

## PLAY IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS 22 – 23 June 2010

### Aim

This course aims to equip you with the understanding and confidence to create powerful natural play provision in a safe, fun and accessible way.

### Objectives

By the end of the course, participants should have:

- An increased understanding of the special nature of outdoor play to make a difference to children and young people.
- A range of inspiring play ideas for use in their own settings.
- The inspiration to deliver high quality and enjoyable outdoor play experiences, including the risk benefit approach
- Built on good practice, resources and case studies to excel in what they do.

**Course Directors:** Fiona Groves, *The Natural Route*  
 Sarah Wilks, Learning and Development Officer, Losehill Hall  
 Mandy Sims, Learning and Development Officer, Losehill Hall

### PROGRAMME

#### Tuesday 22 June

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| 9.30 a.m.  | Arrival, registration and coffee  |
| 10.00 a.m. | <b>Introductions</b> – to the course and to Losehill Hall<br><b><i>The Special Nature of Play</i></b>   |
| 11.30 a.m. | <b><i>An organisation's journey towards natural play</i></b><br>Paddy Harrop, Forestry Commission   |
| 12.30 p.m. | <b>Introduction to the afternoon's sessions, <i>Let's Play Outside...</i></b>   |
| 1.00 p.m.  | Lunch   |
| 2.00 p.m.  | <b><i>Let's Play Outside...playing with the help of a grown up</i></b><br>Den building, fires and cooking - Liz Knowles, Muddy Faces<br>Stories as imaginative springboards – Sarah Wilks<br>Treasure trails, scavenger hunts and Earth Walks – Fiona Groves and Mandy Sims |
| 3.30 p.m.  | Tea and biscuits  |
| 4.00 p.m.  | <b><i>Let's Play Outside...playing on your own</i></b><br>A wealth of play opportunities including, rope swings, play trail, water play, playing with sound, small world play, construction and natural painting  |
| 5.30 p.m.  | <b><i>Sheffield's Open Spaces – places to play - a case study</i></b><br>Jon Dallow, Woodland Project Officer, Sheffield City Council   |
| 6.30 p.m.  | Break before dinner   |
| 7.00 p.m.  | Dinner  |
| 8.00 p.m.  | <b><i>Let's Play Outside...playing group games</i></b>  |

## Wednesday 23 June

- 8-8.30 a.m. Breakfast
- 9.15 a.m. **Group Review**  
What was all that playing about for?
- 9.45 a.m. ***What's risky about play?***  
Looking at issues including risk benefit and safeguarding
- 10.45 a.m. Coffee
- 11.00 a.m. **Bright Ideas – planning for play opportunities in a real space**  
Group exercise – site visit to Castleton Playing Fields  
Expert input from *Sutcliffe Play*
- 1.00 p.m. Lunch
- 1.45 p.m. Feedback from group exercise
- 2.30 p.m. **Resources review**  
Sharing of participants' ideas  
Reviewing other resources
- 3.30 p.m. **Action Planning**  
Tea and biscuits
- 4.00 p.m. **Course Review and Evaluation**
- 4.30 p.m. Course ends