

a natural approach to learning



Training Directory 2020: Outdoor Learning and Play

Early Years and Childcare Practitioners

Index

Page

Introduction	2
Summary table	3
Provider details (alphabetical)	9
Report	44

INTRODUCTION

The context for this directory is the Scottish Government document **A Blueprint For 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland Quality Action Plan**. This document describes the Scottish Government's planned expansion in Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland.

A range of external training providers offer courses in outdoor learning and play across Scotland, which are not part of the **College Development Network**. The increase in free early learning and childcare hours by 2020 has led some councils to introduce outdoor-based services as a necessary part of their provision, and some external providers are responding to this rise in demand.

PLEASE NOTE:

This list was finalised as COVID-19 started, March 2020. Please check with the provider for up to date information on their current provision and what is planned for 2021. Look out for the latest revision towards the end of 2021.

EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE TRAINING DIRECTORY

SUMMARY TABLE – updated December 2019

Current status: Updated (U), new addition (N), no response (NR)

Provider	Location	Courses	2019 info. source	Status	Details (page)
1. Aberdeen City Early Learning and Childcare Training Academy	Aberdeen City	Offers several outdoor based CPD. Promoted through ELC Academy, Network- Education Aberdeen and direct mail shots to settings.	Email	U	9
2. Aberlour Futures Aberdeen Early Learning & Childcare Training Centre	Aberdeen City	Offers outdoor based CPL See quarterly training brochures which can be emailed	Email	N	11
3. Beasties, Bugs and Bairns	Fife	Unclear whether training is provided under services.	Website	NR	-
4. Broxburn Family Centre	West Lothian; Scotland-wide	Outdoor training courses on Forest Kindergarten; Knives, Saws & Axes; Knots, Swings & Slacklines; Introduction to Fire and Cooking with Fire	Email	N	13
5. Children in Scotland	Edinburgh	Currently planning learning calendar with more events confirmed at the start of 2020. These events will be listed on our website. Offer training specially for Early Years and outdoor play in our learning programme.	Email	U	14

Provider	Location	Courses	2019 info. source	Status	Details (page)
6. Cowgate Under 5's Centre	Edinburgh	Offers professional development opportunities for students. Although not registered as an outdoor setting, this Centre uses the Scottish Wildlife Garden at Johnston Terrace once or twice per week	Website	N	-
7. Creative STAR Learning Ltd	Aberdeenshire/ Scotland-wide	Wide range of outdoor learning and play courses	Email	U	15
8. Earthtime	Morayshire	A variety of CPD courses	Website	U	18
9. Eco Drama	Glasgow	Holding first CPD specifically for Early Years practitioners in May 2020	Website & email	U	17
10. Edinburgh City Council	Edinburgh	Search the ECC CPD Directory	Website	NR	-
11. Field Studies Council	FSC Millport, North Ayrshire	Educational outdoor courses, can be tailored to ELC practitioners.	Email	U	18
12. Forest School Training Co-operative	Scotland wide	Nature Play & Nurture, Forest and Outdoor Learning (Forest School) Award, Outdoor First Aid for Forest School and Outdoor Woodland learning and other outdoor learning CLPL - training course(s) in outdoor play/ learning for Early Years practitioners/educators	Email	U	19
13. Kids Gone Wild	West Lothian	Offer short courses to help practitioners build their knowledge in aspects of outdoor learning.	Email	N	20

Provider	Location	Courses	2019 info. source	Status	Details (page)
14. Learning Though Landscapes	Scotland wide	Play and outdoor courses www.ltl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training/	Email	U	21
15. MAKI Pups	Lochgilphead, Mid-Argyll	Outdoor nursery opening planned April 2020. By academic year 2020-21 MAKI Pups may be considering new elements including training.	Email	N	22
16. Mindstretchers	Perthshire base/ Scotland wide.	Extensive range of training courses for EY practitioners.	Website	NR	-
17. Mucky Boots	City/ Aberdeenshire	Provide tailor made workshops and outreach support to schools, ELC settings and other groups.	Email	N	22
18. Mud Pies	Aberdeen City/ Aberdeenshire	Bespoke support offered to settings and practitioners to increase their confidence in taking children outdoors on a regular basis. Fires a speciality!	Email	N	23
19. Nature Nurture	Scotland wide	Range of outdoor play and nurture courses	Email	NR	-
20. Nature Unlimited	Scottish Borders & Lothians	Training courses detailed on website	Email	U	23
21. Newbattle Abbey College	Newbattle Abbey College and at Approved Centres across Scotland.	Certification and training for the 'Forest and Outdoor Learning Awards'(FOLA). The Awards at Levels 5, 6 and 8 are designed for educators working in: Early Years, primary and secondary schools, colleges, communities and outdoor education.	Email	N	24

Provider	Location	Courses	2019 info. source	Status	Details (page)
22. North East Outdoor Learning Group (NESOLG) with Aberdeenshire Council	Aberdeenshire	Early Years in Nature 2018 and 2019	Email	U	25
23. Operation Play Outdoors	Scotland Central belt & tailor training to client sites.	Provide CPD/CLPL for ELC Practitioners - tailored outdoor play and learning training	Email	U	27
24. Outdoor & Woodland Learning (OWL) Scotland	Scotland wide	Local OWL groups/ OWL Scotland, with occasional ELC workshops & CPD e.g. Wee Green Fingers	Website	NR	28
25. OutLET: Play Resource	South Lanarkshire and across Central Scotland.	Fire and Tools Training & FUNdamental Play Training	Email/ website	U	28
26. Play Midlothian	Midlothian base/in-house Scotland-wide	Programme of training to improve and increase play opportunities. Includes a course on outdoor play and other courses with relevance to the outdoors.	Email	U	29
27. Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE)	Edinburgh	ELC CPD/CLPL Programmes: Active Learning Outdoors (4); Wee Wonders of the World; Grandpa's Garden	Email	U	30
28. Rowanbank Environmental Arts & Education	Edinburgh; courses offered Scotland-wide	Offers playground/nursery grounds based creative approaches to outdoor learning; woodland learning while walking (magical woodland walks) & Forest School/Nature Play	Email	U	31

Provider	Location	Courses	2019 info. source	Status	Details (page)
29. SAPOE (Scottish Advisory Panel for Outdoor Education)	Scotland wide	SAPOE Lead practitioner's course for Early Years <i>Introduction to Taking Learning Outdoors</i> - an introductory training course including Early Years staff, offered by all local authorities	Website	N	-
30. Scottish Forestry	Scotland wide	Forest Kindergarten for Trainers – local or outdoor green space to support outdoor play.	Email	N	32
31. Steven White Consultancy	Perthshire	Provides a range of 'outdoor play and learning' training under consultancy role.	Email	N	33
32. Stramash	Fort William, Elgin & Oban	Offer a programme of set training courses for staff working in the Early Years, primary school and childcare sectors.	Email	U	34
33. The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)	Scotland-wide	Offer a range of courses, including "Rewild the Child". This programme is very much suited to nursery and lower primary age children where families can take part in local parks and woodlands through outdoor play activities.	Email	U	35
34. The Green Team	Edinburgh	Provide training for Early Years practitioners, primary and secondary school teachers, youth workers etc.	Email	U	36

