

Outdoor Learning Environments for Young Children

Pilot course begins February 20, 2017. Pre-register now, space is limited.



The *Outdoor Learning Environments for Young Children Certificate Program* is presented by the Natural Learning Initiative, College of Design at North Carolina State University.

Learning Outcomes

- Describe how outdoor environments can be designed to encourage children 0-7 years old to be active, practice motor development skills, participate in outdoor play, learn fruit and vegetable gardening, engage in healthy eating, and use natural materials, objects, and settings to support play and learning processes.
- Explain how improving OLE quality can positively impact physical activity and healthy eating in young children.
- Apply methods for creating and managing high quality environments to support outdoor experiential learning.
- Recognize outdoor learning environments as spaces where children's developmental capacity can be extended and enhanced.
- Demonstrate OLE quality improvement as a health intervention and system-change strategy.
- Earn 2.4 (approximately 24 hours over 3 months) Continuing Education Units (CEUs) from North Carolina State University

Program Modules

Program Modules are intended to immerse the learner in thinking about the meaning of environmental quality of young children and improvement of the outdoor settings of their daily life. Content includes:

1. Introduction to environment-behavior approaches to design
2. Preventing Obesity by Design overview
3. Implementation of best practice indicators in child care centers as shown in the Outdoor Learning Environment Toolkit (2014)

Who is the Certificate for?

- Early childhood educators
- Cooperative Extension agents/ Master Gardeners
- Parks and Recreation professionals
- Volunteers with an interest in advancing outdoor quality for young children

Pre-register here: <http://bit.ly/2kjl0k3>

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