

GET INVOLVED IN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM DAY!

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS TO HELP YOU PLAN A FANTASTIC OUTDOOR CLASSROOM DAY!



BEFOREHAND

- Sign up** to say you are taking part!
- Plan ahead** – knowing what you are going to do and how you are going to do it will make sure things go smoothly – but do leave some room to be inspired on the day!
- If the whole school is going to get outside, agree a timetable in advance so that everyone has a fair share of the outdoor space.
- Make sure you have permissions for photos from parents and let your photographer know if there is anyone who can't be photographed. Scan the forms so you can **send them** with your photography competition entries! (Forms can be downloaded from the resources section of the website).
- Involve parents and carers. Getting their support and input will make the day even better – and if children are going to come home a little bit grubby it's good that they know why!
- Think about involving other people from your community, including celebrities, local faith leaders, the police and businesses owners.
- If you don't have any school grounds, then think about using the street outside your school (can it be closed?) Or you could go to your local park or open green space for the day.
- Be prepared for the weather. Make sure everyone – children and adults – have the right clothes and protection so they can concentrate on having fun!

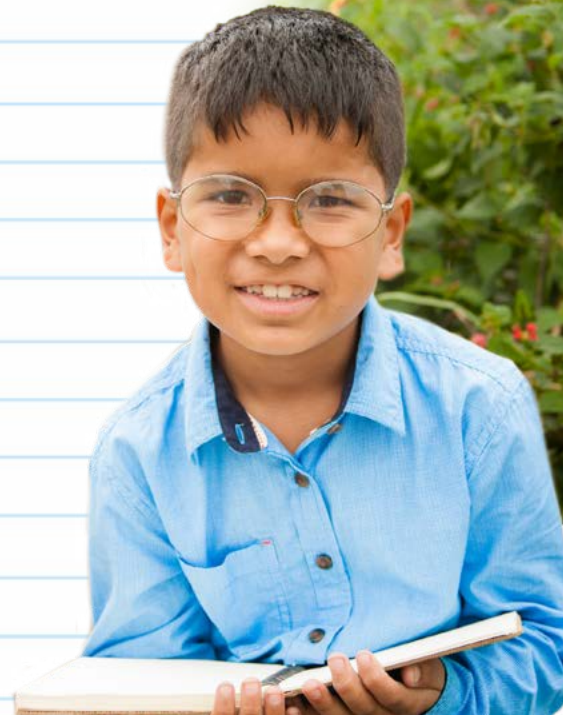


ON THE DAY

- Get everyone involved – What about having an outdoor assembly for the whole school?
- Consider making the day a non school uniform day, or an old school uniform day, so it doesn't matter if they get messy.
- Think about theming the day and linking into other lessons before and after – there are loads of ideas in the suggested lesson plans, which can be downloaded from the resources section of the website!
- Record your experiences – take photographs and videos of the fun that you have had and share them to inspire others!

AFTERWARDS

- Share your experiences. Outdoor Classroom Day is all about building a movement, so inspire everyone! Send a press release, put up photos on noticeboards, include information in your newsletters, publish a report on your websites, give a presentation to governors.
- Check out what everyone else has shared – are there great ideas for next year?
- Send your photos and stories to info@outdoorclassroomday.com and share with the world! Post on Twitter or Facebook.
- Can the resources in the Outdoor Library help you make outdoor learning and play part of the every school day?
- Can you also inspire parents to get their children outdoors more too outside of school?



THE LEGAL STUFF:

Going outside on your own school ground is straightforward and shouldn't require any special permissions. If you are going off site then make sure you abide by your school's off site rules and procedures.

Make sure that you carry out a risk/benefit assessment of the activities you are going to do – whether off site or on site (see "Taking a Balanced Approach to Risk and Benefit" by Tim Gill in the Outdoor Library) – and have the right first aid/incident reporting procedures in place.

If you are going off site you need to make sure that your insurance policy covers you for any liabilities in accordance with any usual off site activities that you undertake. This also applies to any transportation that you may be using.

There is a whole community of teachers from around the world who are waiting to welcome you outdoors and share practice, ideas and successes. Connect with them by sharing your experiences on the Outdoor Classroom Day [Facebook page](#), on [Twitter](#) and on [Instagram](#) with the hashtag #outdoorclassroom. You can also share with parents on #dirtisgood!