Provider	Location	Courses	2019 info. source	Status	Details (page)
35. The Secret Garden Outdoor Nursery	Fife; on site at outdoor nursery in Fife may offer workshops at clients' own outdoor sites in future.	Offer one-day workshops to those interested in developing their skills in outdoor play and learning.	Email	U	37
36. Under the Trees	Primarily Falkirk/ Stirling; also across Scotland	Provide training courses in outdoor play/learning	Email	U	38
37. Wildside Adventures Ltd	Courses @ Kilsyth Woodland Centre c/o Kilsyth Primary School, North Lanarkshire; also at organisations' own settings across the Central Belt.	Provider of training courses in Outdoor Play and Learning for Early Years. Current CPD programme for 2018 is pitched at Primary, Early Years and play professionals. Offer similar but more bespoke versions if an ELC setting requests this.	Email	U	40
38. Wild Things!	Various locations, Scotland wide.	Currently offer Woodland Activity Leader Training, Woodland Activity Leader Training for Early Years Practitioners, Coastal Activity Leader Training, & Introduction to Bushcraft for Outdoor Leaders	Email	U	42
39. Wildsparks	Courses in Dundee, Edinburgh, Coupar Angus, Perthshire & Glasgow. Can travel to venues throughout central Scotland for private bookings.	Training workshops for teachers, playworkers, ELC practitioners and freelance educators	Email	U	43

PROVIDER DETAILS (listed alphabetically)

Aberdeen City Early Learning and Childcare Training Programme	
Website	<p>https://elcacademy.scot/training-providers/ ELC Academy</p> <p>Network – Education Aberdeen accessed via sharepoint for all employees of Aberdeen City.</p>
Course(s)	Offers several outdoor based CPD. Promoted through ELC Academy, Network-Education Aberdeen and direct mail shots to settings.
Location	Aberdeen City
Course details	<p>Out to Play – Juliet Robertson (6 parts) A targeted programme for 6 ELC settings in one SIMD area to support use of nearby natural woodland contexts, based on Wee Green Spaces and delivered by Juliet. Training and on-going support sessions are delivered independently to each setting.</p> <p>Nurture Outdoors input by Elizabeth Henderson.</p> <p>Working in Green Local Spaces (WIGLS) – Elizabeth Henderson A City-wide year-long outdoor programme: visits to ELC settings, short training sessions (Elizabeth Henderson and Juliet Robertson), ERASMUS+ visits to Spain and North Germany for immersion in outdoor kindergartens, Nurture Outdoors (2 whole-day training sessions).</p> <p>Nurture Outdoors (NOD) – Elizabeth Henderson (2-part course, whole days) Part one introduces the need for nurturing approaches: ACE, trauma, poverty and attachment and explores the relevance of natural contexts as part of a holistic approach to nurture. It also introduces reflective practices.</p> <p>Part two incorporates a natural holistic approach to nurture with ASN children and the importance of understanding the 7 senses. It explores the outdoor context and how to build nurturing approaches to meet children’s needs.</p> <p>ERASMUS+ outdoor programme – Elizabeth Henderson (2019-2021) offers the opportunity to be immersed in outdoor nursery contexts with tailored training for 4-5 days in Spain and North Germany.</p> <p>Part of WIGLS and building a group of outdoor champions across the City to lead on outdoor ELC services.</p>

	<p>Wee Green Spaces - Juliet Robertson</p> <p>Award winning training programme is designed to equip Early Years staff with practical skills and competencies to develop nature kindergarten provision in a local patch of greenspace on a weekly basis all year round. It takes a sustainable and rights-based approach which includes self-evaluation and developing practice through the use of GIRFEC and the wellbeing indicators.</p> <p>These sessions take place across the City with follow-on sessions for participants to help them adapt and extend their outdoor practice.</p>
<p>Evaluation & recognition</p>	<p>With all of our training sessions we provide an evaluation form at the end to evaluate our training. In May we ask our settings to complete a training needs analysis to find out what they need and want, tailoring our provision to meet the perceived needs as identified by settings themselves and through our Education Development Officer visits to LA and partner provide nurseries.</p> <p>We provide certificates of attendance to course participants.</p>
<p>Further contact</p>	<p>Elizabeth Henderson, Education Support Officer Early Years Aberdeen City Council E: ElHenderson@aberdeencity.gov.uk T: 01224 764715</p>

Aberlour Futures Early Learning & Childcare Training Centre

Website	www.aberlour.org.uk
Course(s)	Offers outdoor based CPL. See quarterly training brochures which can be emailed
Location	Aberdeen City
Course details	<p>Let's Play Outdoors – This course focuses on giving staff the skills to facilitate loose parts and risky play in any outdoors environment. We will look at the importance of play, how it links in with the Curriculum for Excellence and the Care Inspectorate's resources My World Outdoors and Our Creative Journey, for all staff working in Early Years, schools, out of school care, and childminders. This course aims to raise the profile of play and deepen an understanding for practitioners in supporting play experiences to improve outcomes for children of all ages.</p> <p>Play in the Dark - A dynamic and interactive short course designed to boost skills and confidence in providing age appropriate activities for playing outside in the dark in an after school care setting. Participants gain new skills in providing year round out of school care outdoors to encourage children and young people to go out and play in their setting and in their local neighbourhood, after school. Also suitable for those working with children aged 5 and under.</p> <p>Outdoor Storytelling – A fun and interactive course designed to improve practice around engaging with children through rhymes, storytelling and role play in an outside environment. New ideas and extension of learning through practical application using language and new knowledge learnt. Improving practice on identifying resources to support new skills and creative experiences. It will help you to develop your own skills as a storyteller through practical outside activities and it is aimed at new entrants to the early learning and childcare workforce or for those who wish to develop their practice.</p> <p>Indoor & Outdoor Visual & Creative Arts – A fun and interactive course designed to improve practice around engaging with children through visual arts in an outside and inside environment.</p>

	<p>New ideas and extension of learning through practical application using charcoals, pastels, loose parts, photography and torches and new knowledge learnt. Improving practice on identifying resources to support new skills and creative experiences. Practitioners will gain practical knowledge, new skills and ideas to help increase their confidence in supporting children's development, language and creativity through inside and outdoor activities.</p>
Evaluation & recognition	<p>At the end of each course participants are asked to complete a training evaluation form which asks for feedback on quality and how the learning will impact on their practice.</p> <p>Each participant is provided with a certificate; detailing, the course, the date, and duration.</p>
Further contact	<p>Mary Crear, Service Manager, Early Learning & Childcare Training Centre, Aberlour Futures Aberdeen T: 01224 518582 E: mary.crear@aberlour.org.uk</p>

Broxburn Family Centre

Website	www.fcdwl.org/our-projects/childcare-training/ or email training@fcdwl.org
Course(s)	We deliver outdoor training courses on Forest Kindergarten; Knives, Saws & Axes; Knots, Swings & Slacklines; Introduction to Fire and Cooking with Fire
Location	Based in Broxburn, West Lothian but are quite happy to deliver our training courses in people's setting too
Course details	<p>Forest Kindergarten SQA certificated course at SCQF level 7 – This course has been put together to specifically meet the needs of Early Years Practitioners who would like to set up a regular routine of off-site visits to a local wood or nearby green space for children in their setting. This course recognises the value of woodlands as an integral part of the learning process for Early Learning in Childcare. It has been carefully designed to equip practitioners with the knowledge, understanding and skills to enable children in their setting to play in local woods and other greenspaces. This award consists of one unit with three outcomes; Forest Kindergarten site (The place); Planning and engaging with children and adults (The people); Setting up and leading Forest Kindergarten sessions (The pedagogy). The aim of the course is to enable Early Years Practitioners to organise, safely set up and facilitate Forest Kindergarten sessions.</p> <p>Knives, Saws & Axes - This practical workshop will provide valuable skills and confidence in using these three tools with your children. We will look at how we manage these tools with children in a creative and responsible way.</p> <p>Knots, Swings & Slacklines – This practical workshop will demonstrate the knots you might use when playing outside with children. We will consider the type of rope and swings you might use – so not only can you be confident when they are in full swing that the knot will hold, but you can also take them down easy! We will also look at slacklines: how to use them and how we might adapt them for a more playful slackline course.</p> <p>Knots, Swings & Slacklines – This practical workshop will demonstrate the knots you might use when playing outside with children. We will consider the type of rope and swings you might use – so not only can you be confident when they are in full swing that the knot will hold, but you can also take them down easily! We will also look at slacklines; how to use them and how we might adapt them for a more playful slackline course.</p> <p>Introduction to Fire – This workshop will look at how you might be inspired to bring fire into your play setting. You will have the opportunity to light a fire and consider how to manage the fire appropriately with children. We may also get the chance to cook something too! This workshop is suitable for those working with all ages of children.</p> <p>Cooking with Fire – This workshop will look at different ideas of what and how to cook on the fire. We will share all our ideas from years of cooking on an open fire – everything from fish, rabbit, bacon & egg rolls to chocolate cake – which will hopefully whet your appetite.</p>

