

Nature Play and Learning: Play and Science

For Childcare Professionals and Educators Pre-K through Grade 3

Children develop curiosity, wonder, a sense of place, and an appreciation for the earth when they play in nature and with nature. In their nature-based play, children encounter natural phenomena, ask meaningful questions, work collaboratively, solve problems, communicate, and practice science and engineering skills. **Join this professional development session** for childcare professionals and early elementary educators who would like to, or already do, provide regular and extended nature-based play and learning opportunities for children.



This session will focus on various ways that children interact with the natural world through play, and will support early childhood educators in fostering rich and developmentally appropriate outdoor experiences for children in their care. From a starting point of play, we will share several hands-on science activities that build and expand on different play “motifs.” This session will take place on:

August 7, 2021, 9:00-12:00 at Visual Eyes Creativity Center, Thetford, VT

* This session will take place outside, following CDC and VT state COVID guidance. Please be sure to have a mask with you, and dress for the weather!

This session will include:

- extended time outdoors
- hands-on science activities
- suggested resources to enhance change in practice
- welcome and closing circles
- commitments to enrich/extend nature-based play and learning opportunities for children
- reflection and support for changes in practice

Cost: Free, thanks to a generous grant from the Wellborn Ecology Fund
3 hours of professional development
Maximum enrollment 12

Contact elly@fwni.org or call 802.353.0919 to secure your spot

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