of this city are all well treated, ped and never beaten or abandone d
- > In this city we love nature and so we respect the environment.
- > It is knowing how to help others when they
- > Where they like us as we are.
- > There are Pun mistakes.
- > Be attentive to everyone.
- > There are artists.
- > People ride bikes in the city.
- > It's having home. Priends and a boat to travel
- > It means sowing seeds through the city.
- > Share our things more with the neighbors. Give our best to help.
- > Let's all live in a bia house instead of every Pamily in your house.
- > Live in a joy Pul place, where you love and where we opper and learn.
- > Is to live harry Por ever
- > Have beautiful people inside, people with more galues.
- > There is madic and we can create Priends. There is no one without Driends in a world without Priendship we were all sad.
- > Live in peace, without confusion. The bad became good and there was no war like

- > It's a city that contributed to all work together
- > For me, living in the educating city would be areat to play alone without Pears and see all people happy ... it would be so good that ! can't even explain
- > It's like a string because my mom raise me and I will educate my Priends and they will e ducate other Priends.
- > It is a city where all come together to get what they want (...) taking a duantage of what each has to opper and shape

- > It is an evolved city because all citizens collaborate with each other
- > It is a city where the old people are not sad and alone because every day the children
- > The old people could also teach children because they already know many things and could even be teachers' assistants

will talk to them.

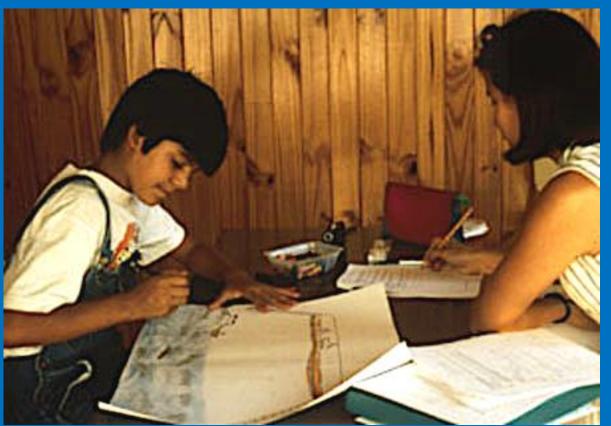
> The animals were not lept on the street. they were taken to dipperent kennels, which had no walls but rather glasses so that the animals could be watching the street and

in Syria.

- > Have a city in solidarity with the Pamily, with the repugees, with the elderly, who share smiles and hugs.
- > It is being able to be Pree, curious and is to learn more about your city, is to belong
- > Challenge and be challenged to be a better person every day.
- > Live it. Peel it, be part of it!
- > Collaborate so that everything works well Por everyone and everything
- > Respect the dipperences of everyone from the youngest to the oldest. Priends and to arow with the city.
- > Learn in the city, with the city and with the people.
- > It is Preedom. For example: learning to go shopping have a like of freedom and never end our will.
- > Respect the disabled and help them.
- > Have a city to care for and have a city that takes care opus
- > We want a safer and happier city, we want to have lots of Priends, not be arraid to trust others.
- > It means that the city is also ours, we must be able to build things that interest us and not accept what we do not want.
- > Recognize our mistakes and try not to repeat.
- > It's walking Aree.
- > Be one among thousands It is to be welcomed and welcome to others.
- > It is to have something inside us that makes us different and makes the city grow.
- > Haue work, commitment, respect and
- > It also means like of what you do and what

- > Belongs to a city means having a good life.
- > It is to be able to give our opinion and not be left out. It is to be heard It's having a place to be, where I can choose what I want to be.
- It's have the opportunity to grow and be something more than ourselves it is knowing how to live this city.
- > It's people being inspired.
- > Identify yourself with your engironment, the routine and values of those who inhabit it.
- > For me to belong to the city is very good. because I help the city.
- > To be born there, to live there, to make
- > The city where I live helps me learn new
- legends and stories.
- For me to belong to the city is to be happy, to live rested in a place like this. > It is sharing with other people everything
- the site oppers.
- > It's about being happy and playing together
- > It's a place where we can see the view > It is good to belong to a place that I have
- always liked and will always live here.
- > It is living with a lot of people and being able to learn from them.
- > It's Aun to be with so many Poreign people.
- > flike to live in a village where freel good and where everyone says, "good morning"
- > Trappic signs educate my mother to better guide and educate other people as well
- > Belonging to an educating city is knowing how to be happy, seizing time rather than
- > Sometimes other people say that we are not from here, but in Pact, we belong to the city. Participate actively in its evolution: Know its history: Depend your present and worry about the Puture.

