



MODULE 1 ASSESSMENT

The great outdoors offers so many opportunities for interpretation and choice, providing children with enriching learning experiences. Throughout this topic, nature pedagogue and author, Niki Buchan, explores the concept of nature-based pedagogy in the early years, what nature-based practice is and why it is so important for children and adults to connect to nature. With practical suggestions on creating a positive ethos for nature-based learning in all types of environments.

The following assessment will now support you in reflecting on your adopting an approach to nature-based learning. You will be able to demonstrate that the information you have listened to has embedded, and your answers will create opportunities to implement sustainable action in your setting.

QUESTION 1

What is a Nature Based Pedagogy?

QUESTION 2

What are the benefits of adopting a nature-based pedagogy?



MODULE 1 ASSESSMENT CONTINUED

QUESTION 3

What are the benefits of nature-based learning in an outdoor environment in comparison to an indoor environment?

QUESTION 4

In order to give children opportunities to be capable and confident what needs to be put in place?

QUESTION 5

To keep children safe what the best course of action?





MODULE 2 ASSESSMENT

QUESTION 1

What are the benefits for children if they are given opportunities to explore nature?

QUESTION 2

Which areas of development can be enhanced by giving children opportunities to experience nature?



MODULE 2 ASSESSMENT CONTINUED

QUESTION 3

How can experiencing varied weather conditions benefit children?

QUESTION 4

What is the most magical part of Nature Based Pedagogy?

QUESTION 5

What changes could you make to your outdoor area to make it more nature based?





MODULE 3 ASSESSMENT

QUESTION 1

What is the biggest difference to outdoor play provision that Niki describes across the globe and why?

QUESTION 2

What is the benefit to accidents and injuries and how can you ensure parents are on board with risk opportunities that may result in accidents and injury?



MODULE 3 ASSESSMENT CONTINUED

QUESTION 3

In the episode Niki highlights a quote from Lady Jane Allen of Hurtwood who created the first adventure playground in the UK, what was this important quote and what could this quote mean to practitioners?

QUESTION 4

Why is Nature based learning a key component to keeping children safe?

QUESTION 5

Outcome driven practice and activities can have what effect on children?





MODULE 4 ASSESSMENT

QUESTION 1

How can you adopt a nature-based ethos if you do not have access to a suitable outdoor environment?

QUESTION 2

Developing a love of nature at a young age has what effect?



MODULE 4 ASSESSMENT CONTINUED

QUESTION 3

Nature based learning gives children what?

QUESTION 4

If you have practitioners that are resistant in adopting a nature-based learning approach, what can you do?

QUESTION 5

What are some useful hints and tips Alistair and Niki gave?





REFLECTION SECTION

From listening to all 4 episodes and completing all assessments as part of this module, it is now time to highlight the key takeaways and knowledge you have gained from this Continuous Professional Development module.

Key areas to reflect on:

- *What have you learnt and how this will impact your practice?*
- *What changes you intend to make in your setting from the knowledge you have gained from this module?*
- *What is the desired impact of the changes you intend to make for the children?*

Please also ensure to give a copy of this assessment including your reflection section to your senior leader, this is a key part of Ofsted 3 I's when reviewing, reflecting and making changes and will support you in your next inspection.





REFLECTION SECTION CONTINUED

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ANSWER SHEETS





MODULE 1 ASSESSMENT

The great outdoors offers so many opportunities for interpretation and choice, providing children with enriching learning experiences. Throughout this topic, nature pedagogue and author, Niki Buchan, explores the concept of nature-based pedagogy in the early years, what nature-based practice is and why it is so important for children and adults to connect to nature. With practical suggestions on creating a positive ethos for nature-based learning in all types of environments.

The following assessment will now support you in reflecting on your adopting an approach to nature-based learning. You will be able to demonstrate that the information you have listened to has embedded, and your answers will create opportunities to implement sustainable action in your setting.

QUESTION 1

What is a Nature Based Pedagogy?

Answer 1 (Answers may vary)

- Working in nature with children
- Giving children opportunities to experience a varied learning environment in nature.

QUESTION 2

What are the benefits of adopting a nature-based pedagogy?

Answer 2 (Answers may vary)

- Supports children's mental health and anxiety.
- Gets practitioners outdoors which is also a secondary benefit to support practitioners' mental health as, research shows that when you go outside your stress levels drop and the more time you spend outside the bigger the benefits
- The outdoors offers more benefits than the indoors and builds self-confidence and self-esteem.



MODULE 1 ASSESSMENT ANSWERS CONTINUED

QUESTION 3

What are the benefits of nature-based learning in an outdoor environment in comparison to an indoor environment?

Answer 3 (Answers may vary)

- Childs play and choice can be restrictive in the indoors.
- Nature based learning offers lots of opportunities for interpretation and creativity.
- Practitioners have more opportunity to scaffold learning in the outdoors.
- The learning that happens outdoors is natural and initiated by the children and their interests.
- High level of engagement by the children outdoors.
- Minimises behaviour issues that are common in indoor areas.

QUESTION 4

In order to give children opportunities to be capable and confident what needs to be put in place?

Answer 4 (Answers may vary)

- Unstructured learning
- Opportunities for varied experiences and environments
- Allowing children to assess and manage risk as you can only learn to control your body once you have pushed your body to review its capabilities.

QUESTION 5

To keep children safe what the best course of action?

Answer 5 (Answers may vary)

- Teach children to keep themselves safe by giving opportunities and experiences for them to risk assess, manage risk.
- Children need to know the risks and how to mitigate these to keep themselves safe and learn.





