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Outdoor Play for Early Learners

- Create rock collection (to leave outside)
- Take old pots, pans, metal baking dishes to play with in the snow or dirt
- Gather materials from nature to create a collage (pine cones, leaves, twigs, etc)
- Build snow forts or a snowman
- Search for signs of spring
- Use items from nature or man-made to make an obstacle course
- Use a cardboard box to create a den for an animal or a home for a bird
- Find a just right walking stick and decorate it with paint
- Take an old sieve and strain water in puddles to see what treasures you may find
- Use dish brushes and water based paint 'decorate' the snow, rocks or maybe even a tree
- Sidewalk chalk (when the snow all melts!)
- Collect small sticks, leaves, pine cones, and rocks and sort them based on certain things e.g. short/long, skinny/fat, smooth/bumpy, crunchy/soggy, etc
- Use a box lid to place a paper or rocks in and add some paint. Move the lid around to create a masterpiece
- Ask an adult to dig a small hole in the grass with a shovel and search for insects.
- Small pieces of PVC pipe, wood or cardboard tubing are great things to add to outdoor play
- Cut off the top of a large plastic pop bottle and find a lid from a plastic container to make a bug catcher *(see image below)*



- Outdoor Learning Activities for Kids Unexpectedly Stuck at Home