THE CHILD'S OPINION

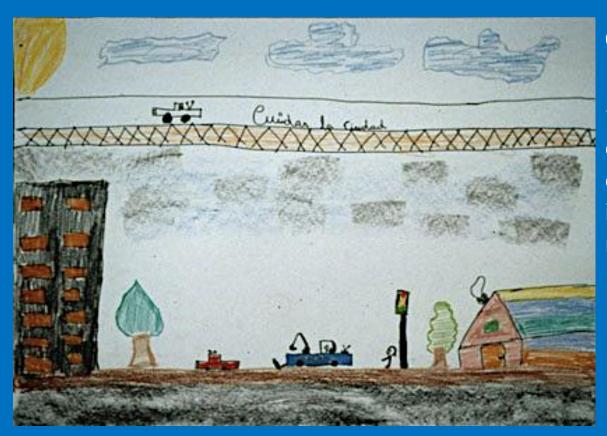


CRC Article 12

"The child has the right to express his or her opinion freely and to have that opinion taken into account in any matter or procedure affecting the child."

Conducting the GUIC interview, Buenos Aires

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION



CRC Article 13

"The child has the right to express his or her views, obtain information, make ideas or information known, regardless of frontiers."

Child's drawing of Boca-Barracas Buenos Aires

FREEDOM OF THOUGHT, CONSCIENCE AND RELIGION



Place as a Person — Personscape © Neighborhood as Childhood Habitat Workshop Buenos Aires

CRC Article 14

"The State shall respect the child's right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, subject to appropriate parental guidance."

Child-led urban safaris (building rapport — sometimes with parents tagging along)



Research and data collection

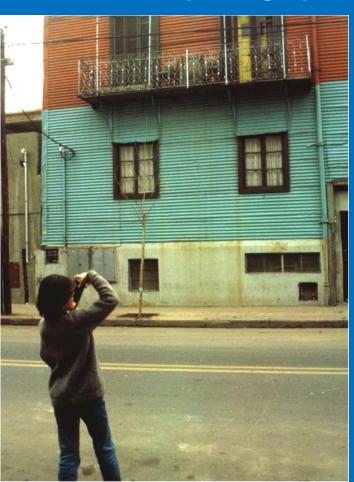




Interviewing peers

Interviewing adults

Child-taken photographs





The Convention on the Rights of the Child

AIMS OF EDUCATION



Investigating of potential building site Neighborhood as Childhood Habitat Workshop Buenos Aires

CRC Article 29

"Education shall aim at developing the child's personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to the fullest extent. Education shall prepare the child for an active adult life in a free society and foster respect for the child's parents, his or her own cultural identity, language and values, and for the cultural background and values of others."

Identifying problems, finding solutions



GUIC follows participatory principles, facilitating children to express their perspectives, to identify environmental problems, propose solutions, and communicate recommendations for application in urban design and planning policy.

Plaza Design: Neighborhood as Childhood Habitat Workshop Buenos Aires

Creating an exhibition: My Neighborhood is Like That!







HAPTER TWO

Our Neighbourhood is Like That!

Cultural Richness and Childhood Identity in Boca-Baraccas, Buenos Aires

Nilda Cosco and Robin Moore

Young people in Boca-Barracas, the historic port district of Buenos Aires, described their lives and neighbourhoods through a variety of Growing Up in Cities methods. They revealed the 'paradoxical poverty' of an area of low material resources that is nevertheless rich in settings where its young people can play a vital role in the social and cultural life of their community. A community action programme was created based on the children's insights and priorities, which has inspired reflection on issues of governance related to the rights of children in the urban environment, as well as a discussion.

Community-Based Design Process



Community-Based Design Process



Heritage Park Residential Community

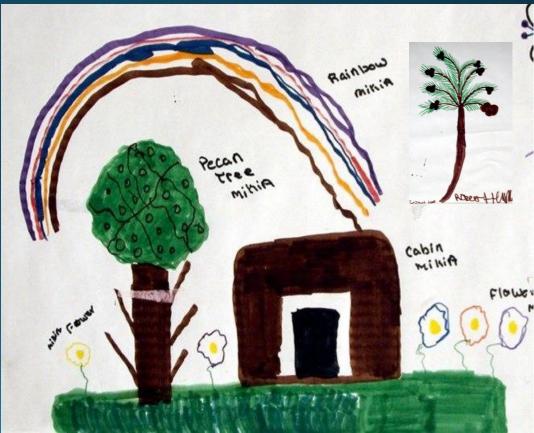
Engaging children in community commons design