Evaluation & recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the end of each workshop session delegates are asked to complete our Evaluation Form where comments are taken on board and relevant changes for improvements are made. • The delegates are all emailed a certificate of attendance which includes the length of the training they took part in for their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours.
Further contact	Sandra Hartley, Training Coordinator, Broxburn Family Centre E: training@fcdwl.org

Children in Scotland

Website	<p>We provide the largest number of training events for the children's sector in Scotland.</p> <p>We are currently planning our learning calendar for the upcoming year and will have more events confirmed at the start of 2020. These events will be listed on our website https://childreninscotland.org.uk/events/upcoming-events</p>
Course(s)	We do offer training specially for Early Years and outdoor play in our learning programme.
Location	An Early Years outdoor training that we have already confirmed is Learning through play the Froebel way on 21/02/2020.
Course details	<p>This workshop, with the acclaimed Cowgate Under 5s Centre in Edinburgh, explores practical ways to put Froebel's theories into action in your own setting.</p> <p>Key learning: Practical ways to meet children's needs in the following areas identified by Froebel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical activity and sensory awareness • Creative expression and exploration of ideas • The experience of living among others.
Evaluation & recognition	All delegates receive an electronic certificate of participation on completion of the training.
Further contact	Learning and Events team contact details: E: events@childreninscotland.org.uk T: 0131 313 8828

Creative STAR Learning Ltd

Website	www.creativestarlarning.co.uk for more information - open courses are listed on the landing page.
Course(s)	Wide range of outdoor learning and play courses
Location	Aberdeenshire/ National. Juliet is normally hired by individual schools and settings (who can join together to share the cost as she can comfortably work with up to 36 participants) local authorities and other organisations. She rarely runs open courses, but these are advertised on the website if another organisation is using her to do this.
Course details	<p>Most popular are:</p> <p>Outdoor Play from Scratch: no money, no decent outdoor space and no idea where to begin? Then this is the course to get you going and includes a baseline audit to help you identify where you are at.</p> <p>Early Years Outdoor Literacy: Early Years educators need to be able to ensure their outdoor space is a literacy-rich environment that supports the development of talking, listening, reading and writing skills at a developmentally appropriate level. This course provides a baseline audit and helps participants develop their practice in a manageable and doable way.</p> <p>Messy Maths: An Outdoor and Playful Approach for Early Years: Place value, nature counts! This course provides vital information to support and extend Juliet's Messy Maths book including more about family learning and how to embed maths into your outdoor practice.</p> <p>Loose Parts Play: This course builds upon the free resource which Juliet coauthored, <i>Loose Parts Play: A Toolkit</i>. It takes an inclusive, sustainable and rights based approach to ensuring that your outdoor practice has endless opportunities that meet every child's need.</p> <p>Professional Development Support visits: This is a site visit to an early year's setting that specifically supports the leadership and management teams to develop and lead on their outdoor practice. It normally involves two half-day sessions several months apart.</p> <p>Outdoor Science for Softies: Ideal for those who don't feel particularly confident about science and who want to ensure that science is real, relevant and part of the ethos within an early years' setting. It also includes a baseline audit of practice, advice on developing an outdoor space and ways of getting involved in Citizen Science activities.</p>

	<p>Expressive Arts Outdoors: Music, art and dance are aspects of provision which help children develop a sense of being, belonging and becoming which does not rely on verbal communication skills. This course is packed full of creative possibilities and dovetails nicely with the recent Care Inspectorate publication, <i>Our Creative Journey</i>.</p> <p>Juliet Robertson is also a Scottish Forestry Forest Kindergarten trainer and can offer this training, via Scottish Forestry. In Aberdeen, since 2013, the approach has been tailored to the local context and is called Wee Green Spaces and is specifically about finding and using urban greenspace including parks and beaches on a frequent and regular basis all year round. Juliet has worked with Scottish Forestry since 2009 developing the Forest Kindergarten approach and trains the trainers.</p>
	<p>All courses always have an outdoor element to the day and can also take place in a woodland or other wholly outdoor setting. Juliet also offers keynote speeches and workshops for conferences.</p> <p>What is unique about Juliet's course and support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She works from 3 to 12yrs so that a whole school approach can be adopted and a more effective transition happens between nursery and primary. She is a former head teacher who led three schools ranging in size from 6 to 277 pupils. • The emphasis is on low-cost, sustainable, creative and open-ended possibilities that help staff make their practice more climate-friendly. • Juliet provides lots of handouts in addition to the material publicly available on her website. These are available via a password protected blog post.
Evaluation & recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides individual certificates to confirm the length of training undertaken by attendees, upon request.
Further contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juliet Robertson E: info@creativestarlarning.co.uk; also messages via Facebook www.facebook.com/CreativeSTARLearning and Twitter @ CreativeSTAR. <p>T: 07802 800167 (Phone messages are less reliable because Juliet often works in remote places and abroad).</p>

Earthtime	
Website	www.earthtime.co.uk ; https://earthtime.co.uk/learn-with-earthtime
Course(s)	Seasonal training opportunities offered
Location	Moray region, at base on Duffus Estate or in local woodland.
Course details	<p>Over the last seven years we have run a variety of CPD courses, please see the following summary:</p> <p>Embrace Spring, Embrace Summer, Embrace Winter and Embrace Autumn. On these courses we provide practical advice regarding getting outdoors with a group of children including lots of outdoor activities to do with children in the season. We include curriculum links and allow time for discussion to share experiences and hands on practice of some of the ideas.</p> <p>First Steps to Going Outdoors. On this course we look at risk assessment, practicalities like clothing, boundaries and the essential kit required. We discuss barriers, how to overcome them, suitable sites and how to use them.</p> <p>Loose Parts Play. Introduction regarding the concept, discuss benefits and curriculum links of loose parts play. Discuss the practicalities of embedding Loose Parts Play into your setting including maintenance and storage</p> <p>Numeracy and Literacy in the Outdoors. This course provides practical activities for Early Level numeracy and literacy outdoors. We look at a number of activities, how they can enhance numeracy and literacy skills as well as discussing the learning that comes naturally through play.</p> <p>Evaluating Learning in the Outdoors. On this course we look at the various ways we can evaluate learning that takes place in the outdoors. We discuss the approach to monitoring learning and development and the role of the practitioner.</p>
Evaluation & recognition	<p>All participants complete a feedback form. The feedback is collated and used to shape our future courses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each of our courses includes a snack around the fire. This provides a good opportunity for reflection, discussion. This discussion enables the practitioners to evaluate the course, shape future courses and address specific questions the participants may have. • Earthtime provides a certificate stating the course which was undertaken, the time commitment of the course and brief statement of training involved.
Further contact	<p>Office & Nursery enquiries:</p> <p>T:01343 200 206 enquiries@earthtime.co.uk</p> <p>Natalie Campbell, Forest School Manager - natalie@earthtime.co.uk</p>

