

Outdoor Classroom Day: How to fund outdoor learning and play all year round



Susie Smith- Development Manager

Susie Smith



Development Manager, Learning through Landscapes-November 2017

Primary and Secondary schools, FE Colleges, alternative and private establishments

Marketing, fundraising, education communications, programme development

- The Vegetarian Society
- North Trafford College/ Trafford College
- Schumacher College
- The University of Exeter's Environment and Sustainability Institute

Outdoor Classroom Day

a global campaign inspiring and celebrating outdoor learning and play

www.outdoorclassroomday.org.uk #OutdoorClassroomDay



Outdoor Classroom Day

a global campaign inspiring and celebrating outdoor learning and play

www.outdoorclassroomday.org.uk #OutdoorClassroomDay



- **OUTDOOR LEARNING PART OF EVERY SCHOOL DAY**

Outdoor learning is part of every school day for every child.

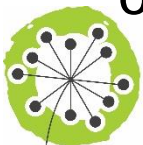


- **A CONSISTENT MINIMUM TARGET FOR PLAYTIME**

Every child has great playtime at school every day for at least 60 minutes, with the longer-term aim of 90 minutes.

- **SCHOOLS TO ADVOCATE FOR MORE TIME OUTDOORS**

Schools act as advocates for more time outdoors, so that outdoor play becomes part of every child's everyday life.





1,776,804
CHILDREN INVOLVED
GLOBALLY SO FAR

488,794
CHILDREN INVOLVED IN
THE UK & IRELAND SO
FAR

- Last year more than 3.5 million children in 28,000 schools took part across 100 countries
- Almost 500,000 children in the UK and ROI & 2 million globally- so far in 2019
- 4000 schools+ (UK and ROI)
- 800+ parents/ carers (UK and ROI)
- Thousands of organisational partners and supporters



DfE @educationgovuk
Today is #OutdoorClassroomDay! 🌿♻️ Is your school taking part?
It's an opportunity to explore your local greenspace's potential for learning. 🌻🌿
ow.ly/iKMj30oBbel

The Wildlife Trusts @WildlifeTrusts · 34m
It's #OutdoorClassroomDay! Our earliest childhood made outside, where we're free to explore. This Jun and schools are taking part in #30DaysWild, our mc
Join in! >> bit.ly/2WnZp0h

 A calendar for '30 DAYS WILD' with illustrations of various wildlife species for each day.


A catalyst for change...

2017/18 global survey of participating schools: experience of and opportunities for outdoor play and learning (n=629)

22% increased outdoor play and almost half (44%) increased outdoor learning as a result of participation

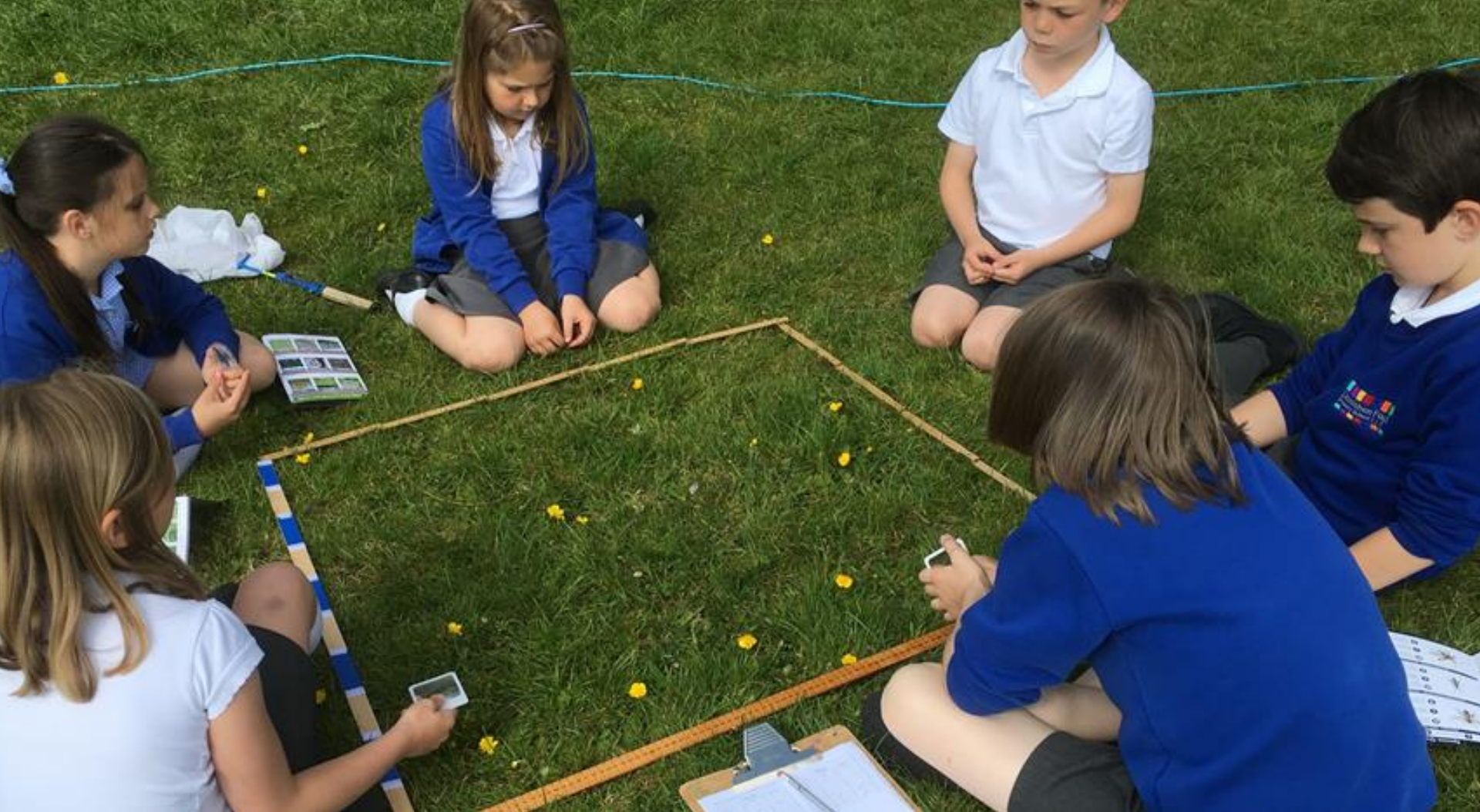
97% said that time to play outdoors is essential for children to reach their full potential