Raleigh North Carolina, USA









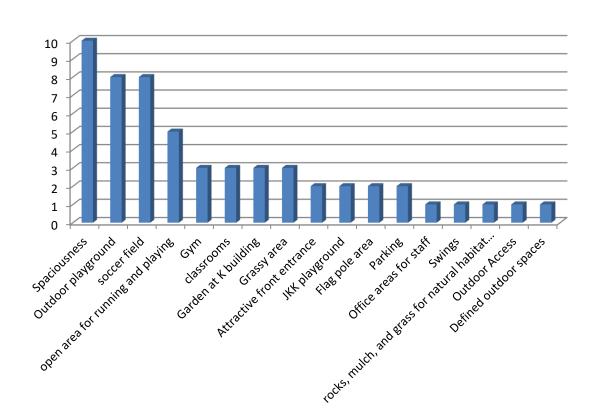
ADOLESCENCE: 13 -17 years (CRC) + 18 & 19





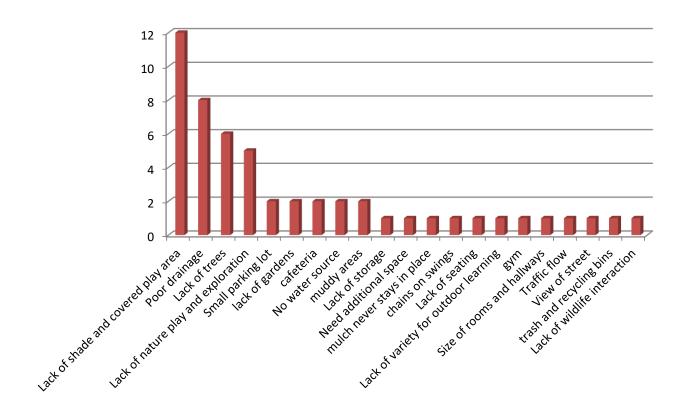
TEACHERS: EXISTING CONDITIONS

Please share up to five aspects of the existing School Grounds that you <u>like</u>:



TEACHERS: EXISTING CONDITIONS

Please share up to five aspects of the existing School Grounds that you do not like:



Strawberry Fields

The Outdoor Learning Center at Seth Boyden School



Design Program



December 2001

Prepared by The Natural Learning Initiative, College of Design, NC State University









Urban Childhood Habitat Infrastructure

- 1. Residential areas.
- 2. Childcare / child development centers
- 3. Schools (public & independent)
- Nonformal education institutions:
 - Children's gardens
 - Museums/children's museums
 - Zoos
 - Nature centers/botanical gardens/arboreta
- 5. Urban parks / playgrounds, green infrastructure
- Pathway networks: Sidewalks, bikeways, green streets, greenways, urban trails

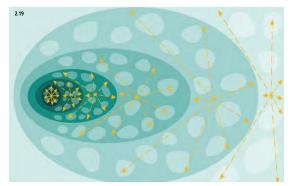


Play in the streets

Playwork (Brinconauta) comes to Cascais & Lisbon



Nature relations – infancy to adolescence



Territorial Expansion with Age

Infancy

Sensory exposure to the wonders of nature.

(Birth-18 months)*

- Intimate, smallscale, multi-sensory surroundings.
- Ground level exploration of diverse surfaces and objects.
- Sitting, crawling, learning to walk, exercising body control.
- Uneven ground surfaces challenging.
- Overhead objects stimulate eye exercise.
- · Reaching to objects.
- Listening, imitating natural sounds.

Toddlerhood

Differentiating natural objects and phenomena.

(18-36 months)*

- Expanding territorial scale.
- Additional motor skills: run, jump, balance, pedal.
- Ground level activity still important.
- Hands-on sensory exploration/ experimentation.
- Observing, following small creatures, insects, birds.
- Naming objects, plants, animals, weather.
- Learning where food comes from.
- Parallel play changes to small group interaction.

Primary School

Discovering and understanding the great outdoors.

(3-7 years)*

- Greatly expanded territorial scale.
- Spatial limits negotiated with adults.
- Motor skills extend movement complexity.
- · Risk-taking, daring.
- Social, cooperative play, shared experience.
- Discover, understand cycles of life, seasons.
- Gardening.
- Enjoy children's nature literature.
- Cultural expression of nature in music, drama.

