**Forest Kindergarten Train the Trainers**

**We would like to thank Juliet Robertson (Creative Star) for sharing these Forest Kindergarten Materials with us.**

**In preparation for training**

[Forest Kindergarten Trainers Manual](https://owlscotland.org/resources/the-forest-kindergarten-trainers-manual/)

[Resource List](https://owlscotland.org/resources/resource-list-fk/) - useful for participants to see when exploring resources (Outcome 2.1). It can be beneficial to add your own notes, resource advice and so on.

[Key Outdoor Learning documents](https://creativestarlearning.co.uk/international/significant-scottish-outdoor-learning-and-play-documents/)

[Forest Kindergarten Guidance for Landowners](https://owlscotland.org/resources/fk-woodland-criteria-table/) (linked to Outcome 1.1c & 1.4 also)

**Introductions**

[Day 1 – Introductions](https://owlscotland.org/resources/day-1-introductions-fk/)

[Getting Ready to go to the Woods](https://owlscotland.org/resources/getting-ready-to-go-to-the-woods-fk/) (linked also to Outcome 2.5)- This covers the examples used to prepare children to get to the woods.

**Place**

[Place Participant Handbook](https://owlscotland.org/resources/place-participant-handbook-fk/)

[1.1(a) Defining Woodland Activity – definition cards](https://owlscotland.org/resources/defining-woodland-activity/)

1.1(a) – range of videos for research:

[OWL Scotland Sustainable Sites Video Series for Early Years Settings](https://owlscotland.org/resources/sustainable-site-management-videos/)

[In Focus: Forest Kindergarten - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8WWrRzf7ZU) - A video from the original pilot

[An Introduction to Forest School - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NV6YYfQl3RI) - A brief summary

[Wee Green Spaces on Vimeo](https://vimeo.com/120621575) - Middleton Park Launch of Wee Green Spaces

[Forest Kindergarten Approach - Learning Outdoors With Confidence | Learning resources | National Improvement Hub (education.gov.scot)](https://education.gov.scot/improvement/learning-resources/forest-kindergarten-approach-learning-outdoors-with-confidence)

[1.1(b) Why Go to The Woodlands – group discussion resources](https://owlscotland.org/resources/why-to-go-to-the-woodlands-group-discussion-resources-fk/)

[1.1(b) What the Research Says](https://owlscotland.org/resources/what-the-research-says-fk/) – coloured research snippets, should be updated for each training course or annually. The [Children & Nature Network](https://www.childrenandnature.org/resource-hub/resources/)  has summaries which are helpful for this. Realising the Ambition also contains guidance on Movement and Coordination Development.

[1.1(b) What is Unique About Woodland – colour poster](https://owlscotland.org/resources/what-is-unique-about-woodland-colour-poster-fk/)

[1.1(c) Embedding The Code and Know the Code Decision Game Cards](https://owlscotland.org/resources/embedding-the-code-decision-game-cards-fk/)

Useful information can be found here [Practical guide for all | Scottish Outdoor Access Code (outdooraccess-scotland.scot)](https://www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot/practical-guide-all)

[1.1(c) Using Scottish Outdoor Access Code Activity card](https://owlscotland.org/resources/using-the-scottish-outdoor-access-code-activity-fk/)

[Scottish Outdoor Access Code - Education Resource Pack](https://www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot/act-and-access-code/education-resources)

[1.2 & 1.3 Finding and Appraising Site Example Checklist - finding and getting permission to use a local greenspace](https://owlscotland.org/resources/finding-and-appraising-site-example-checklist-fk/)

[1.2 & 1.3 Site Appraisal Form](https://owlscotland.org/resources/site-appraisal-form-fk/)

[1.4 Forest Kindergarten Guidance for Landowners](https://owlscotland.org/resources/forest-kindergarten-guidance-for-landowners-2/)