Eco Drama

Website	www.ecodrama.co.uk/workshops/out-to-play-cpd-workshop
Course(s)	Holding first CPD specifically for ELC practitioners in May 2020
Location	Glasgow
Course details	<p>Currently focussing on an arts-based outdoor learning residency programme for primary schools and nurseries between 2017 and now extended to 2023. due to its popularity and success.</p> <p>Holding Eco Drama's first CPD specifically for ELC practitioners is planned for May 2020 in Glasgow. This is an adapted version of our existing CPD for primary school teachers which has run since 2015. ELC practitioners attending these sessions also and have provided positive feedback about the experience.</p>
Evaluation & recognition	N/k
Further contact	E: nina@ecodrama.co.uk

Field Studies Council

Website	www.field-studies-council.org/professional/courses-for-teachers.aspx
Course(s)	Offer some EY outdoors courses. All of the teacher trainer courses can be (and are) tailored to suit the participants e.g. Early Years practitioners
Location	FSC Millport, Isle of Cumbrae, North Ayrshire KA28 0EG
Course details	<p>Provide outdoor learning courses for teachers across all age groups. For the Scottish based courses:</p> <p>Raising Attainment through the Outdoors (Primary and S1-S3): Outdoor Learning for Primary Teachers And more</p>
Evaluation & recognition	All courses undertake rigorous evaluation and monitoring
Further contact	T:01475531420 E: enquiries.mil@field-studies-council.org

Forest School Training Cooperative

Website	www.ForestSchoolTraining.co.uk (Nature Play & Nurture: Web pages in development)
Course(s)	Nature Play & Nurture, Forest and Outdoor Learning (Forest School) Award and other outdoor learning CLPL - training course(s) in outdoor play / learning for Early Years practitioners / educators
Location	Scotland (The Lothians.)
Course details	<p>Nature Play & Nurture: A hands-on training course run over three non-consecutive days, plus the chance to observe a demonstration project session (1/2 day). This course is suitable for all Early Years staff (age 2 up to early primary) who would like to; add more nature play to the experiences they provide; extend and explore nature provision; find new ways to help children build wellbeing and learning capacities; visit nearby woodlands and wild areas; develop nursery and school outdoor areas; and/or bring nature indoors.</p> <p>Forest and Outdoor Learning (Forest School) Award, levels 5 to 8 - hands on development of skills, pedagogy, sustainability relating to Forest School approach to outdoor learning.</p>
Evaluation & recognition	Use an anonymous evaluation sheet up at the end of each training day. At the end of the course there is a written evaluation form, although we are looking to move this to an online one for the next course as a response to feedback. Participants sign in to every day of the course. We then provide a signed and dated certificate for all participants completing the course with their attended hours on it.
Further contact	Kate Walters & Aline Hill E: admin@forestschoolscotland.co.uk

Kids Gone Wild

Website	www.kidsgonewild.co.uk
Course(s)	Offer short courses to help practitioners build their knowledge in aspects of outdoor learning.
Location	Based in West Lothian, can travel to the centre where the course is required.
Course details	We provide short courses to help practitioners build their knowledge in aspects of outdoor learning, such as fire lighting, den building and activities to take the curriculum outside.
Evaluation & recognition	We provide certificate of attendance and certificate of competence Staff are trained and up to date with CPD. We have qualified tutors and assessors and have an IQA system in place to ensure quality and standardisation throughout the courses. Our courses are currently pending accreditation with Institute of Outdoor Learning
Further contact	info@kidsgonewild.co.uk T: 07399199666

Learning Through Landscapes

Website	www.ltl.org.uk
Course(s)	Play and Outdoor Learning courses – link to courses www.ltl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training/
Location	Scotland wide
Course details	<p>Early Years Outdoor Learning INSET Training Courses including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Kindergarten • Nursery Advisory Visit • Early Years Nurturing Nature • Early Years Outdoors Whatever the Weather • Early Years My World Outdoors • Early Years Maths Outdoors • Early Years Literacy Outdoors • Early Years Outdoor Practitioner
Evaluation & recognition	LtL monitor by course evaluation sheets to see if they are on track. These are fed back to the funder (if there is one) or to our files for our records. LtL do give a certificate for the longer course.
Further contact	E: enquiries@ltl.org.uk ; training@ltl.org.uk

MAKI Pups

Website	www.act-now.org.uk ; www.act-now.org.uk/maki-pups
Course(s)	Outdoor nursery opening planned April 2020. By academic year 2020-21 MAKI Pups may be considering new elements including training.
Location	Lochgilphead, Mid-Argyll
Course details	n/k pending
Evaluation & recognition	n/k pending
Further contact	E: julie@act-now.org.uk T: 01546 602755, Mob: 07920083857

Mucky Boots

Website	www.muckyboots.org
Course(s)	Provide tailor made workshops and outreach support to schools, ELC settings and other groups.
Location	Our woodland is just outside Aberdeen: work within Aberdeen City and shire.
Course details	Offer 'The Backpack Toolkit', which includes practical advice on basic kit, identifying high quality play spaces, the role of the environment and the role of the practitioner. We also offer tailor made workshops and support.
Evaluation & recognition	Ask for anonymous feedback on the day of our courses. Provide a certificate of attendance
Further contact	Dawn Ewan E: dawn@muckyboots.org

Mud Pies

Website	www.mudpieadventures.co.uk
Course(s)	Bespoke support offered to settings and practitioners to increase their confidence in taking children outdoors on a regular basis. Fires a speciality!
Location	Aberdeen City and Shire
Course details	Hands-on session tailored to specific settings – from an hour of inspiration to weekly visits to embed practice.
Evaluation & recognition	n/k
Further contact	Mandy Tulloch, Founder and Principal, Mud Pies: M – 07929 465680 and E: mandy@mudpieadventures.co.uk

Nature Unlimited

Website	www.natureunlimited.scot ; www.natureunlimited.scot/what-we-do/training
Course(s)	Training courses are detailed on our website
Location	Scottish Borders and Lothians
Course details	Offer training for leaders, such as youth workers, guide and scout leaders, teachers and anyone who wants to take their groups outdoors.
Evaluation & recognition	Monitor quality of training by getting clients to complete evaluations and through our Support & Supervision process. Provide certificates for attendance and for completion of assessed courses.
Further contact	Jan Barr E: info@natureunlimited.scot

Newbattle Abbey College

Website	www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk/outdoor-learning-leader
Course(s)	Forest and Outdoor Learning Awards (FOLA). The Awards at Levels 5, 6 and 8 are designed for educators working in: Early Years, primary and secondary schools, colleges, communities and outdoor education.
Location	Newbattle Abbey College and at Approved Centres across Scotland.
Course details	The scheme includes Forest Skills Levels 2-4 and Forest and Outdoor Leadership Levels 5-6 and 8. The Awards at Levels 5, 6 and 8 are designed for educators working in: Early Years, primary and secondary schools, colleges, communities and outdoor education. The Awards are recognised by the Forest School Association as an equivalent to Forest School Practitioner 1-3. FOLA Level 8 qualifies leaders to manage Forest School and Outdoor Learning autonomously and to support other learners to achieve FOLA Levels 2-5.
Evaluation & recognition	Forest School qualifications have been credit-rated to the Scottish Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Newbattle Abbey College is the awarding organisation and issues successful participants certification as evidence of SCQF level and credit points achieved. All course content and assessment are subject to a rigorous Quality Assurance process in line with SCQF expectations.
Further contact	Judy Paul, Forest College Co-ordinator E: office@newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk T: 0131 663 1921

