Playing Well Together

Spreading Play Across North Carolina

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Foundations for Play in NC

- Promotion & Communication
- Community
- Events
- Recreation
- Nature
- Health
- Training & Professional Development
- Education
- Networking & Collaboration
Who’s Playing Well in NC?
Statewide Connections

• North Carolina Children and Nature Coalition
• Active Play Alliance
• Shape NC
• Kids Eat Smart Move More
• Eat Smart Move More NC
• Nature Play Corp
NC Children and Nature Coalition

NCCAN!’s vision is that children will have the opportunity to value, discover and experience the natural world around them.

NCCAN!’s mission is to establish a relationship between children and the natural world by bringing together people and organizations to strengthen, broaden and support efforts that build these connections.

20 member leadership team
150+ groups and organizations
6 Conferences
Undetermined # of connection made
NC Active Play Alliance

Increase awareness in educators, parents and community members for and about the importance of children’s play while increasing the opportunities and time children spend engaged in play.
NC Play Daze: 2011-2012 Impact

Registered Play Daze Events

- 2011: 28
- 2012: 39

Play Daze Participants

- 2011: 6792
- 2012: 7626

2012 Play Daze Age Distribution

- 0-5
- 6-11
- 12-14
- 15-18
- 19-30
- 31-49
### 20 Core Team Members
*(10 teachers, 10 parents)*

### 45 Teachers effected

### 36 Parents involved

### 497 Students participated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are we measuring</th>
<th>Who is being measured</th>
<th>How will we measure it</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase in physical activity</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Pedometers, facilitated by evaluator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in teaching time due to smoother transitions</td>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>Teacher survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduction in disputes on the playground</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Teacher survey, school-wide incident reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in pleasure during recess</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Student survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in creative play</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Student survey, teacher survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in problem solving</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Student survey, teacher survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in academic performance</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Student survey, teacher survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in interest/attention</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Student survey, teacher survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in attitudes towards free play and loose parts</td>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>Teacher interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in management behaviors</td>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>Evaluator observations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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[Children's Scrapstore logo]

[HD Tisha Powell logo]
Health Aspect
Health Aspect
Health Aspect

37+ Child care centers influenced
600+ Child care providers and teachers educated (knowledge & behaviors)
68 New trainers trained
7000+ Children reached
Education Aspect

Higher Education and Professional Development Goals for Outdoor Learning Environments & Early Childhood Curriculum

Skills
Knowledge
Dispositions
Motivation
Education Aspect

Early Childhood Courses Focused on Outdoor Learning Goals

- EDU 119 Introduction to Early Childhood Education
- EDU 153 Health, Safety and Nutrition
- EDU 151 Creative Activities
- EDU 157 Active Play
- EDU 252 Exploration Activities
- EDU 259 Curriculum Planning
- EDU 288 Advanced Issues
Embedded into our Early Childhood Associate Degree Program

• Playful Pedagogy
• Play Leader Training
• Growing Up Wild
• Project Learning Tree
• Play Daze Events
• Discovery Day in the Gardens
• Film Festival

6 Community colleges involved
7+ Courses altered
350+ Educators influenced
Education Aspect

Knowledge

• Identify and describe outdoor experiences that will facilitate development in all domains, including: Science and nature, Nutrition, Gross and Fine Motor, Dramatic Play, Creative Arts, Language and Literacy.

• Identify community resources to enhance outdoor learning.

• Define strategies for involving families and local communities in outdoor learning.

• Justify policies that support a broad and nature-integrated curriculum that is multi-disciplinary, multi-sensory, and emergent.

• Articulate the benefits of daily outdoor spontaneous and unstructured play as well as intentional outdoor learning experiences.

• Identify elements of appropriate and inappropriate outdoor environments for ALL children and give rationale for decisions.

• Discuss research-based connections between children’ holistic development and their experiences in natural surroundings.

Sandhills Community College
Education Aspect

Skills

- Demonstrate an understanding of the current knowledge of outdoor environments and children’s development.

- Design developmentally appropriate outdoor learning environments for all age levels.

- Utilize an assessment tool, such as POEMS, to evaluate an outdoor learning environment and make appropriate recommendations.

- Advocate for access to high-quality outdoor experiences for ALL children.

- Create developmentally appropriate activities to facilitate learning and development in all domains in an outdoor learning environment that promotes all areas of development.

- Model active engagement and exploration of outdoor learning to children.

- Plan a family and community event focusing on the importance of daily outdoor learning for children.

- Motivate children to respect the natural learning environment.
Education Aspect

Dispositions & Motivation

- Reflect on personal experiences with the outdoors, nature, nutrition, and physical activity; identify positive or negative feelings associated with particular aspects of each and examine possible reasons for each.

- Examine relationship between personal experience and current attitudes or interactions with children.

- Identify personal attitudes or feelings toward concepts such as unstructured play, risk vs. challenge, child safety, messy play, etc. and think about how those attitudes and feelings influence interactions with children and activity planning.

- Realize and accept that outdoor play can be messy, that children thrive with opportunities for appropriate risk-taking, and that safe environments can include challenges.

- Evaluate attitudes regarding reduce, reuse, and recycle and the impact those attitude have on behavior.
Goals:

Children and youth outside being physically active, making choices, having fun, and forming friendships!

Sandhills Community College’s Early Childhood Education students engaged in actively observing and facilitating outdoor play for a wide age range of children.

[View of Campbell House Property]
Play Daze September 2012

Who Came?

- Southern Pines Primary Preschool Classes
  - 40 (4-yr olds)

- Southern Pines Primary and Elementary students
  - Year round students on fall break
    - 40 (5-12 yr olds)
  - 3rd grade
    - 50 (8 yr olds)
  - 4th grade
    - 50 (9 yr olds)
  - 5th grade
    - 50 (10 yr olds)
Dr. Aaron Spence, Superintendent
Moore County Public Schools
Keep on Keeping On!
Nature Aspect

Connecting Children with Nature Through Play
Opportunities for Risk Taking
Gardening and Digging
Training
Community Involvement
Research
Training

(I appreciated) the collaborative process, hearing each other's ideas because we all have different backgrounds and experiences to contribute.

I am most thankful for imparting the value of play for our children.
I have experienced difficulties in attempting to convince our school admin about this.

To be honest, I had just about given up on my career as an educator, thinking that I was being radical.

You have convinced me to not give in, but fight for my little ones.
Community Involvement

Playful PEDAGOGY
inspire play. everyday.

Activities for All Ages
- Fort Building
- Sand and Water Play
- Building Fairy Huts
- Playing with Clay
- Face Painting
- Jump Ropes/Hula Hoops/Balls
- And Much More!!!

Play Daze

When: Saturday, April 27th
Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Where: The O’Neal School
(McMurray Hall - The O’Neal Lower School)
3300 Airport Road, Southern Pines

Parents’ Association Tag Sale
8:00am - 12:00pm
Bradshaw Hall Dining Commons
Mother Nature’s Child
A documentary film exploring nature’s powerful role in children’s health and development
Featuring Richard Louv, author of *Last Child In The Woods*
Playing in a McMurray Hall Classroom!!!

A collaborative event involving Sandhills Community College, Sandhills YAEYC, Moore County Partners for Children & Families, NC208, Be Active Kids, The O’Neal School, and Play Alliance.
Community Design Aspect

Nature Play Corps
Preventing Obesity by Design
Natural Play and Learning Area Guidelines Project

http://www.naturalearning.org
That’s All Folks!

Richard Rairigh

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