

# Developing A Heart for Outdoor Teaching

Presented by Julie Hamilton [jhamilton77845@gmail.com](mailto:jhamilton77845@gmail.com)

Anything that you teach inside your classroom, you can teach outside.

## **Science Center:**

Ramps made of rain gutters with balls, cars, and water

Scale with items to weigh

## **Library Center:**

Board Books

Gently Used Books

Mat, blanket, pillows

## **Writing Center:**

Playdough

Envelopes

Paper

Mail Box

Old Crayons

Sidewalk Chalk

Notepads

Clipboards

## **Math Center:**

Sidewalk Chalk

Loose Parts

Rope with whiffle balls

Leaves

Acorns

Sticks

Cut Up Pool Noodles

Containers with numbers

## **Discovery Center (Dirt, Water, Sand):**

Water Tables with items such as tubes, dishes, baby dolls, funnels, measuring cups, etc.

Water Pump

Sand box with sand and sand toys

Dirt Piles with stainless steel or galvanized metal bowls, containers, spoons, etc. (stainless steel dog bowls at Dollar Tree)

## **Pretend & Learn Center (Mud Kitchen & Dress Up):**

Kitchen Furniture

Containers to cook

Dress up clothes (include pompoms, capes, clothes you don't mind getting messed up)

Milk Crates

Picnic Tables

## **Music Center:**

Drums made out of picture frames

Pans and lids attached to fence with zip ties and drum sticks

Chimes attached to fence

## **Art Center:**

Plexiglas mounted to side of shed with rain gutters to hold paint

Picnic table with art supplies

Boxes to paint

## **Garden Center:**

Containers with dirt to plant

Shovels

Watering Cans

## **Block Center:**

Wooden Blocks

Cardboard Blocks

Rain gutters for ramps

## **Loose Parts Center:**

Tree Blocks

Toilet paper rolls

Rocks

Shells

Marker Lids

Bingo Chips

Acorns

Masking Tape Rolls

Ceiling Fan Blades

Picture frames

Buttons

Pinecones

Tile Samples

Baskets

Feathers

Spoons

Bottle lids

## **Bonus (Trucks, Slides, Lego, Fabric, Tree Stumps, Milk Crates):**

Large durable trucks

Slide built into hill

Legos with Lego table

Fabric play and lacing on fence, drying rack, clothes basket, tables, chairs with giant clothes pins

Tree Stumps for walking and for hammering nails

Milk Crates (imaginative play)

## **Read Aloud:**

Jump Frog Jump by Robert Kalan, If You're Happy and You know It! By Jane Cabrera, As Quick As a Cricket by Audrey Wood, In the Small, Small Pond & Beetle Bop by Denise Fleming, Clap Clap! By Mary Claire Helldorfer, How Can You Dance? by Rick Walton, Little Cloud by Eric Carle, Copy Cats Animal Actions by Richard Powell, Clap Your Hands by Lorinda Cauley, Animal Action ABC by Karen Pandell (Discovery Toys), From Head To Toe by Eric Carle, Barnyard Dance by Sandra Boynton, Who Hops by Katie Davis

## **Small Group Ideas:**

Anything you do inside can be done outside except cooking. Keep wind in mind when planning.

## **Center Signs**

Paint Fence Boards

## **Storage Tips:**

Laundry baskets

Shed

Deck Boxes