

Taking Learning Outdoors

The purpose of the resource is to suggest activities and approaches that could be used to take learning outdoors in early learning and childcare settings and primary schools. This resource has been developed through the RAiSE Programme. Raising Aspirations in Science Education (RAiSE) is a programme of The Wood Foundation, Education Scotland, Scottish Government and participating local authorities which enhances the delivery of STEM education in primary schools. This resource supports teachers to take learning outdoors with suggested approaches from Early to Second Level. For each level, there are suggested literacy, numeracy and STEM planners. These have been designed around the seasons for the year. These activities and approaches should be viewed as useful starting points and suggestions and they are in no way prescriptive.

Schools and centres are encouraged to bundle Experiences and Outcomes (E&Os) together when planning learning and teaching. These planning resources are mainly aligned to individual E&Os however some have more than one E&O where it is appropriate. This approach was taken to provide maximum flexibility to establishments to allow them to bundle E&Os in a way most appropriate to them. This approach matches well with settings and establishments planning learning to fit their own, local context and the interests of their young people.

We have included a section which outlines safety considerations. This is not there to put you off going outside, but will hopefully help you consider and plan for the session safely. Local guidelines may be in operation either across your authority or within your own setting and these should be referred to in the first instance.

The resource has been developed by practitioners, for practitioners.