MODULE 2 ASSESSMENT

QUESTION 1

What are the benefits for children if they are given opportunities to explore nature?

Answer 1 (Answers may vary)

- Awe and wonder of being outdoors.
- The human brain is drawn to different experiences and the outdoors gives unexpected opportunities for the children to explore.
- Interesting and unstructured opportunities for learning.

QUESTION 2

Which areas of development can be enhanced by giving children opportunities to experience nature?

Answer 2 (Answers may vary)

- Physical Development
- Communication and language
- Social development
- Emotional development
- Every area can be and is enhanced by children exploring nature outdoors. .



MODULE 2 ASSESSMENT ANSWERS CONTINUED

QUESTION 3

How can experiencing varied weather conditions benefit children?

Answer 3 (Answers may vary)

- Sensory exploration and input
- Your brain and body reacts and responds to weather
- Creativity and ideas for play change depending on the weather
- Neurological opportunities for processing and learning.
- Problem solving

QUESTION 4

What is the most magical part of Nature Based Pedagogy?

Answer 4 (Answers may vary)

- Being in touch with and experiencing nature along with the learning that can occur with the opportunities nature provides with no practitioner input necessary
- Learning of the effect that weather has, and the learning opportunities seasons provide.
- The outdoors supports the immune system.

QUESTION 5

What changes could you make to your outdoor area to make it more nature based?

Answer 5 (Answers may vary)

- Keep the garden as natural as possible
- Leaving leaves, grass and minibeasts for the children to explore
- Ensuring your space is not devoid of nature.
- Planting plants
- Speak to families and ask for debris from home gardens to enhance learning and experiences.
- Put stones and debris on top of artificial or bark surfaces.
- Speak to tree surgeons for cuts of trees to add to your area.





MODULE 3 ASSESSMENT

QUESTION 1

What is the biggest difference to outdoor play provision that Niki describes across the globe and why?

Answer 1 (Answers may vary)

- Our attitudes and approach to risk vary greatly.
- Fear of litigation or worry of accident and injury.
- From Niki's experience children that have more opportunities for risk and outdoor learning are calmer with minimal behaviour issues.
- In other countries there are less resources which encourages more creativity and a deeper level of play.

QUESTION 2

What is the benefit to accidents and injuries and how can you ensure parents are on board with risk opportunities that may result in accidents and injury?

Answer 2 (Answers may vary)

- Learning opportunities
- Support children with risk assess and risk management.
- Children will learn of their physical capabilities.
- Discuss with families the process of your choice of pedagogy.
- The benefits and learning outcomes to allowing children to explore and take risks outdoors.
- Discuss the parents' experiences and memories of outdoors.
- Advising parents that minor injuries are learning opportunities and support children in their development.



MODULE 3 ASSESSMENT ANSWERS CONTINUED

QUESTION 3

In the episode Niki highlights a quote from Lady Jane Allen of Hurtwood who created the first adventure playground in the UK, what was this important quote and what could this quote mean to practitioners?

Answer 3 (Answers may vary)

- Rather a broken bone than a broken spirit, a broken bone will heal and a spirit might not.
- This quote means that if you experience life to its fullest there may be small physical injury but you are building wellbeing, self-esteem, learning and resilience.

QUESTION 4

Why is Nature based learning a key component to keeping children safe?

Answer 4 (Answers may vary)

- Children learn of their physical capabilities.
- Once we understand our bodies and what we can and can't do it makes us much safer.
- As children, if you gain a good knowledge of your physical capabilities this minimises fear later in life.

QUESTION 5

Outcome driven practice and activities can have what effect on children?

Answer 5 (Answers may vary)

- Children learn to expect outcomes and instruction which stifles the opportunities for creative and problem-solving play.
- - Limited opportunity for cause and effect, trying and failing.
- - Trains children's brains to follow a sequence of events that result in a predetermined outcome that was determined by the adult not child.





MODULE 4 ASSESSMENT

QUESTION 1

How can you adopt a nature-based ethos if you do not have access to a suitable outdoor environment?

Answer 1 (Answers may vary)

- Take the children to a new environment using public transport or buses.
- Bring nature into your space such as flowers and natural items such as twigs to allow the children to investigate and play with.
- Create a minibeast space for the children to explore.

QUESTION 2

Developing a love of nature at a young age has what effect?

Answer 2 (Answers may vary)

- Children that learn to love nature when young will grow to protect and understand the outdoors and the importance of nature.
- Children will remember the engaging and enjoyable experiences they had in nature.



MODULE 4 ASSESSMENT ANSWERS CONTINUED

QUESTION 3

Nature based learning gives children what?

Answer 3 (Answers may vary)

- Nature based learning gives children what they need in every area of development as nature is open ended, ambiguous space.
- Physical development opportunities
- Creativity
- Problem solving
- Cause and effect
- Build their brain.
- Social and emotional wellbeing.
- Physical capabilities

QUESTION 4

If you have practitioners that are resistant in adopting a nature-based learning approach, what can you do?

Answer 4 (Answers may vary)

- Take practitioners outside for a team meeting to discuss the benefits and feelings the outdoors and nature gives.
- Talk about the outdoor space and review what you can see, feel and hear.
- Review and analyse at the end of the meeting what was the difference in how they feel compared to an indoor staff meeting?

QUESTION 5

What are some useful hints and tips Alistair and Niki gave?

Answer 5 (Answers may vary)

- Practicing with children to get dressed and undressed to support exploring outdoors and transitioning back indoors is made simpler.
- Drying areas for clothes
- Taking necessities with you such as a portaloos or picnic so children can take care of their basic needs whilst experiencing nature.