[1.4 Landowners Site Information Checklist & Sample Letter](https://owlscotland.org/resources/landowners-site-information-checklist-and-sample-letter-fk/)

[1.4 Leave Less Trace Nature Play Principles](https://owlscotland.org/resources/leave-less-trace-nature-play-principles-fk/)

[1.5 Sample Risk Benefit Assessment](https://owlscotland.org/resources/sample-risk-benefit-assessment-fk/)

[1.5 Example Risk Benefit Assessment](https://owlscotland.org/resources/example-risk-benefit-assessment-fk/) - in Aberdeen City. You can see that that standard City format has to be used but the benefits and wider thinking have been added to this at the start of the document. It is also a live document. So, the comments from children are from two that were part of the first site visit by a small group of children. Remind participants that RBAs are live documents and must be specific to their group and woodland. They must use their centre’s format.

[1.6 Helping Children Learn Safely Outside](https://owlscotland.org/resources/helping-children-learn-safely-outside-fk/)

[1.6 Daily Site Check Form](https://owlscotland.org/resources/daily-site-check-form-fk/)

[1.6 Daily Off-Site Register](https://owlscotland.org/resources/daily-off-site-register-fk/)

[1.6 Tree Climbing Check](https://owlscotland.org/resources/tree-climbing-check-fk/)

**People**

[People Participant Handbook](https://owlscotland.org/resources/people-participant-handbook-fk/)

[2.1 & 2.2 Station Rotation Downloads – clothing and resources](https://owlscotland.org/resources/station-rotation-downloads-fk/)

[2.1 Resource list](https://owlscotland.org/resources/resource-list-fk-2/)

[2.2 Outdoor Clothing Assessment Form](https://owlscotland.org/resources/outdoor-clothing-assessment-form-fk/)

[2.3 Preparing People Example Checklist](https://owlscotland.org/resources/preparing-people-example-checklist-fk/) - preparations needed to make people ready

[2.3 Play Experience Cards](https://owlscotland.org/resources/play-experience-cards-fk/)

[2.3 Sample Letter to Parent](https://owlscotland.org/resources/sample-letter-to-parent-fk/)

Thanks to Pam Scott, formerly of Mile End Nursery for sharing her parent info documents:

[2.3 Mile End Letter - looking for Parent Helpers](https://owlscotland.org/resources/fk-mile-end-letter-looking-for-parent-helpers/)

[2.3 Mile End Poster](https://owlscotland.org/resources/fk-mile-end-poster/)

Thanks to Jenny Duncan at Cults Nursery who devised this parent briefing:

[2.3 Parent Helper Charter](https://owlscotland.org/resources/parent-helper-charter-fk/)

[2.4 Involving Children Activity Cards](https://owlscotland.org/resources/involving-children-activity-cards-fk/)

[2.5 Getting Ready to go to the Woods – routines & safety games](https://owlscotland.org/resources/getting-ready-to-go-to-the-woods-fk-2/)

[2.5 Hug a Tree Story](https://owlscotland.org/resources/hug-a-tree-story-fk/)

[2.5 Example Missing Child Procedure](https://owlscotland.org/resources/example-planning-reflection-tool-fk/) - checklist of procedures to consider

[2.5 Example Safe Routines Checklist](https://owlscotland.org/resources/example-safe-routines-checklist-fk/) - This document was created to help EY practitioners see the steps in a range of off-site routines. Often staff can be too helpful and step in too soon to assist or simply do not know what children are capable of achieving.

