Resource List
Association of Children’s Museums Interactivity 2016
Nature Maker Spaces: Engaging with Outdoor Loose Parts

Contacts:
Christina Chappell, EcoTarium, Manager of Education  
cchappell@ecotarium.org
Sheri Cifaldi-Morrill, Stepping Stones Museum for Children, Director of Exhibit Design & Delivery  
scheri@steppingstonesmuseum.org
Tobey Eugenio, Independent Consultant  
teugenio@comcast.net
Jeremiah Sazdanoff, Portland Children’s Museum, Director of Museum Experience  
JSazdanoff@portlandcm.org
Amanda Wilkening, Hands On Children’s Museum, Olympia, Art Studio & Visitor Engagement Manager  
awilkening@hocm.org

Books for Children:
10 Things I Can Do to Help My World  Melanie Walsh, Candlewick Press
A Book Depicting the Life of Charles Darwin, Naturalist, Geologist & Thinker  Peter Sis, Farrar Straus Giroux
A Cold Day  Lola M. Schaefner, Capstone Press
Acorn to Oak Tree  Alexandra Koken, ed., QEB Publishing
A Rainy Day  Lola M. Schaefner, Capstone Press
A Snowy Day  Lola M. Schaefner, Capstone Press
A Sunny Day  Lola M. Schaefner, Capstone Press
Dinosaur Dig  Penny Dale, Nosy Crow
Everybody Needs a Rock.  Baylor, Byrd and Peter Parnall. Scribner’s Sons
Feathers for Lunch  Lois Ehlert, HMH Books for Young Readers
How a Seed Grows  Helene J. Jordan, Harper Trophy
I Love Our Earth  Bill Martin, Jr., Michael Sampson, Charlesbridge
In the Garden  Leslie Bockol, innovativeKids
Leaf Man  Lois Ehlert, Harcourt
Michael Recycle Meets Litterbug  Doug Ellie Bethel, iDW/Jonas Publishing/Worthwile Books
Mighty Tree  Dick Gackenbach, Voyager Books
My Pet Rock, Greg  Granite Jerry Brotzge, Tate Publishing
Once There Was a Tree  Natalia Romanova, Puffin Books
Our Community Garden  Barbara Pollak, Beyond Words Publishing
Planting a Rainbow  Lois Ehlert, Harcourt
Plantzilla  Jerdie Nolen, Voyager Books
Rocks in His Head  Carol Otis Hurst, Greenwillow
Rocks! Rocks! Rocks!  Nancy Elizabeth Wallace, Scholastic
The Animal Book  Steve Jenkins, HMH Books for Young Readers
The Art Box  Gail Gibbons, Holiday House
The Building Book  Sue Tarsky, illustrated by Alex Ayliffe, Houghton Mifflin
The Tiny Seed  Eric Carle, Scholastic
The Way Things Work  David Macaulay
Tops and Bottoms  Janet Stevens, Harcourt
Verdi  Janell Cannon, HMH Books for Young Readers
Whose Garden Is It?  Mary Ann Hoberman, Harcourt
Who Will Plant a Tree?  Jerry Pallotta, Sleeping Bear Press
Wild Fibonacci: Nature’s Secret Code Revealed  Joy N. Hulme, Tricycle Press

Children’s Nature Guides:
Eyewitness Explorers: Trees  Linda Gamlin, DK Children
The City Kid’s Field Guide  Ethan Herberman, Silver Burdett
Urban Roosts Where Birds Nest in the City  Barbara Bash, Little, Brown Books for Young Readers
Books for Adults and Curriculum Development:

**101 Kid-Friendly Plants: Fun Plants and Family Garden Projects** Cindy Krezel, Ball Publishing

**Access Nature** Bethe Gilbert Almeras & David Heath, National Wildlife Federation

**Botany on Your Plate: Investigating the Plants We Eat** Katharine D. Barrett, Jennifer M. White & Christine Manoux, National Gardening Association

**Children Learning about Biodiversity at an Environment Centre, a Museum and at Live Animal Shows** Kimble, G. Studies in Educational Evaluation 4 (2013): 48-57

This article shows how different situations foster different types of learning. A great launching point for observation-based activities.

**Design Thinking for Educators Handbook** (download from IDEO website www.designthinkingforeducators.com)

**Discovering the Naturalist Intelligence: Science in the School Yard** Jenna Glock, Susan Wertz & Maggie Meyer, Zephyr Press

**Early Sprouts: Cultivating Healthy Food Choices in Young Children** Karrie Kalich, Dottie Bauer & Deirdre McPartlin, Redleaf Press

**Growing Up Wild** The Council for Environmental Education

**Hands-On Nature** Jenepher Lingebach & Lisa Purcell, Vermont Institute of Natural Science

**How to be an Explorer of the World: Portable Life Museum** Keri Smith, Penguin Books

**I Love Dirt! 52 Activities to Help You and Your Kids Discover the Wonders of Nature** Jennifer Ward, Roost Books

**Invent to Learn: Making, Tinkering and Engineering in the Classroom** Sylvia Libow Martinez and Gabriel Stanger, Ph.d., Constructing Modern Knowledge Press

**Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder** Richard Louv, Algonquin Books

**Nature Smart: Awesome Projects to Make with Mother Nature’s Help** Gwen Diehn, Terry Krautwurst, Alana Anderson, Joe Rhatigan & Heather Smith, Main Street

**Project Seasons** Deborah Parrella, Shelburne Farms


This study explores how conversations can be facilitated in museums with and without employee supervision- although it focuses on engineering, many of the concepts would apply equally well to work nature programming.

