

Summary of Research on Forest School References

Over view	Title, author, access
Longitudinal tracking of 11 children (aged 5–7 on entry), 3-year Forest School intervention closes attainment gap in attendance and achievement	The Hare and the Tortoise go to Forest School: taking the scenic route to academic attainment via emotional wellbeing outdoors McCree, Cutting, Sherwin Pages 980-996 Received 15 Oct 2017, Accepted 25 Feb 2018, Published online: 09 Mar 2018
	https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/03004430.2018.1446430
Primary school - How space and place of Forest School allows practitioners and children to co-create flexible and responsive learning environments	Harris, F (2018) Outdoor learning spaces: the case of forest school.
	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/318184346_Outdoor_learning_spaces_The_case_of_forest_school
Age 8–9, England	Cook, Martin et al 2012 'The Queens Wood Forest School Report – Observations and Reflections of a year-long year 4 programme'
	http://www.forestschoolorwales.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Queens-Wood-Forest-School-Report-2012.pdf

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Over view	Title, author, access
On developing FS provision within a region	Davis, B. and Waite, S. 2005 'Forest School: Opportunities and Challenges in Early Years ', University of Plymouth
	https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/uploads/production/document/path/6/6761/Forestschoofinalreport2.pdf
Wales, nursery & primary Research question: Does attending Forest School have a significant effect on children in mainstream education?	Forestry Commission 2006 'An Evaluation of a Forest School Project – Pentre Forest School'
	https://forestschools.files.wordpress.com/2013/11/an-evaluation-of-a-forest-school-project-pentre-forest-school.pdf
Scotland, focus on mental health, aged 10-13	Forestry Commission Scotland 2009 'Forest School – Evidence for Restorative Health'
	http://www.openspace.eca.ed.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Forest-school-evidence-for-restorative-health-benefits-in-young-people.pdf
Scotland, physical activity, Age 9-11	Forestry Commission Scotland 2009 'Physical Activity at Forest School'
	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/238729339_Physical_activity_at_Forest_School

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Over view	Title, author, access
Bradford; early years, child's voice, short 8-week blocks	Horseman, Lily and Scott, Jen (2010) 'Bradford West Forest School – Reflections and Evaluation'
	https://kindlingplayandtraining.co.uk/case-studies/forest-school-case-study-bradford-west/
Early years, very rigorous, positive benefits on wellbeing, involvement, academic achievement	Kenny, Rowena 2010 Forest School and the Early Years Foundation Stage – An explorative case study (also two other useful papers on this website)
	http://bathspa.academia.edu/RowenaKenny
Brief consideration of wider impact of Forest school within early years	Knight, Sara 2010 'Can Forest School Act as a Spur to Better Quality Outdoor Experiences?'
	http://www.tactyc.org.uk/pdfs/Reflection-Knight.pdf
Includes child's voice, and wider community; focuses on impact within early years settings	Massey, S. 2005 'The benefits of Forest School experience for children in their Early Years': Worcestershire LEA.
	http://www.nfer.ac.uk/nfer/pre_pdf_files/05_33_06.pdf

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Over view	Title, author, access
Exploration of FS ethos and aims in practice, and links with good practice in early years	Maynard, T. 2007 'Forest Schools in Great Britain: An initial exploration', <i>Contemporary Issues in Early Childhood</i> 8(4): 320-331.
	https://www.avontyrrell.org.uk/uploaded/Contemporary_Issues_in_Early_Childhood_MAYNARD_2007.pdf
Interesting on potential disjunctions between adults on risk-benefit and capacity of child	Maynard, T 2007 'Encounters with FS and Foucault, a risky business?' <i>Education 3-13</i> Vol 35, No 4 pp 375 - 391
	https://doi.org/10.1080/03004270701602640
Focuses on vulnerable areas and children from nursery to end of primary; strong on methodology	Murray, R. 2004 'Forest Schools project evaluation: A study in Wales ', London: New Economics Foundation.
	https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/documents/1417/ForestSchoolWalesReport.pdf
Self evaluation toolkit, and results from 3 pilot areas, from early years up through primary.	Murray, R. and O'Brien, E. 2005 'Such Enthusiasm - A Joy to See" An Evaluation of Forest School in England': Forest Research.
	https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/documents/1418/ForestSchoolEnglandReport.pdf

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Over view	Title, author, access
Special educational needs and personal and social development	Pavey, B (2006) The Forest School and Inclusion – a project evaluation. http://www.leeds.ac.uk/educol/documents/161165.htm
Support for learning Abstract and first page free, full article charged for	Swarbrick, N., Eastwood, G. and Tutton, K. 2004 'Self-esteem and successful interaction as part of the forest school project', <i>Support for Learning</i> 19(3): 142-146. https://www.academia.edu/358081/Self-Esteem_and_Successful_Interaction_As_Part_of_the_Forest_School_Project?auto=download

Other persuasive research

Overview	Title, author, access
Types of cognition – working memory, attention control and cognitive flexibility	Attention Restoration Theory II: a systematic review to clarify attention processes affected by exposure to natural environments Matt P. Stevenson , Theresa Schilhab & Peter Bentsen https://doi.org/10.1080/10937404.2018.1505571

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Attention restoration in nature, urban playground and indoor	Children's Wood, North Kelvin Meadow, in collaboration with Glasgow University Psychology Department
	https://www.thechildrenswood.co.uk/spending-time-on-nkm-and-cw-can-improve-attention-in-primary-aged-children/#more-1656
Autism, improving self esteem	Children's Wood, North Kelvin Meadow – further research articles
	https://www.thechildrenswood.co.uk/blog/research-study/
Incredible monthly research digest	Children and Nature Network – Richard Louv's network. Keep up to date with related research.
	https://www.childrenandnature.org/learn/research-digest/