UK and ROI schools were clear about the impact of increased outdoor learning and play... (n=176)



83% told us children had a better understanding of the environment after playing outdoors





72% said that pupils' ability to concentrate improved after taking part in lessons outdoors



94% said pupils' social skills, imagination and creativity all improved after playing outdoors



90% said pupils' engagement in learning increased after taking part in lessons outdoors





91% said pupils were happier after taking part in lessons outdoors



Learning
through
Landscapes

Increase year-round outdoor learning and play with free/low-cost options





Culture change- normalise time outdoors

Upskill all staff- not just specialists

Build staff confidence- use free resources, peer-to-peer training, simple materials and in-kind support

Risk Benefit Analysis, not Risk Assessments. HSE: “...as safe as necessary, not as safe as possible”

Free support and lesson ideas:

www.ltl.org.uk/free-resources

www.ltl.org.uk/understanding-risk

www.outdoorclassroomday.org.uk/resources

Value different support

Advocacy

Introductions

Volunteers

In-kind donations





Paid-for resources can enhance impact



- Outdoor clothing and footwear
- Curriculum specific equipment and resources
- Loose parts play materials
- Site-development and maintenance- Inc. planting
- Staff training/cover
- Minibuses for visits to local greenspaces



Grant Funders...

- LtL Local School Nature Grants
- National Lottery Awards for All
- Tesco Bags of Help
- One Stop store- carriers for causes
- Moto in the Community
- Blue Spark Foundation Grants
- The Tree Council/ Woodland Trust-trees
- Biffa Funds (Landfill Tax)



...and some more

- Airport funds
- Local and national corporations (especially those with HQs in the local area)
- Community funds (see www.dsc.org.uk/funding-websites)
- Crowd sourcing

www.ltl.org.uk/membership/#free-membership Funding sources for schools

www.grants4Schools.info Membership discount

What do funders want to see?



- An authentic vision and a clear plan
- Participation of children and young people
- Health and wellbeing
- Strength based localism
- Potential impact
- Value and reliability

Top tips

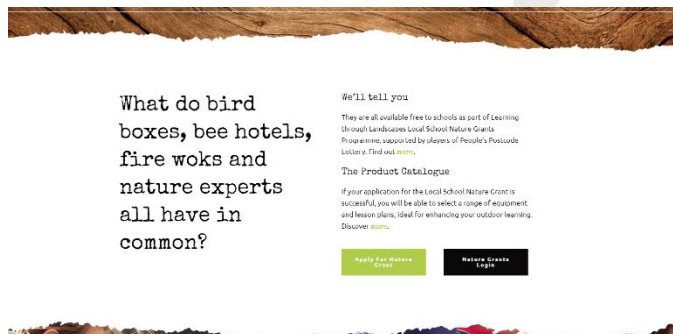
1. Do your research- check you're eligible
2. Speak to the funder if you're not sure
3. Tell your story with passion (and facts)
4. Be clear and concise
5. Give ALL the information requested
6. Be confident- you know your school
7. Invest time
8. Share your achievements during/after
9. Say thank you and involve funders
10. Keep records-don't start from scratch!



If you do just two things this week, encourage your school(s) to...

1) ...apply for an LtL Local School Nature Grant

www.ltl.org.uk/projects/local-school-nature-grants -current round closes midnight Friday 30 August



2) ...sign up now for Outdoor Classroom Day

www.outdoorclassroomday.org.uk – the next dates are Thursday 7 November and Thursday 21 May





Learning
through
Landscapes

Susie Smith ssmith@ltl.org.uk