North East Scotland Outdoor Learning Group (NESOLG) + Aberdeenshire Council

Website	www.nesolg.org.uk
Course(s)	<p>Early Years in Nature: NESOLG were commissioned by Aberdeenshire Council to run the Early Years in Nature pilot course in 2018. Following a very positive evaluation showing sustained changes in practice, we have repeated the course for 2019 with a larger cohort.</p> <p>NESOLG is a group of experienced Forest School Leaders and practitioners, who have been delivering Forest School Leader Level 3 course since 2013.</p>
Location	Aberdeenshire
Course details	<p>Introduction: Early Years in Nature</p> <p>This level 2 course supports staff in developing and routinely using their outdoor play settings. It increases staff confidence and knowledge through taught sessions and in-setting support, and creates links with local organisations to realise the long-term, sustained delivery of outdoor play and care. The course supports many different habitats, such as hard-standing, a beach, a wood, a field – whatever is close by.</p> <p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide Early Years staff with the confidence and skills to safely take groups of children outside into their local habitats for extended periods of time (> 3 hours) • To maintain this objective in the long-term, the course staff includes local good practice leaders, as well as with appropriate local council employees, the Ranger Services and other specialist staff local to the student's setting. • It seeks to inform and support all parts of the Early Years community in increasing time spent in outdoor environments, and provides a wide range of ways in which this can be achieved. By combining taught elements with in-setting support, the students' learning and development is theoretical, practical and specific to the student and their environment.

	<p>Delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 ½ days of teaching, practical skills alongside the theory of play, learning and behaviour, establishment and delivery of outdoor play including risk-benefit assessments. • 1 day of support from course staff in the student's setting – discussing the practicalities of getting outside with groups of young children at a setting-specific level, including gaining the interest and support of other staff. • 1 day of support from one of the Aberdeenshire Rangers and NESOLG staff. They assess the student's delivery of outdoor play, deliver a CPD for all setting staff, discuss gaining the support of parents and the wider community, and plan the development and maintenance of outdoor play in the setting. • ½ day recap to include a 5-minute reflection on the delivery of the outdoor play and personal development and sharing of experiences. • The course takes 6 months to complete, from first taught day to hand-in of the completed workbooks.
<p>Evaluation & recognition</p>	<p>The participants are assessed in practice by a member of the course staff or Aberdeenshire Ranger, and have continual monitoring by Aberdeenshire Council's Early Years Team. They also complete 2 workbooks. An in-house certificate of achievement is awarded on completion of the course from NESOLG & Aberdeenshire Council.</p> <p>A course evaluation was carried out after the pilot. Of the 13 who started the course, 8 students from 6 settings are now regularly taking their children outside into natural environments. In 5 of the 6 settings course leaders helped students to identify new sites for their sessions. In all cases, this has significantly eased access to natural environments, and all settings have seen an increase in routine outdoor time. All students said how much they had enjoyed the course, and felt it had supported the holistic development of their outdoor practice. As the 2019 course comes to an end, we are making links with the local SRUC to carry out an in-depth evaluation of the long-term impact of the course.</p>
<p>Further contact</p>	<p>E: julia.m4cay@gmail.com; clairemarkhome@gmail.com</p>

Operation Play Outdoors

Website	www.operationplayoutdoors.co.uk/play-training
Course(s)	Provide CPD/CLPL for ELC Practitioners - tailored outdoor play and learning training
Location	Operate across the central belt of Scotland – mobile training. Tailor training to local and client sites.
Course details	<p>Training offers a wide range of learning opportunities. Specialise in tailored outdoor play and learning sessions to fit the needs and interests of the clients. This includes but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bushcraft Basics • Fire and Tool use • Outdoor Risk Assessment • Outdoor Kit and Outdoor Play Logistics • Outdoor Play and Risky Play • Games for the Outdoors • Set up and Pack down of site • Natural Arts and Crafts • Nature Awareness including Tree ID and various nature awareness games/ activities. <p>Also offer storytelling, herbalist activities and outdoor yoga through our freelance network.</p>
Evaluation & recognition	<p>In terms of monitoring quality, we ask for both verbal and written feedback of all the training services we provide and record/participate in external CPD courses to ensure we continue to keep up with industry standards.</p> <p>We will provide a certificate to all participants in our training programmes detailing the extent of the training as well as the hours completed in order for people to keep in their own record.</p>
Further contact	<p>Website: www.operationplayoutdoors.co.uk Facebook: @OperationPlayOutdoors T: 07908330736 Company Manager: Craig Thomson Email: craig@opout.co.uk</p>

Outdoor & Woodland Learning (OWL) Scotland

Website	www.owlscotland.org
Course(s)	Local OWL groups and OWL Scotland nationally sometimes offers Early Years workshops & CPD for example Wee Green Fingers
Location	Scotland wide
Course details	See updates from local groups and OWL Scotland e-bulletin
Evaluation & recognition	Standardised OWL Scotland evaluation form – attendance certificates from some groups.
Further contact	Bonnie Maggio, Education Programme Manager E: bonnie.maggio@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

OutLET: Play Resource

Website	outletplayresource.co.uk/ourservices/training-opportunities/
Course(s)	Offer Fire and Tools Training & FUNdamental Play Training
Location	South Lanarkshire and across Central Scotland.
Course details	<p>Fire and Tool Skills Training - a 16-hour intensive course which enables those who complete to gain insurance to Lead outdoor play sessions that include Fire and Tool use with children.</p> <p>FUNdamental Play Training – a one day activity based outdoor play course filled with those ‘up your sleeve’ activities to inspire outdoor play, designed to aid in building staff/ practitioner confidence in the outdoors.</p>
Evaluation & recognition	n/k
Further contact	E: Jackie@outletplayresource.co.uk ; E: Susan@outletplayresource.co.uk T: +44 7881 368479

Play Midlothian	
Website	www.playmidlothian.org.uk/training
Course(s)	Programme of training to improve and increase play opportunities. Includes a course on outdoor play and other courses with relevance to the outdoors.
Location	Various / in-house Scotland-wide
Course details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to play • Outdoor play • Loose parts play • Play and resilience • Engaging children in developing your services • Creating inclusive play opportunities • Inclusive play resources workshop • Developing a play policy • Playwork intervention approaches • Risk and play
Evaluation & recognition	<p>We use evaluation forms. We have participants assess their competency on the training topic before the course, for baseline data, then after the course. These scales, plus the qualitative information we ask for, relate to our intended training outcomes.</p> <p>We give participants attendance certificates, stating the topic, date and length of the course.</p>
Further contact	<p>E: info@playmidlothian.org.uk</p> <p>Susan McIntyre, Managing Director, Play Midlothian E: susan@playmidlothian.org.uk T: 01875 820 889</p>

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE)

Website	www.rbge.org.uk/education/schools/cpd-clpl-for-teachers-and-technicians/early-years-cpdclpl-programmes
Course(s)	Early Years CPD/CLPL Programmes: Active Learning Outdoors (4 seasons); Grandpa's Garden; Wee Green People
Location	RBGE
Course details	<p>Active Learning Outdoors for Teachers: A series of 4 workshops which can be done as a group or individually. Each seasonal workshop contains interdisciplinary activities which can be used both at the Botanic Garden and at other locations. We will also suggest activities to do back inside the classroom to support the outdoor learning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autumn • Winter • Spring • Summer <p>Early Years programmes:</p> <p>Grandpa's Garden This programme looks at the seasonal changes and jobs we need to do in Grandpa's garden. Outlining the structure of the session, we will discuss how learning from the programme can be extended back in your own setting, exploring pre- and post-visit activities and ways of taking the outdoors back inside to continue the learning.</p> <p>Wee Green People Come along for a magical opportunity to meet our 'Green Fairy'. You and your class will become her helpers for the day and have fun exploring the Garden. Based in her grotto in the John Hope Gateway, our fairy will send you on your journey, and ask you to return to her to share your experiences. Children will: listen to stories about nature; use their senses to explore the living world; make collection(s) from the Garden whilst exploring their surroundings</p>
Evaluation & recognition	Give participants evaluation forms to fill out after the course
Further contact	Velichka Krendova, Education Administrator T: 0131 248 2937 (option 2 for Schools) E: education@rbge.org.uk