Middle Childhood

The halcyon days of childhood in nature. (8–11 years)*

` ,

- Territorial scale highly variable.
- Can navigate residential neighborhood and beyond.
- Bicycle riding, skating, sledding, climbing, etc.
- Interest in collecting and classifying natural objects.
- Want to feel useful.
- · Construction skills.
- Motivated by hands-on, ambitious STEAM projects.
- Creativity, imagination through nature.

Adolescence

Nature as a vehicle for personal development.

(12–17 years)*

- Nature as a place for social interaction.
- Individual talents nurtured by nature.
- Emotional expression through nature.
- Engaged by environmental/ conservation issues.
- · Leadership skills emerge.
- Facilitate activities of younger groups.

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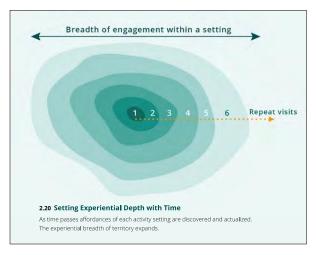
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Deep, memorable relations through repeated hands-on experiences











Urban Green Space and Health: Intervention Impacts and Effectiveness

Report of a meeting Bonn, Germany

20-21 September 2016

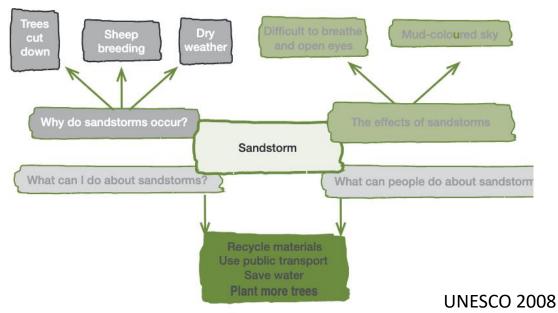


SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL EMPATHY WITH EACH OTHER & THE REST OF LIFE

Real problem approach

What is the connection of sandstorms and trees?

Young children live in the real world in which they will face many real problems related to s development. Taking these real problems or questions as the starting point, the project active be organized in order to give them the opportunity to participate in society, to express their ow and to find solutions. The following network shows the project activities of 'Sandstorm'. S occur every spring in Beijing. The kindergarten teachers initiated the project (see Figure 2). The by 5- to 6-year-old children (see below, photos 1-8) show their understanding and solutions to problems.



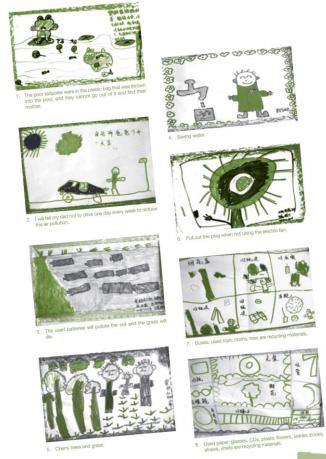


Figure 2. The 'Sandstorm' project.



MIDDLE CHILDHOOD: 8 -12 years



Child-Nature Relatio

Informal, spontaneous play – Open with biodiverse spaces away from a

Neither ends of means fixed. Stimul

- Physical health
- Creativity
- Sensory integration
- Positive social relations
- Agency / locus of control
- Tacit knowledge
- Construction of knowledge throundirected attention.

Formal instruction – mainly indoors

Nonformal learning – Interaction w direct, intentional and sustained.

Moore and Wong, 1997.







- The importance of Hort woods
- Improving the campus environment / Healing the site
- Providing opportunities for environmental education





Process

- Goal Setting / Vision
- Working within PSU
- Programming
- Design Charrette
- The design team





- Replacing the parking lot with the center
- Saving trees / Expanding the Woods
- Creating connections to Nature





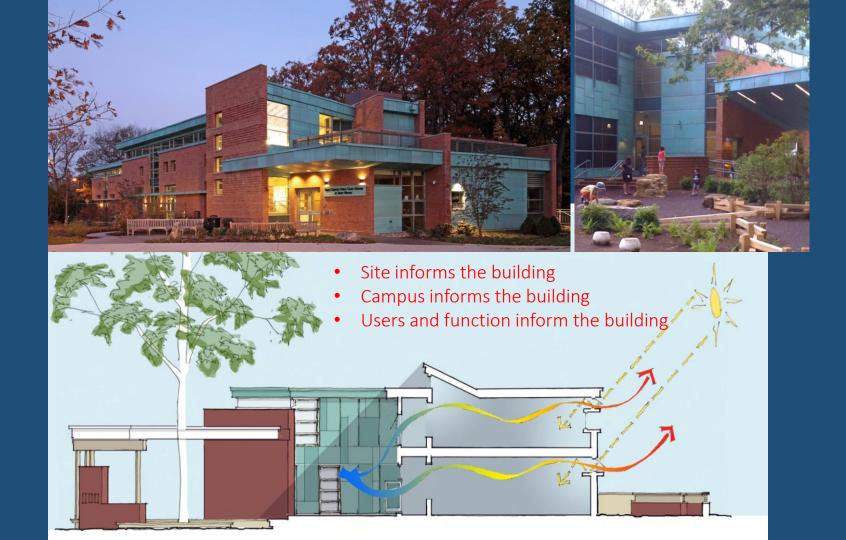
Affordance, behavior/activiy setting; time, space, and child development











