



Research into residential experiences has shown there to be real benefits to attainment and life skills that our children need in order to become confident learners.

Teachers saw the impact of residentials on achievement in school through:

- ◆ increased progress in learning
- ◆ improved confidence and motivation
- ◆ students having a better awareness of their strengths and weaknesses and knowing what to do to improve
- ◆ a more collaborative approach to learning.
- ◆ Improved relationships with pupils which included greater understanding of preferred pupil learning styles

More information can be found at :  
<http://learningaway.org.uk>



## What does your child need?

*There's no such thing as bad weather  
— only bad clothing.*

Our weather, as we all know, can change quickly from sun to snow! Making sure your child is dressed appropriately lets them enjoy learning without worrying about getting messy or cold.

- ◆ Wellies, old boots or old shoes
- ◆ Lots of layers are good, vests, long sleeved tops, t-shirts and jumpers
- ◆ Coats that are waterproof and warm
- ◆ Hats and gloves are essential in cold weather.



### Learning Outdoors Support Team (LOST)

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East Ayrshire Outdoor Education



## Outdoor Learning ...the parents' guide



Proud to be UK Council of the Year



## Numeracy and Mathematics Outdoors

Math is all around us in our everyday environment, from the right angles on picnic benches, to the symmetry found on buildings.

Labelling and identifying this for children from a young age supports their learning of concepts and vocabulary and increases their understanding as they have the chance to work through skills in an active and practical way.



### Things you can do:

- ◆ Identify and count angles on your walk to school
- ◆ Use house numbers to identify odd and even numbers
- ◆ Use sets of objects to learn times tables, e.g. windows on houses each house has 4 so use that row to learn 4,8,12,16 etc
- ◆ Identify shapes in the environment both 2D and 3D
- ◆ Use a stick to find lines of symmetry on objects around you



### More ideas can be found at:

[www.education.gov.scot/parentzone/Documents/Numeracy\\_Measurement.pdf](http://www.education.gov.scot/parentzone/Documents/Numeracy_Measurement.pdf)

[www.everydaymaths.org/images/docs/FamilyActivity.pdf](http://www.everydaymaths.org/images/docs/FamilyActivity.pdf)



## Health and Wellbeing Outdoors

Being in natural environments can have a positive impact on our health and wellbeing; encouraging us to be more physically active, more relaxed, calmer and able to concentrate.



Research shows that following time outside children also concentrate and focus better on their work indoors. Playing and learning outside allows children the opportunity to assess and manage risks, they can learn to cross roads safely, climb trees, understand the dangers of water and keep themselves safe and healthy in their community.

### More information can be found at:

[www.nature.scot/professional-advice/contributing-healthier-scotland/our-natural-health-service](http://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/contributing-healthier-scotland/our-natural-health-service)

[www.beyondyourboundary.scot](http://www.beyondyourboundary.scot)

## Literacy Outdoors

Learning to read, write, listen and talk are all very important in a child's development. The outdoors stimulates the use of these skills.

### Things you can do:

- ◆ Point out signs on your way to school, talk about what they mean
- ◆ Try and find all the letters of the alphabet on the signs, shops, cars registrations
- ◆ Create a character together, does it have a name? Where does it live? Does it have family? What does it like to do?
- ◆ Take a walk somewhere new, pick up objects along the way and see if you can create a map with



them when you get home

- ◆ Write letters on stones and use them to practise spelling words



### More ideas can be found at:

[www.literacytrust.org.uk/parents-and-families/](http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/parents-and-families/)

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-at-home/Supporting%20literacy%20at%20home>

[www.johnmuirtrust.org/about/resources/1248-john-muir-award-resource-guide-literacy-nature](http://www.johnmuirtrust.org/about/resources/1248-john-muir-award-resource-guide-literacy-nature)