Rowanbank Environmental Arts & Education

Website	www.rowanbank.org.uk
Course(s)	<p>Offers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground based creative approaches to outdoor learning; • Woodland learning while walking (magical woodland walks). • Introduction to Forest School/Nature Play. • Forest school 6 week+ programmes
Location	Edinburgh; courses offered Scotland-wide
Course details	<p>We provide three kinds of training/CPD course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground based - 'Imaginary Forests' - creative approaches to outdoor learning. • Woodland/park based - 'Magical Woodland Walks' - learning while walking. • Introduction to Forest School/Nature Play. <p>These unique CPD sessions aim to inspire and empower staff to help re-connect the children they work with to the natural world, and to spark a sense of wonder, curiosity and delight in their local outdoor environment. No outdoor knowledge or experience is necessary, just a willingness to wrap up warmly and celebrate the seasons whatever the weather!</p>
Evaluation & recognition	<p>Collect feedback forms from all participants and use responses to monitor and improve our training courses.</p> <p>Can provide certification if required.</p>
Further contact	<p>E: info@rowanbank.org.uk;</p> <p>Lucy Power, Rowanbank Environmental Arts & Education E: lucy@rowanbank.org.uk</p>

Scottish Forestry

Website	www.owlscotland.org/local-options/forest-kindergarten
Course(s)	Forest Kindergarten Training for Trainers – using local woodlands or outdoor green space to support outdoor play and learning.
Location	Scotland wide
Course details	Scottish Forestry are currently training Trainers to run the level 7 Forest Kindergarten training programme. The Forest Kindergarten training programme is for ELC Practitioners and teachers delivering the early level of Curriculum for Excellence and working out what kind of outdoor model of play and learning would suit them. The course helps staff to set up regular Forest Kindergarten sessions in a nearby area of woodland or greenspace. The skills can also be used to improve practise with indoors/ outdoors nursery models. It currently consists of a three-day course for nursery teachers and Early Years practitioners. The course helps staff embed outdoor play and learning in their Pre-Birth to Three and Curriculum for Excellence practice.
Evaluation & recognition	SQA National Work-based Award Forest Kindergarten Level 7 Group Award www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/82694.html#
Further contact	For FE lecturers and trainers seeking to undertake the Training for Trainers course E: Hugh.McNish@forestry.scot.gov

Steven White Consultancy

Website	n/a
Course(s)	A range across outdoor learning and play outdoors
Location	Scotland wide.
Course details	Outdoor (risky) play, Mathematics Outdoors, Literacy Outdoors, Outdoor Educational Pedagogical approaches, Leadership and Management, Building the Ambition, curriculum for excellence, GIRFEC, HGIOELC, Attachment in practice, Creative Babies at play, 'Observation, Planning and critical reflection', 'inductions, appraisals and supervision', Sustained shared thinking and emotional well-being, transitions throughout Early Years, supporting families home learning, quality improvement case study approach, story documentation, coaching support and shadowing practice with reflective engagements, keynote speaker.
Evaluation & recognition	<p>Evaluation forms immediately after delivery, coaching sessions provide critical reflection sessions on outcomes, case studies provide plans for review and evaluation.</p> <p>Certificates of attendance and completion are provided at the end of session, indicating half day (3hrs) or full day (5-6hrs).</p>
Further contact	<p>E: stevenwhite1875@gmail.com</p> <p>T: 07562 757598</p>

Stramash	
Website	www.stramash.org.uk
Course(s)	Day courses include Taking Early Years Play and Learning Outdoors; Child-led Learning Outdoors; Messy Math and Early Literacy Outdoors (both courtesy of Creative Star Ltd, and delivered by Stramash). Tailored courses, which can be run across the seasons with the same cohort of trainees, also offered.
Location	Fort William, Elgin, Oban and Inverness (Tornagrain, by Inverness airport). Or we can visit you to provide training suited to your location, and on your premises.
Course details	Offer set training days, plus options for individual organisations, consultancy visits, bespoke CPD opportunities and advice aimed at supporting practitioners and organisations to achieve best practice in the outdoors and/or set up and improve an outdoor space for learning and play in their own setting.
Course details	<p>Courses:</p> <p>Messy Maths - Devised by Juliet Robertson (Creative Star Learning) and delivered and tailored by Stramash with Juliet's kind permission. This 3-hour practical course will explore the resources and responsibilities of the adults, and how to re-purpose any outdoor space – a nature nook or a concrete jungle into a maths-rich environment. It will provide sensible, low-cost and do-able ideas, suggestions and strategies. The aim is active engagement and meeting children's needs through excellent outdoor provision. The content is based upon Juliet Robertson's book, <i>Messy Maths: A Playful, Outdoor Approach for Early Years</i>.</p> <p>Self-directed Play and Learning - This full day workshop will explore the importance of outdoor, self-directed play and learning for children in the Early Years. It will focus on the theories of play and learning, managing challenge and risk in natural play provision and the role of the practitioner in facilitating free-play and choice. The course will involve tutor input and discussion, practical hands-on activities and the opportunity to visit Stramash Outdoor Nursery.</p> <p>Literacy Through Outdoor Play - This 3-hour practical workshop will explore how to promote literacy through play in the outdoors. It will focus on the literacy opportunities in the natural environment, the resources that can be used to support early literacy and the principle role of the practitioner. The workshop will focus on early literacy but will be adapted to cater for those working with children in primary level education.</p>
Evaluation & recognition	Provide all training participants a feedback form to complete Issue certification of attendance with the duration of the course noted.
Further contact	Cameron Sprague is the primary contact for training inquiries. E: Cameron@stramash.org.uk T: 01631 566 080 (Fort William extension), or E: info@stramash.org.uk

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)

Website	www.tcv.org.uk Course advertised through monthly TCV e-bulletins and through quarterly TCV community network bulletins.
Course(s)	Offer a range of courses, including “ Rewild the Child ” - this programme is very much suited to nursery and lower primary age children where families can take part in local parks and woodlands through outdoor play activities.
Location	Scotland-wide
Course details	TCV Scotland offer a range of outdoor courses including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor Play • Bushcraft • Nature Play • Learning for Sustainability • Integrating CfE outdoors • School Green Gym • Food Growing • Citizen Science • Forest skills • Leadership • Environmental games • Making the most of your school grounds • Five ways well
Evaluation & recognition	Evaluation forms are filled out at every training course Certification is provided.
Further contact	Julie Grant - j.grant@tcv.org.uk Tricia Burden - t.burden@tcv.org.uk David Graham - d.graham@tcv.org.uk