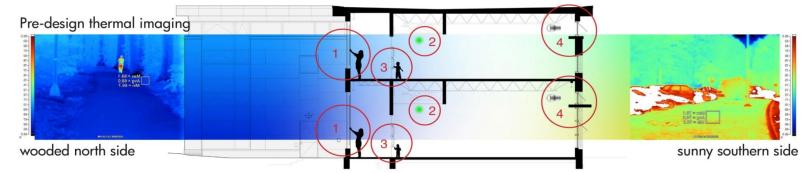


Step by step process in which both children and staff work together to activate the passive cooling system











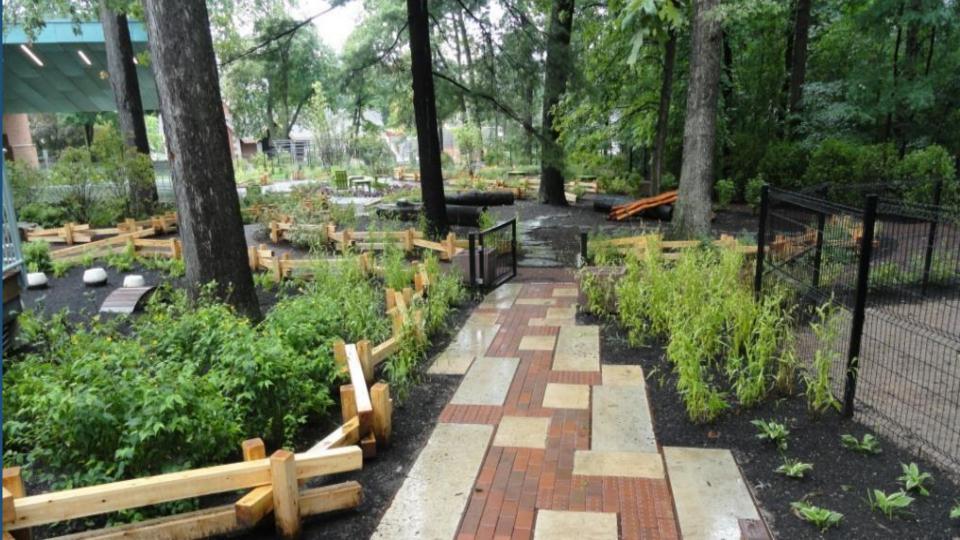
















OUTDOOR COMPONENTS FOR PLAYING AND LEARNING Natural & Manufactured / Fixed & Loose

Natural & Manufactured / Fixed & Loose				
	NATURAL	MANUFACTURED	MIXED	

Χ

Χ

FIXED

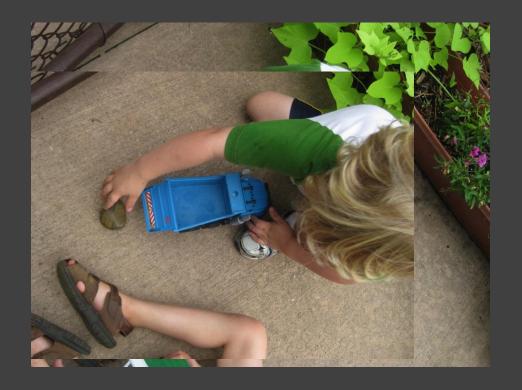
LOOSE

MIXED

- Fixed and loose:
- Manufactured and Natural.









Manufactured portable







INFANTS: 6 weeks to around 12 months.



















