



Link Outdoor Activities with your Classroom Learning

by Helen Bilton, "Outdoor Learning in the Early Years"

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What I Wanted to Improve

Children need to see the outdoor area as an extension of the indoor classroom. The majority of the children view the outdoors as a learning area but there are a small number who see it as a playground and it is their perceptions that we would like to change.

What Would Success Look Like?

1. Children will be able to talk about what they are learning outdoors
2. Children will be more focussed and engaged in purposeful learning activities
3. Activities are carefully planned to meet the needs and interests of the children

How Did I Approach It?

- Speak to the children about what they would like to learn about outdoors and involve them in the planning.
- Careful planning of activities that link to our topic but are specific to the outdoor area.
- Remind children of the expectations during outdoor learning in terms of behaviour and attitudes.

My Context

Primary School, Stockport

Ofsted Rating **2**

Free School Meals **N/A**
(National Average 24.9%)

Pupils **271**

Ages **5-11**

Gender **Mixed**

School Type
Maintained

Resources and Cost Required

All staff in reception also involved

Results and Conclusions

Success criteria	What changed?	Why?
<p>Children will be able to talk about what they are learning outdoors</p> <p>Children will be more focussed and engaged in purposeful learning activities.</p> <p>Activities are carefully planned to meet the needs and interests of the children.</p>	<p>Children were able to talk about what they were doing and how it enhanced/developed their learning.</p> <p>Children were engaged and focussed on learning.</p> <p>More ownership of their learning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes/No - many still missed the point of the question but knowledge was there. Not enough use of the practice sheets in lessons running up to assessments. The input from the children in planning activities encouraged them to be more engaged as they had been involved in the planning.

Overall Rating and Recommendation



There were days when we weren't able to deliver the intervention fully. The small group of children had to be constantly reminded about expectations, but their behaviour did improve as a result of the intervention. I think stepping back and refocusing helped both the staff and the group of children.

I will continue to use this strategy - having the golden rules/behaviour kits outdoors has really helped with behaviour management and involving children more at the planning stage has increased engagement. I would encourage using our strategy to others by sharing what we did. I am also going to share it with SLT and Governors.