Teaching Primary Science Outdoors

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Spring Learning









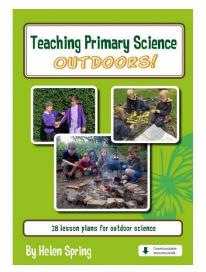








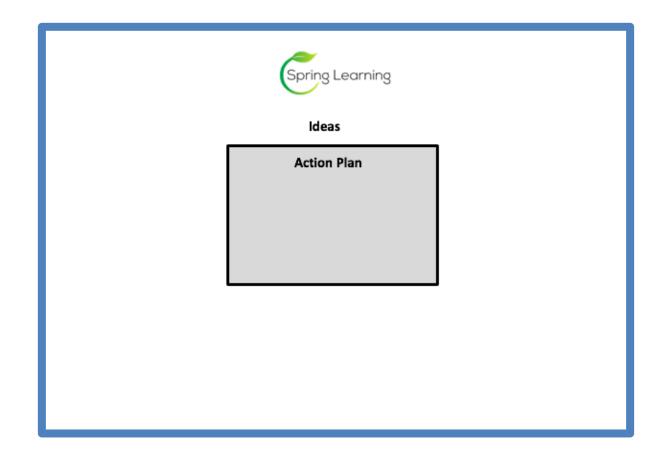








Action planning





What is Outdoor Learning?

Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) is the use of places other than the classroom for teaching and learning. It is about getting children and young people out and about, providing them with challenging, exciting and different experiences to help them learn.



Council for Learning Outside the Classroom

Outdoor learning is that which takes place beyond the four walls of the traditional classroom environment.

Association for Science Education (ASE)





Outdoor Learning at your school

- What is going well?
- What challenges do you face?
- What questions do you have?





Why go outside anyway?







5 Characteristics of Effective Outdoor Learning

- 1. one that supports children in making the transitions from within the classroom to beyond it
- 2. one where there is both regular and frequent use of the outdoor setting.
- 3. fully prepares children for working in the outdoors by addressing the basic psychological and physiological needs of the children before leaving the classroom
- the teachers manage the transition back to the classroom as consciously as they manage the move to the outdoor setting
- 5. a shift to weaker framing

HOATH, L. (2015).



Science Lessons

All good science lessons, both indoors and outdoors, should have both a subject knowledge and a working scientifically objective.

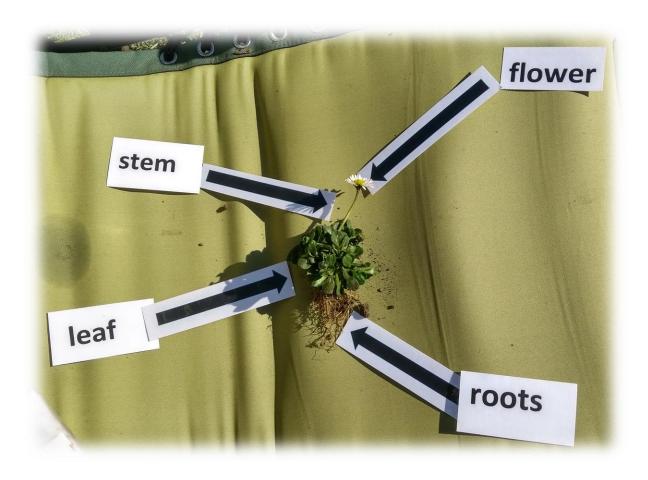
- There should be opportunities for pupils to make progress and opportunities for assessment.
- TAPS and PLAN resources provide many examples of assessment opportunities that either are taking place outdoors or could take place outdoors.







Definitely outdoors....





Could be outdoors....





Planning for Outdoor Learning

- Take a copy of the curriculum
- Highlight the obvious opportunities for outdoor learning in your year group (eg – identifying trees)
- In a different colour, highlight the less obvious opportunities for outdoor learning
- Choose one objective and plan how you will teach it outdoors. What barriers need to be overcome in your context?



Year 2 programme of study

Living things and their habitats

Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive
- identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other
- identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats
- describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea
 of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food.



Properties and Changes of Materials





Animals including Humans





Uses of Everyday Materials

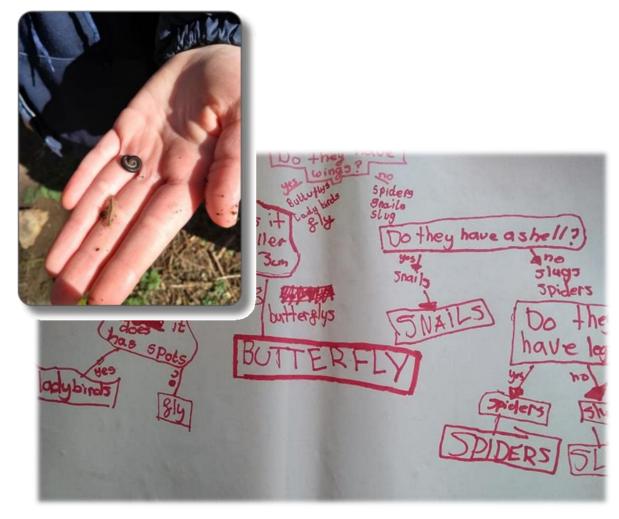






Living Things and their Habitats

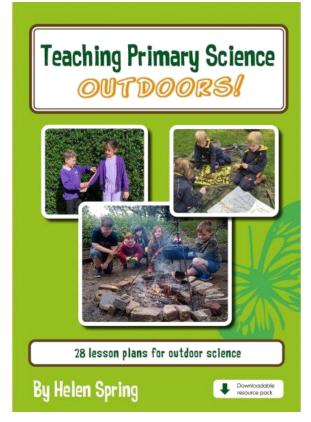






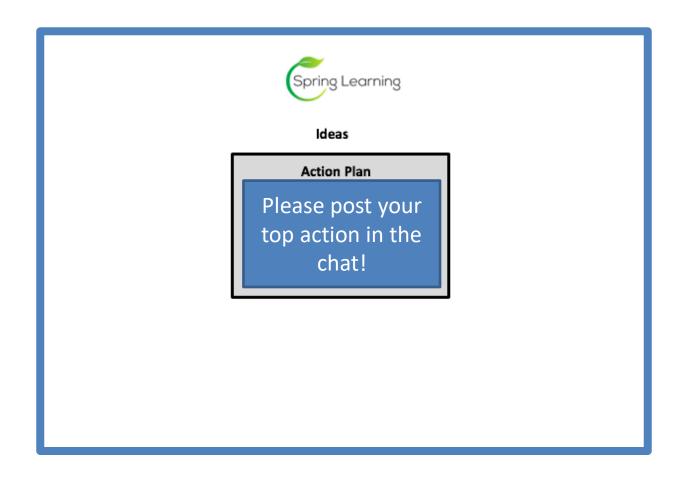
Resources to support outdoor learning and science







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