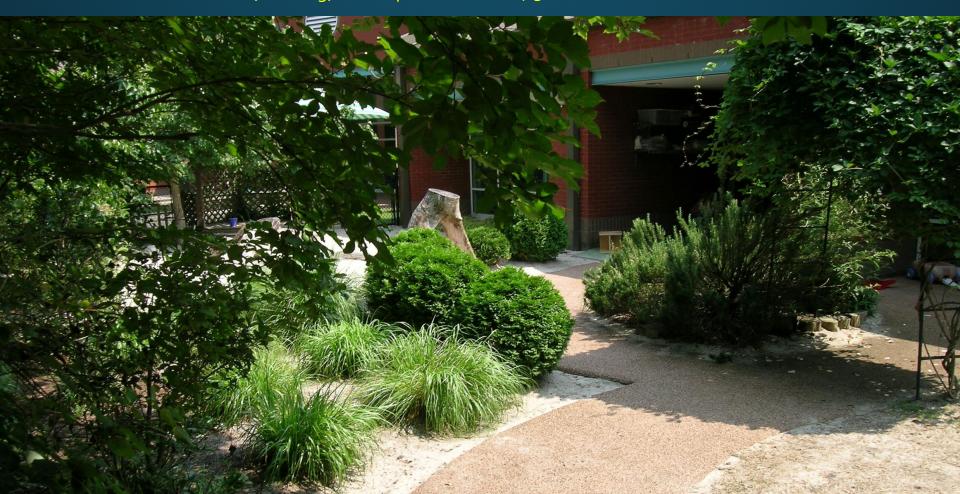








TODDLERS: >12 months, walking, still diapers. TWOS: 24-36 months















Gardening as a vehicle for interdisciplinary learning

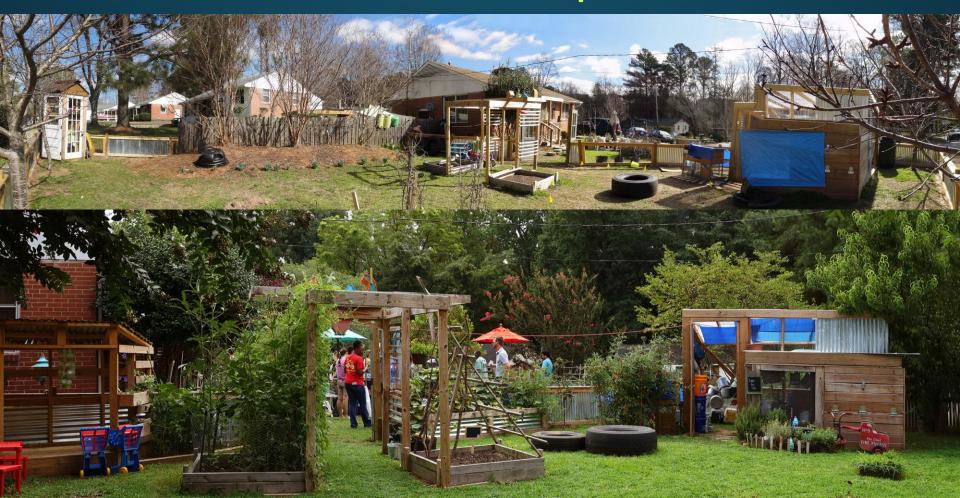








Incremental Development

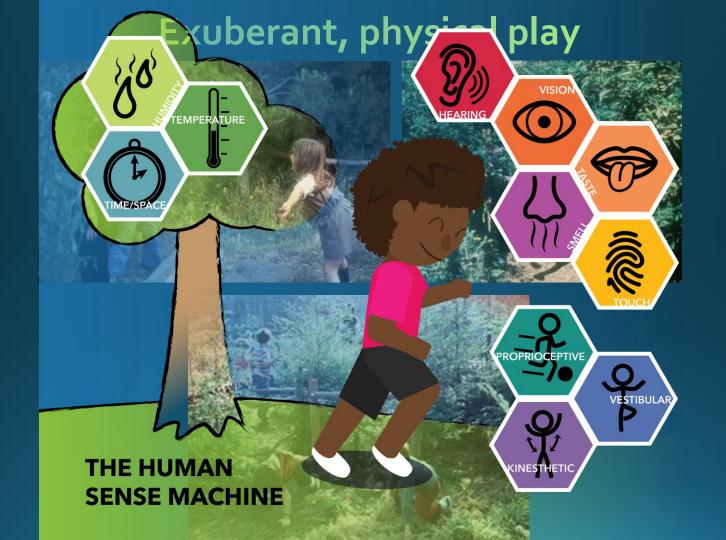


Incremental Development







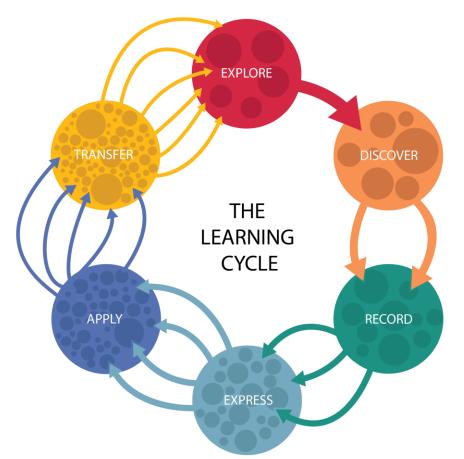


Natural "free" play and construction



Floral play and learning



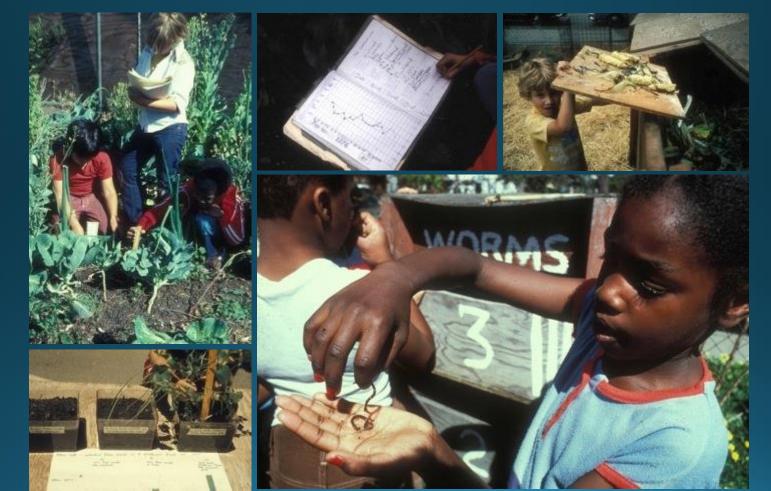




Nature motivates active, focused learning



Learning through gardening



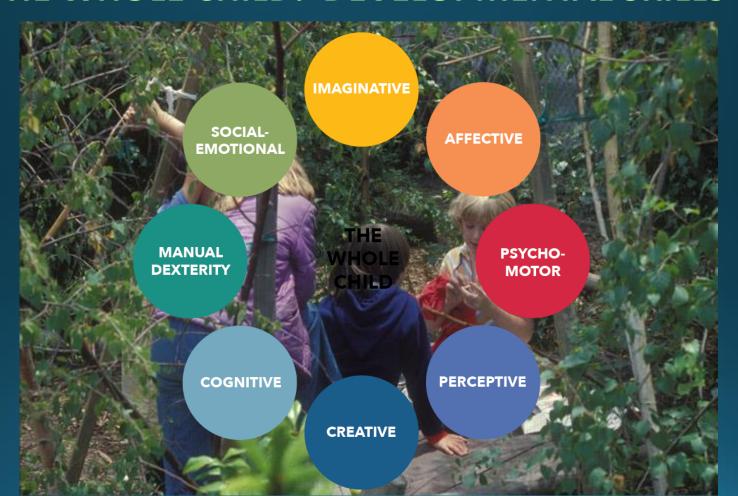
HANDS-ON INTEGRATED LEARNING



UNDERSTANDING ECOLOGICAL CONCEPTS



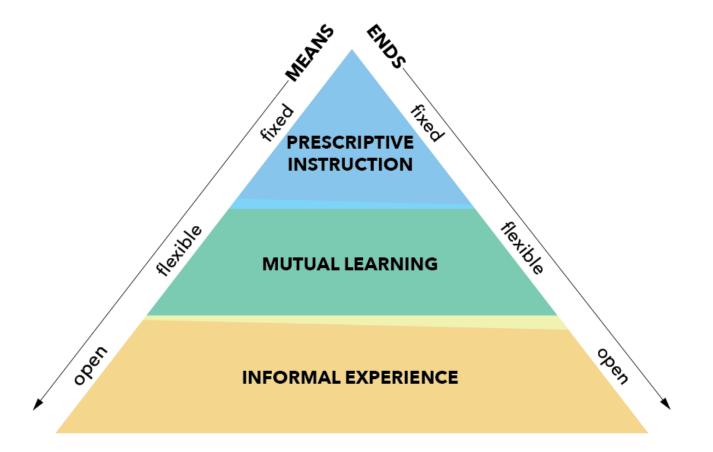
THE WHOLE CHILD: DEVELOPMENTAL SKILLS



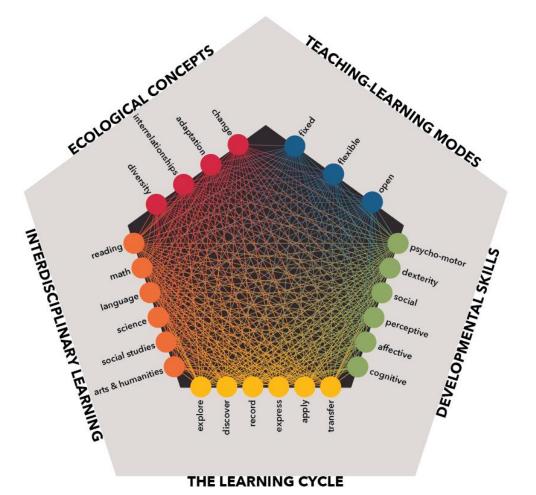
Play > learning > education continuum



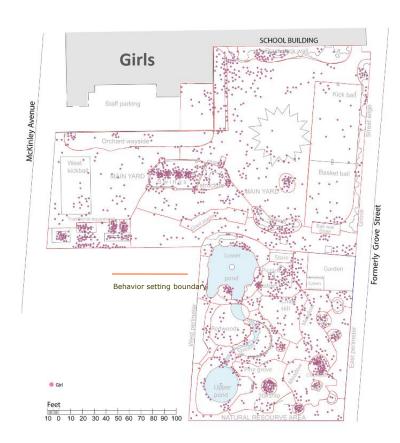
TEACHING / LEARNING MODES

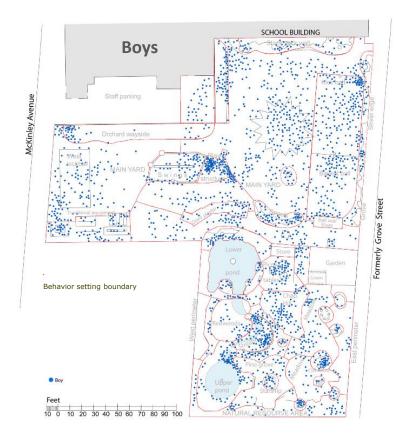


THE CURRICULUM SWITCHBOARD



Behavior maps by gender





Play and learning activity settings

- Welcoming entrance
