

**Webinar: Integrating the Natural World into Early Learning Programs**  
**Presenter: Andrea Welz RECE**  
**Resource List**

**Why**

Children and Nature Network – Research Library <https://www.childrenandnature.org/research-library/>

Natural Start Alliance: Research <http://naturalstart.org/research>

Supports development in all the domains (Wells, 2000; Gorges, 1999; Faber Taylor, Kuo & Sullivan, 2001; Kellert, 2005)

Increased pro-social behaviours (Burdett & Whitaker, 2005; Dymont, 2006)

Emotional coping and stress reduction (Faber Taylor, Kuo, and Sullivan, 2001; Wells and Evans, 2003)

Enhanced creative play problem solving and critical thinking skills (Fjørtoft, 2001; Grahn, Mårtensson, Lindblad, Nilsson, & Ekman, 1997; Gorges, 1999; Kellert, 2005; Wells, 2000)

Physically and mentally healthier (Bell and Dymont, 2006; Fjørtoft, 2001; Grahn, Mårtensson, Lindblad, Nilsson, & Ekman, 1997)

Improves academic performance (American Institutes for Research, 2005; Gorges, 1999, Faber Taylor, Kuo & Sullivan, 2001)

Reduces symptoms of ADD (Kuo & Taylor, 2004)

Foundation for respect and connection with the rest of the natural world (Chawla, 1998; Cheng & Monroe, 2012; Kellert, 2005)

**NBEC Supports and Resource**

Rusty Keeler 20 Free Ways to Create Play Environments for the Soul <http://rustykeeler.com/20-ways-to-create>

Evergreen Foundation <https://www.evergreen.ca/>

Claire Warden Inc. <https://www.claire-warden.com/online-courses-and-webinars/> Claire Warden Courses and Webinars

Forest School Canada <http://childnature.ca/forest-school-canada/>

Pop-Up Adventure Play <https://popupadventureplaygrounds.wordpress.com/welcome/pop-up-adventure-playgrounds/>

Natural Start Alliance <http://naturalstart.org/>

Rhythm of Learning in Nature <https://tecribresearch.wordpress.com/2017/09/09/the-rhythm-of-learning-in-nature-a-knowledge-retreat/>

## Programs

Discovery Children's Centre (Winnipeg): <https://www.discoverycc.com/> (photos and videos are worth a look)

Natureground: school and community outdoor projects (featuring Dr. E.W. Coffin School in Calgary) [www.natureground.org](http://www.natureground.org)

St. Mary's French Immersion Catholic School Outdoor Learning (Sault Ste Marie)

- A Learning Journey <http://www.hscdsb.on.ca/?p=12113>
- Creating and Documenting in Natural Playscapes  
<https://stephaniefrancella.wixsite.com/outdoorplayscapes>

Wild Roots: Nature-based Early Childhood Family Collaborative (Sault Ste Marie)  
<http://www.littlelionswaldorf.ca/article/wild-roots--naturebased-early-childhood-family-collaborative-190.asp>

## Risk in Play: Food for thought

Ball, D., Gill, T., & Spiegel, B. (2008). *Managing Risk in Play Provision: Implementation guide*. Nottingham, U.K.: DCSF.

Gill, T. (2007). *No Fear. Growing Up in A Risk Averse Society*. London, U.K.: Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.

Rethinking Childhood <https://rethinkingchildhood.com>

Play Wales Chwarae Cymru. (2008). *A Playworker's Guide to Risk*. Retrieved from Play Wales: [www.playwales.org.uk](http://www.playwales.org.uk)

Skenazy, L. (2009). *Free-range Kids. How to Raise Safe, Self-Reliant Children*. CA: Jossey-Bass.

## Wild Pedagogy Resources

Wild Pedagogies. Touchstones for Re-Negotiating Education and the Environment in the Anthropocene (released this summer) <https://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9783319901756>

Jickling, B., Blenkinsop, S., Morse, M., and Jensen, A. (2018). *Wild Pedagogies: Six Initial Touchstones for Early Childhood Environmental Educators*, 2018.  
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/australian-journal-of-environmental-education/article/wild-pedagogies-six-initial-touchstones-for-early-childhood-environmental-educators/10E590828EB51E17BB79900869313B85>

## References

- Carter, M., & Curtis, D. (2010). *Reflecting Children's Lives: A Handbook for Planning Child-Centered Curriculum*. N.J.: Pearson Education.
- Chawla, L. (1998). Children's concern for the natural environment. *Children's Environmental Quarterly*, 5(3), 3-20.
- Chawla, L. (2006). Learning to Love the Natural World Enough to Protect It. *Barn nr. 2*, 57-78.
- Cheng, J. C., & Monroe, M. C. (2012). Connection to nature: Children's affective attitude toward nature. *Environment and Behaviour*, 44(1), 311-49.
- Dyment, J. (2006). *Greening School Grounds in Toronto District School Board: An Investigation of Potential (unpublished doctoral dissertation)*. Thunder Bay: Lakehead University
- Faber Taylor, A., Kuo, F. E., & Sullivan, W. C. (2001). Views of nature and self-discipline: Evidence from inner city children. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 21, 1-14.
- Fjørtoft, I. (2001). The natural environment as a playground for children: The impact of outdoor play activities in pre-primary school children. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 29 (2), 111-117.
- Gorges, R. (1999). *Waldknidergarten im Ersten Schulyahr: Eine Empirische Untersuchung*. Retrieved from [http://www.waldkiga.com/04\\_info/docs/WKG-erstesSchuljahr.pdf](http://www.waldkiga.com/04_info/docs/WKG-erstesSchuljahr.pdf).
- Grahn, P., Mårtensson, F., Lindblad, B., Nilsson, P., & Ekman, A. (1997). *Ute pa Dagis*. Håssleholm, Sweden: Nora Skåne Offset.
- Kellert, S. R. (2005). *Building for Life: Designing and Understanding the Human-Nature Connection*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press
- Phillips, D. (1989). Neither a borrower or a lender be? The problem with cross-national attraction in education. *Comparative Education*, 25, 267-74.
- Wild Pedagogies (2014) Retrieved from: <http://wildpedagogies.webs.com>