The Green Team

Website	https://greenteam.org.uk/our-projects-2
Course(s)	Provide training for ELC practitioners, primary and secondary school teachers, youth workers etc. The training programme is run now with more cooperation with the Edinburgh outdoor team at Bangholm. Offer bespoke training for volunteers, and other training open to all educators is advertised via the Green Team Facebook page and Eventbrite (greenteamedin.eventbrite.co.uk)
Location	Edinburgh
Course details	<p>Previous training courses have included storytelling, fire lighting, outdoor cooking, sensory activities in nature. Courses listed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature Play for pre-school children • Nature Play for pre-school children and their families.
Evaluation & recognition	<p>Use feedback form at the end of the training course - either paper or online through survey monkey. At the start of most training courses we verbally ask what people want to get out of the course to assess their expectations and also if they are actually attending the right course. Normally do a quick verbal review at the end of each course as well e.g. what you learnt, what are you taking away from this course, or how will you apply what you learnt.</p> <p>Provide a certificate of attendance at the end of the training session, stating the name and course they attended.</p> <p>Re. quality we have no benchmark other than we are good at what we do!</p>
Further contact	info@greenteam.org.uk ; Margon van Tuyl margon.vantuyl@gmail.com

The Secret Garden Outdoor Nursery

Website	<p>www.secretgardenoutdoor-nursery.co.uk</p> <p>www.secretgardenoutdoor-nursery.co.uk/events.htm</p>
Course(s)	Offer one-day workshops to those interested in developing their skills in outdoor play and learning.
Location	On site at our outdoor nursery in Letham Woods, in Fife (KY15 7RN), possibly offering workshops at clients' own outdoor sites in the future.
Course details	<p>Workshops provide the opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • find out about the origins of play at the Secret Garden, and how this has developed over more than 10 years • explore the woodland that the children play in, alone and in groups • take part in Nature Connections activities, and practical woodland activities • observe the children at play • engage in discussion with staff, and ask questions • learn about how the Secret Garden staff use listening tools from Hand in Hand Parenting to support relationships and dynamics with the children in the woods.
Evaluation & recognition	<p>Use evaluation form for attendees to fill in at the end of the day, either anonymously or with names on if they prefer. These are used to inform any future improvements to the workshop.</p> <p>Present attendees with a certificate of attendance, signed by the facilitator, at the end of the workshop. Our workshops are one day long, and not accredited by any official body. The workshop is the nursery's own 'creation', developed and crafted to offer the best possible insight into our unique philosophy and practice.</p>
Further contact	enquiries@secretgardenoutdoor-nursery.co.uk

Under the Trees

Website	www.underthetrees.co.uk
Course(s)	Provide training courses in outdoor play/learning
Location	Primarily Falkirk/Stirling but across Scotland
Course details	<p>Your journey Are you at the beginning of your outdoor journey and not sure where to go? This workshop will help you begin your journey, from Health and Safety, to activities and ideas what to do when you get outdoors, we will look at the barriers that may prevent you from heading outdoors and work to find practical solutions to get you outdoors. <i>Time: 1.5 hours Maximum</i></p> <p>Simple Ideas This course is a practical hands-on workshop allowing attendees to gain ideas for simple ideas to use outdoors. The session will look at using natural resources as well as creating some of your own to inspire your session outside. <i>Time: 2 hours</i></p> <p>Story telling outdoors We love bringing stories outside and enjoy bringing them to life. This workshop will allow you to gain ideas on how to bring stories to the outdoors, make your own props to take away and share ideas with other attendees. <i>Time: 2 hours Maximum number</i></p> <p>Literacy Outdoors During this course we will look at ways to aid literacy development outdoors using natural resources and looking at different ways of developing the skill. We will provide ideas that you can take back to your group to allow them to develop their literacy skills, allowing their confidence to develop in the subject. <i>Time: 2 hours Maximum</i></p> <p>Numeracy Outdoors This hands-on course is designed to provide you with ideas on how to take numeracy outdoors and engage with your group to connect and develop their numeracy skills. <i>Time: 2 hours Maximum</i></p> <p>Natural Art Come along and learn and try lots of ideas for engaging arts and your group outdoors, using both natural and man-made resources. <i>Time: 2 hours</i></p>

	<p>Fire</p> <p>Our fire training comes in 3 parts. Part 1 must be completed and signed off before progression (optional) to level 2 and 3. If you already have fire experience but wish to do level 2 or 3, we will need to see you in practice. We want you to be confident and most importantly safe when lighting fires whether that be in your own setting or out in the woodlands.</p> <p>Level 1 - Fire basics and Safety. This training will take attendees through all the stages of safely lighting a fire. During this session attendees will learn how to safely light and manage fires, laws, Health and Safety, different methods for lighting fires, group management, and site selection.</p> <p>Attendees will attend a 3-hour outdoor practical session. (This can be split into 2 sessions). Attendees will be given a workbook and will be asked to work their way through the work book and attend an assessment session within 6 months. Full support will be available throughout.</p> <p>Cost:</p> <p>Level 1 - Discount available for bookings over 10. Time: 3 hours</p> <p>Level 2 - The level 2 fire training builds on the skills previously gained through level one, bringing in the use of Kelly kettles and simple cooking ideas outdoors. Time: 2 hours.</p> <p>Level 3 - Attendees at this session will learn how to cook quick and simple ideas over the camp fire that they can do with their own group. Time: 3 hours.</p> <p><i>No prior knowledge is required!</i></p> <p>This can be booked for one person in your setting to undertake! Insurance can be gained as an outdoor practitioner via Birnbeck Insurance by undertaking either our fire training or our tools training.</p>
<p>Evaluation & recognition</p>	<p>Use feedback forms/ongoing training for our staff Provide evidence/ certification to attendees on training courses on the length of training they have undertaken.</p>
<p>Further contact</p>	<p>E: jess@underthetrees.co.uk ; T: 07854 490 550. Also Facebook, Twitter - @uttjess</p>

Wildside Adventures Ltd

Website	<p>www.wildside.scot/wildside-in-scotland/events</p> <p>www.wildside.scot/wildside-in-scotland</p> <p>www.playlink.org.uk</p>
Course(s)	Provider of training courses in Outdoor Play and Learning for ELC, Primary and play professionals.
Location	Courses take place at the Kilsyth Woodland Centre c/o Kilsyth Primary School, North Lanarkshire; also deliver training at organisations' own settings across the Central Belt.
Course details	<p>Current programme offers:</p> <p>Bridging the Attainment Gap through Outdoor Learning Through a practical scheme of work in the Centre's woodland, strategies for promoting and recognising attainment will be explored in detail. Includes how to harness the power and immediacy of den building, bush craft and camp fire stories to promote critical thinking skills, social and emotional learning, metacognition and involve families in learning. How to develop outdoor resources that contextualise tasks to make them purposeful and relevant to pupils' out-of-school lives. All lesson plans shared.</p> <p>Outdoor Active Problem Solving Promoting the child-led adventure philosophy of Forest Schools, we will experiment with simple bushcraft, design, engineering and graphics contexts outdoors for developing children's technological skills and understanding. (use of hand tools optional). We will look at problem and skill identification, sourcing information, practical experimentation for considering options and identifying success. We will also look at integrated up-levering of literacy through story, timeline and mapping.</p> <p>Literacy Outdoors - Writing it Large A practical framework for planning and delivery of literacy outdoors. How to capitalize on the power of authentic settings, props and resources. Using bushcraft, camp fires and den building to generate literacy motivations and sharing language cultures from our natural heritage. This course will demonstrate a wide range of literacy activities from story stones to washing lines, with ideas for family reading programmes and emotional literacy. All lesson plans shared.</p> <p>Celebrating Diversity - Banquets, Bunting and Bodging Through a practical, woodcraft based and edible scheme of work, build your knowledge of culture far and wide, explore new ways to develop meaningful, festive and secular fellow-ship throughout your school community. Using materials and inspiration from KWC's woods, and earth's natural heritage, we will identify leadership roles and active learning opportunities for embedding equality, diversity and inclusion in the curriculum.</p>