- Indoor-outdoor transition
- Pathways
- Gathering space
- Arbors, pergolas,
- & trellises
- Multipurpose lawn
- Sand & earth play
- Water play
- Decks and stages
- Tunnel
- Playhouse
- Sensory garden
- Grass maze
- Rain garden

- Vegetable garden
- Garden shed
- Animal habitat garden
- Play hills and topography
- Play structure
- Loose parts and play props
- Outdoor storage
- Acoustic play
- Project space
- Outdoor classroom
- Performance space
- Grove (small trees/large shrubs)
- Cut flower garden

Environmental Yard Ecosystem NATURAL RESOURCE AREA MAINYARD 3 Primary Zones 10 Behavior-Environment Ecosystems Play structures Ballplay areas 58 Activity Places Total Number of Activity 11 12 58 6 Places Percent Use 12 12 100 Percent Space 20 100 Use/Space Ratio 0.6 1.0 (USR)

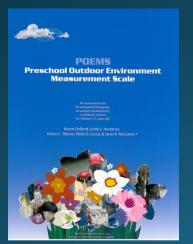
EVALUATION TOOLS

POEMS Preschool Outdoor Environment Measurement Scale

COLEQT Childcare Outdoor Environment Quality Tool

OMLET Outdoor Management of the Learning Environment Tool

E-BMAP Environment-Behavior Mapping Tool







	OMLET Outdoor Management of the Learning Environment Tool MANAGEMENT TOOL
	NL A Bright Horizons
	GENERAL INFORMATION
Please fill up the fo	
Name of the Center	
Location (City, State)	
Name of Coder	
Coding Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	
Two coders to through the C and systemat descriptors to When coding	g the OMLET coding Guide: sike predetermined, muste (one clockwise, the other anti-clockwise). LUL, using the Plad mourted tool (that includes an identical coding lati- cially check each item as "present/nor present" as well as the detailer or each item. I has been completed coders return to office.
	check that the reliability score is within the acceptable threshold.
results and to 4. Coders archiv	ve results on OMLET Website.

NLI Certificate Programs



For Designers



Audience

- Early childhood educators
- Technical Assistance providers
- Cooperative Extension Agents
- Master Gardeners
- Park and Recreation
 Professionals
- Volunteers working with early childhood institutions
- Designers

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