

KS2 Outdoor Boundary Games

Games to play with your
children for successful
outdoor learning





Memory Game

Grab a selection of around 5 items from your outdoor area and a piece of fabric to cover them with. Gather your class to look at the items closely for a minute before covering them back up. Then send the children off to gather the same items. Test to see who can remember them all! If multiple children do, take the time to analyse who selected items that were most similar to yours.

Ant Game

Mark out a 'safe zone' in your outdoor space, the rest of your space is your ant hill. Everyone is an ant apart from a couple of anteaters. The anteaters tug the ants to 'stun' them, when an ant is stunned they sit down on the floor. Other ants can rescue the stunned ants - 4 of them have to form a circle holding each other's arms to protect the stunned ant, they move together, with the stunned ant in the centre, over to the safe zone. Here the stunned ant is restored and can return to the ant hill. The anteater cannot stun any ants taking part in a rescue, once the 4 ants have connected arms.

Hidden Treasures

Gather up lots of soft toys or items, they could either match a theme or just be a random assortment. Hide these within your boundary area. Ask children to go on a hunt for them, making sure to set a maximum of how many each child can collect, meaning everyone has to take part in the search! Then once all collected, challenge children to find a link between all the found items!





Identification Game

There are a few different ways you can play this game to develop children's knowledge of plant species.

1. Have the names of a few plant species known to exist in your outdoor space on some cards. Have 3 children draw a card each and read them out to the class. Everyone then moves around your outdoor space to collect a piece of this plant species (being careful to collect a responsible amount). Gather the children back together and look at what they have collected and find out who has identified the plants correctly.
2. Send children off to find three pieces of nature in your space. When they bring them back to you, they need to work with a partner to ID their nature finds. Then share what's been found as a class.
3. Start by having 3 pieces of nature that you've collected from your outdoor space ready to present to children. They need to first of all ID these and then find the same plant species in your space, touching (or pointing at) each one they successfully find.

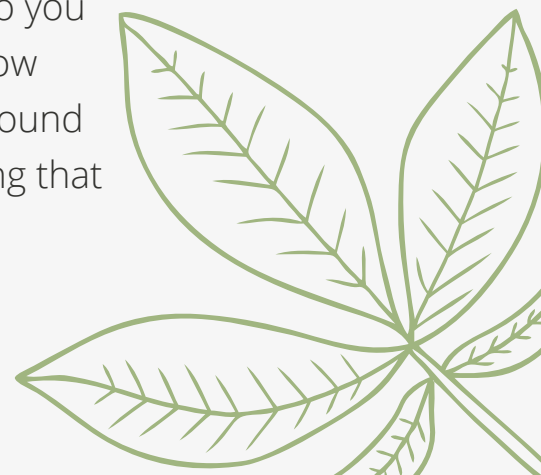
Word Hunt

Begin by handing out adjective flashcards to the children (these could be focus words from your English work).



Children need to hunt in the outdoor space for something they think matches the meaning of their adjective.

They can either bring this item straight to you for checking or show you as you walk around (if it's not something that can be moved).





Adaptations of tig

Playing this adapted game outdoors with your class will ensure that they've developed the listening skills and understanding required to turn their attention back on you after doing activities which involve lots of movement outdoors.

To adapt the game you simply need to replace the three elements: the role of the person who is chasing, what happens when tug and the role of the person who frees them.

For example, if learning about predators and prey; the chasers become hedgehogs whilst everyone else becomes snails, when tug the snails have to curl up into their shell, to free them a lettuce leaf needs to tempt them back out of their shell.



Or for a space topic; the chasers become asteroids, when tug the rest of the class (space shuttles) become broken, the astronauts 'free' the broken space shuttles by fixing them with imaginary screw drivers and hammers.

“ If we want our children to move mountains, we first have to let them get out of their chairs. ”

- Nicolette Sowder