**The Art of Tinkering** Karen Wilkenson and Mike Petrich (from the Exploratorium!), Welden Owen

**The Green Hour: A Daily Dose of Nature for Happier, Healthier, Smarter Kids** Todd Christopher, Roost Books

**The Growing Classroom: Garden-Based Science** Roberta Jaffe & Gary Appel, National Gardening Association

**The Kids’ Book of Weather Forecasting** Mark Breen & Kathleen Friestad, Williamson

**The Makerspace Workbench: Tools, Technologies, and Techniques for Making** Adam Kemp, Maker Media

**The Nature Principle: Reconnecting with Life in a Virtual Age** Richard Louv, Algonquin Books

**The Stick Book: Loads of Things You Can Make or Do with a Stick** Fiona Danks, Frances Lincoln

**Tinkering: Kids Learn by Making Stuff** Curt Gabrielson, Maker Media


**Wildlife Gardening: How to Bring Birds and Bugs to Your Backyard** Martyn Cox, DK Publishing
**Websites:**

National Geographic for Kids  
www.kids.nationalgeographic.com  
A place to learn all about geography and fascinating animals.

National Institute for Environmental Health Science Kids’ pages  
http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/games/index.htm  
Activities, experiments, songs, jokes, illusions, riddles and brainteasers to learn more about health and the environment.

National Wildlife Federation Kids’ page  
www.nwf.org/Kids.aspx  
A website site created by an organization dedicated to inspire Americans to protect wildlife for the children’s future. Great ideas for fun things to do outdoors and for kids and parents to do together.

PBS Nature and Eeko World  
A website with plenty of information that is nature-related and Eeko, a PBS website that teaches kids how to help take care of the earth.

Kid’s Planet  
http://kidsplanet.org/  
This website shows kids how to defend the environment with fun games and activities; by an organization dedicated to the protection of all native wild animals and plants in their natural communities.

Highlights Kids  
www.highlightskids.com  
Where children can read, play games and conduct cool science and experiments.

Nature Explore  
http://www.natureexplore.org/index.cfm  
A place that supports the important efforts to connect children and families with nature.

Switcheroo Zoo  
www.switcheroozoo.com  
Watch, listen and play games to learn all about amazing animals.

AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums)  
www.aza.org  
Organization dedicated to the advancement of zoos and aquariums in the areas of conservation, education, science and recreation.

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History  
www.mnh.si.edu/education/  
A website dedicated to inspire curiosity, discovery and learning about the natural world through research, collections, exhibitions and education outreach programs.

DNR Envoiromental Education for kids. (EEK)  
dnr.wi.gov/EEK  
On this site, children can surf around and learn more about the great outdoors.

Globio Glossopedia  
www.globio.org  
Created to engage children in cross-cultural dialogue and understanding, inspiring them to protect the diversity of all life on earth. A place for kids to discover the world.

Children & Nature Network  
www.childrenandnature.org/  

Natural Resources Management Guide for kids
Includes fun activities about natural resources such as fossil fuels, rocks, trees, and sources of power like solar and wind energy.

Animal Planet  animal.discovery.com/
Animal Planet lets you explore cat breeds, dog breeds, wild animals, pets and much more.

Let’s Go Outside  www.fws.gov/
A website from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that works on connecting people with nature and conserving the nature of America

World Wildlife Fund  worldwildlife.org/
One of the leading organizations in wildlife conservation and endangered species. A website with great information available.

United States Environmental Protection Agency Kids’ Page  www.epa.gov/students/index.html
EPA has lesson plans, teacher guides, publications, tons of fun games to play and learn about the environment, as well as resources you can use to help with various environmental subjects.

Play Outside  theplayfiles.blogspot.com.au/
A website that collects some of the best ideas for outdoor play and spaces from around the blogosphere.

Project Learning Tree  www.plt.org/
This website contains an award-winning environmental education program for teachers and other educators working with students from preschool through grade 12.

Pittsburgh Children’s Museum Makeshop  www.makeshopgh.com
Pittsburgh Children’s Museum has a great blog with their Makeshop.

Erikson Early Math Collaborative  earlymath.erikson.edu
The Erikson Institute has worked with Kohl Children’s Museum to identify some of the early math skills that are naturally developing as kids play in exhibits. It’s a great resource for communicating some of the important skills developed during play.

Exploratorium: The Tinkering Studio  tinkering.exploratorium.edu

Maker Ed  makered.org

CAISE Informal Science  informalscience.org

ASTC Community of Practice Groups  community.astc.org/home

**Vendors:**
Acorn Naturalists  www.acornnaturalists.com
Carolina Biological  www.carolina.com
Constructive Playthings  www.constructiveplaythings.com
Douglas Toys (butterfly wing costumes)
Folkmanis (puppets)
Hobby Lobby (slate for water painting)
Kodo Kids  www.kodokids.com
Lakeshore Learning Materials  www.LakeshoreLearning.com
Nature Explore  www.natureexplores.org
Nature Watch  www.nature-watch.com
(and any Waldorf supplier)