	<p>Critical Skills Outdoors Working with cheap and simple loose materials, this course will demonstrate an exciting programme of practical outdoor activities that generate meaningful experiment and invention, creativity and construction. How to work with children and challenge, to generate child led quality criteria, develop cooperative teamwork communication and organisation, reflective problem solving, and deliver child curated outdoor learning exhibits. All without removing dreams and surprise.</p> <p>Outdoor Journeys in Nurture Programmes This course will demonstrate strategies for using green space/school grounds for fostering emotional literacy and building bridges between home and school, promoting and recognising achievement. Using the Health & Wellbeing curriculum context we will prepare participants in mindfulness strategies, teamwork delivery and practical skills (camp fire snacks/cooking) to foster social skills and competencies through learning and eating outdoors. We will use practical activities to build awareness of the role of the adult in the scaffolding of non-prescriptive play for all ages. This course will also include informal and formal working with loose and natural materials outdoors and how to safely deliver stimulating outdoor opportunities: the role of challenge and comfort in nurture. All lesson plans shared.</p> <p>Sticks, Stones and STEM – hands on science, technology and maths outdoors Using natural and accessible resources, this course will bring real world practical contexts to your lessons. We will explore the sustainable use of the earth’s resources for learning, development and citizenship. This course features practical, meaningful (and sometimes messy) maths and science outdoors and looks at how these tasks help us to interpret, analyse, simplify, solve and make informed decisions. This course will also explore how to have a positive impact on girls’ learning, motivation, attitudes and enthusiasm.</p>
<p>Evaluation & recognition</p>	<p>All CPD trainees complete an evaluation form on site at the end of the attended course. Currently most attendees sign up via the local authority CPD Manager system. Once Wildside confirms their attendance to Education Services, they are awarded credits both towards general training and towards training in Outdoor Learning. Wildside are working with other authorities to identify parity of approaches.</p> <p>An approved centre for delivery of SCQF accredited FOLA qualifications-secondary/adult phase.</p>
<p>Further contact</p>	<p>E: judi@wildside.scot; T: 01786 462745, 07926 169765</p>

Wild!Things

Website	https://wild-things.org.uk/event-category/training-courses
Course(s)	Currently offer Woodland Activity Leader Training, Woodland Activity Leader Training for Early Years Practitioners, Coastal Activity Leader Training & Introduction to Bushcraft for Outdoor Leaders
Location	Available at various locations, UK wide.
Course details	See website for further details.
Evaluation & recognition	Training is accredited by the NCFE
Further contact	E: enquiries@wild-things.org.uk T: 01309 690450

Wildsparks	
Website	www.wildsparks.co.uk/clpl--training
Course(s)	Training workshops for teachers, playworkers, Early Years practitioners and freelance educators
Location	We can travel to venues throughout central Scotland for private bookings. We occasionally deliver scheduled courses at venues in Dundee, Edinburgh, Coupar Angus (Perthshire) and Glasgow.
Course details	<p><u>Risky Play</u> - Exploring the benefits and challenges of embracing and managing risk in outdoor play.</p> <p><u>Sensory Play</u> - Hands on ideas for multi-sensory play in the outdoors</p> <p><u>Literacy Play</u> - Creative and imaginative ideas for taking literacy play outdoors</p> <p><u>Nature Play</u> - Connecting with nature through play with the elements</p> <p><u>Wildlife Wonders</u> - Exploring ways to connect with the nature on your doorstep and use this for cross curricular learning</p> <p><u>Winter Play</u> - Practical tips and ideas to support outdoor play and learning in all weathers and seasons</p> <p><u>Fire and flame</u> - Introduction to fire, from simple fire-lighting techniques to creative use of flame.</p> <p><u>Tool use</u> - Introduction to tool use with young children through both free play and structured creative projects</p> <p><u>Bespoke courses</u> - we can design a course specific to your setting, combining elements of the above themes, or your own new ideas.</p>
Evaluation & recognition	<p>Evaluation forms (paper) at the event, follow up surveys / emails, repeat bookings/attendance. Plan to implement follow up 6-12-month surveys.</p> <p>Provide certificates on request but not as standard. These practices are under review, and accreditation is something Wildsparks is starting to look into.</p>
Further contact	<p>T: Alice Warren: 07943 440267</p> <p>E: alice@wildsparks.co.uk</p>

BACKGROUND & METHODOLOGY

A report for Forestry Commission Scotland (now Scottish Forestry) and Inspiring Scotland was provided in March 2018, on the provision of outdoor play-based learning training for Early Years professionals. In this report, 31 organisations and settings were identified that offered this service.

In November 2019, Scottish Forestry commissioned an update of information on training providers in Scotland. This work entailed:

- Checking websites & contacting 31 listed providers in the report enclosing the details currently provided about them. Existing contacts were sent details currently held for them from the 2018 survey, and asked if there were any amendments/ changes required to update this information. Information was sent out to existing contacts 18/11/19, and some email prompt were required as follow-up.
- Searching for any additional providers via website requests for any additional information. A request was placed on the following Facebook group pages; Outdoor & Woodland Learning (OWL) Scotland, Outdoor Learning & Play Research and Articles, and the Scottish Outdoor Nursery Managers group pages. Information was sent to new contacts obtained by personal communication/ website searches and/or Facebook contact between 18 November – 6 December 2019.

New contacts were sent the following enquiry:

*On behalf of Scottish Forestry, I'm contacting providers of **outdoor play and learning training for Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) practitioners in Scotland**. You may be aware of this if you've responded to my recent Facebook group request – if so, thanks!*

This information will be shared with Scottish Government, and other public sector agencies, and may be published online. Knowledge of training opportunities is important to support the expansion of Early Learning and Childcare provision in Scotland and skills development in the workforce.

If you would like your information to be included, please let me know the following:

1. Confirmation that **you provide training course(s) in outdoor play/ learning for Early Years practitioners/ educators, and that you would like your details to be included**. This assumes that as a course provider, you are not part of the College Development Network.
2. The **location of your training courses** – this could be in fixed location(s), within a local authority area, or Scotland-wide.
3. A brief **description of the course(s)** available.
4. The **relevant webpage links** and your **preferred contact details** for further information.
5. How do you monitor the **quality** of your training courses?

Do you provide evidence/ certification to attendees on your training courses on the length of training they have undertaken?

RESPONSES

Processing any responses were processed and used to update the provider tables.

There are 10 new additions to the providers table:

- Aberlour Futures Aberdeen Early Learning & Childcare Training Centre
Broxburn Family Centre
- Cowgate Under 5's Centre
- Kids Gone Wild
- MAKI Pups
- Mucky Boots
- Mud Pies
- Newbattle Abbey College
- SAPOE (Scottish Association of Providers of Outdoor Education)
- Steven White Consultancy

The following organisations confirmed they do not or no longer offer an Early Years' practitioner training service and their details were removed:

- Border Bushcraft
- Tiptoes Nursery (Larbert, Falkirk)
- Non-responding organisations removed because they do not appear to offer EY courses in Scotland:
- Woodland Outdoor Kindergartens (Glasgow)

The following organisations did not respond with further details to the enquiry, so although they are known/ thought to offer Early Years practitioner training, they are listed in the summary table only, with further details are removed:

- Edinburgh City Council – Edinburgh
- Beasties, Bugs and Bairns – Fife
- Mindstretchers Ltd - Perthshire
- Nature Nurture - Aberdeenshire

In addition, the Scottish Association of Providers of Outdoor Education (SAPOE) were added as they offer ELC professional development opportunities through local authority contacts across Scotland. They were not contacted directly, so their website information only is shown.

This updated information is summarised in the table below (pages 4-9), with further details about most providers on pages 10 - 36. In total, thirty-nine (39) training providers are listed.