**Pedagogy**

[Pedagogy Participant Handbook](https://owlscotland.org/resources/pedagogy-participant-handbook-fk/)

[3.1 FK Leader’s Checklist](https://owlscotland.org/resources/fk-leaders-checklist/)

[3.1 Set-up Instruction Cards](https://owlscotland.org/resources/set-up-instruction-cards-fk/)

* 1. [Example Planning & Reflection Tool](https://owlscotland.org/resources/example-planning-reflection-tool-fk/)

[3.3 Possible Lines of Development](https://owlscotland.org/resources/possible-lines-of-development-fk/)

* 1. [Curriculum for Excellence Es&Os sheet](https://owlscotland.org/resources/cfe-eos-sheet-fk/) – helpful for reflections on the FK Observation Visit

[3.3 Nature Play Themes](https://owlscotland.org/resources/nature-play-themes-fk/)

[3.3 Es&Os Wee Green Spaces](https://owlscotland.org/resources/e-and-os-wee-green-spaces-fk/)

* 1. [Handouts Observation Participant](https://owlscotland.org/resources/observation-participant-handouts-fk/)

**Forest Kindergarten Songs**

[Forest Kindergarten Song Sheet](https://owlscotland.org/resources/forest-kindergarten-song-sheet/)

[The Owl Song](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cWsdCVT6bO8)

[The Squirrel Song](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yeIm41AgEmw)

[Nature’s All Around Us Everywhere](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CLMRf897uPw)

[The Stickman Song](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QmTZfMmZUs0)

[Skirla-rink-a-dink](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tJwgNAX5l7A)

[Funky Chicken Warm-Up Dance](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Yze6QeKdXQ)

[The Wolf Song](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ish3ZQukihs)

[In training example](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uu4v5OKSifw) of using songs to support and involve children. Thanks to Kyla, Maxine & Kerry.

**Self-Evaluation**

[Example HGIOELC Audit](https://owlscotland.org/resources/example-audit-fk/) – from Wee Green Spaces. The FK training does not include self-evaluation because we expect the observations, quality interactions, documentation, planning and quality assurance to dovetail with what commonly happens in the ELC setting.

**Useful Blog Posts**

Outdoor toilets and children

[Outdoor Toilets and Children | Creative STAR Learning | I'm a teacher, get me OUTSIDE here!](https://creativestarlearning.co.uk/early-years-outdoors/where-to-go-when-you-need-to-go/)

Hand hygiene outdoors

[Hand hygiene outdoors | Creative STAR Learning | I'm a teacher, get me OUTSIDE here!](https://creativestarlearning.co.uk/early-years-outdoors/hand-hygiene-outdoors/)

Do children need to wear high vis vests?

[Should Children Wear High Visibility Vests? | Creative STAR Learning | I'm a teacher, get me OUTSIDE here!](https://creativestarlearning.co.uk/early-years-outdoors/should-children-wear-high-visibility-vests/)

Outdoor Nurseries Pinterest Board – remember to read the explanatory text with each photo

[79 Outdoor Nurseries & Forest Kindergarten ideas | outdoor nursery, forest kindergarten, forest nursery (pinterest.co.uk)](https://www.pinterest.co.uk/creativestar/outdoor-nurseries-forest-kindergarten/)

[Stramash Outdoor Nursery – Kid’s Outdoor Gear Guide](https://stramash.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Gear-Guide-FINAL-21.pdf)

**Further Research and Useful Links**

[Scottish Forestry](https://forestry.gov.scot/forests-people/woods-for-learning/forest-kindergarten) - link to the Forest Kindergarten page but more information about the wider woodland learning can also be accessed.

[OWL Scotland Website](https://owlscotland.org/) - Outdoor and Woodland Learning in Scotland. Lots of resources and information about local OWLS groups which provide local support and activity.

[The Outdoor Learning Directory](https://outdoorlearningdirectory.com/) - Useful portal for a range of Government organisations that support learning and play outside.

[Thrive Outdoors](https://www.inspiringscotland.org.uk/results/?type=publication&fund=thrive-outdoors&order-filter=date) - (Inspiring Scotland) have a wealth of resources to support learning and play outdoors and this includes [Scotland’s Coalition for Outdoor Learning and Play Statement](https://www.inspiringscotland.org.uk/publication/scotlands-coalition-outdoor-play-learning-position-statement/).