

# Storytelling, Drama & Creativity Outdoors

An interactive webinar with Eco Drama

4 - 5.30pm



- Welcome & Opening Activity – A Nature Memory
- Presentation on Eco Drama & the Out to Play project
- Drama Artist Ben Mali will present the Out to Play approach with games, tips, ideas and the telling of a story.

*Brief Comfort Break & Movement Activity around 4.50pm*

- Storytelling Activity
- Padlet: Sharing Opportunities of using Drama, Storytelling & the Outdoors in Learning for Sustainability
- Questions
- Make a pledge for your practice



# Eco Drama

We make quality theatre and creative learning experiences for children and young people which nurture a sense of curiosity, wonder and care for our natural world.







Uprooted feat. Scotland's first Living Stage, 2015





*"Informative and entertaining...a superb piece of storytelling."*  
**★★★★ The Scotsman on The Forgotten Orchard**

Theatre Productions



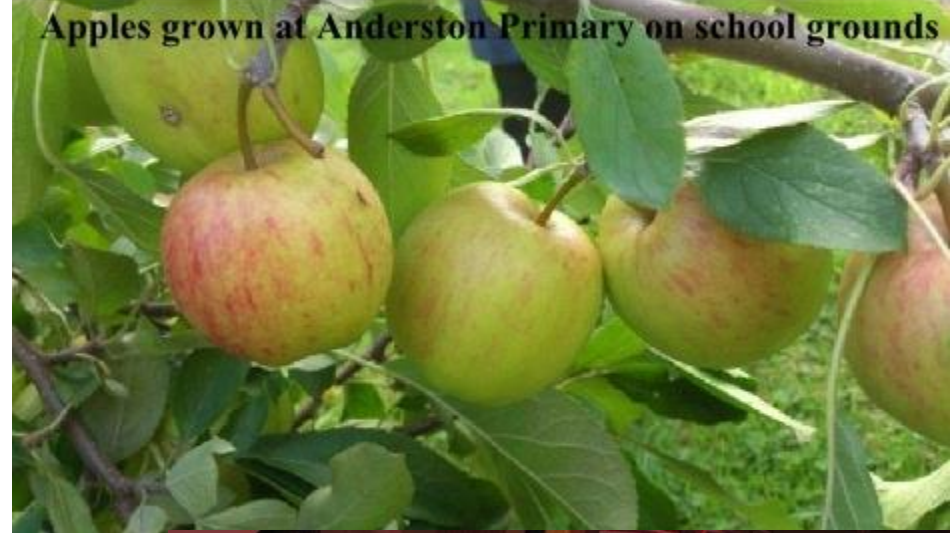
**★★★★★** *...manages to keep its audience of tinies enthralled...excellent storytelling which will give younger children a gentle introduction to ecology but, more importantly, keep them engaged and amused for the whole 60 minutes."* Broadway Baby on The Worm



# Orchard Planting with Primary Schools & Communities

43 School Orchards & 1 Community Orchard  
planted to date across Glasgow with 171  
Scottish Heritage fruit trees

More to come 2021-2023



Post Show Heritage Apple Tasting



# OUT TO PLAY

2015-21  
2021-23



*"I hadn't realised the power of imagination within outdoor learning."* Teacher, Corpus Christi Primary





**Drama**

**Storytelling**

**Creativity**

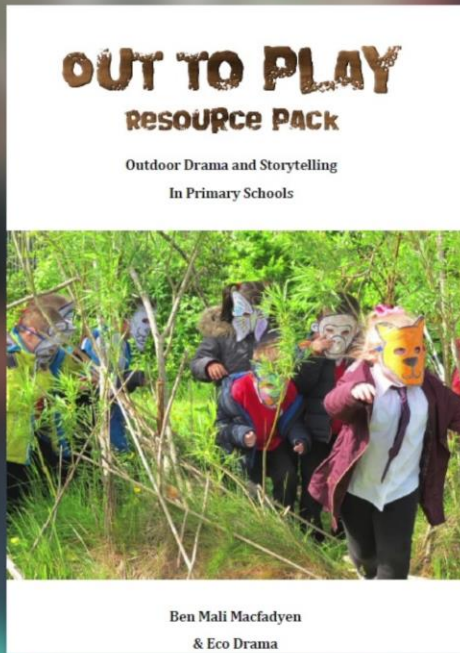
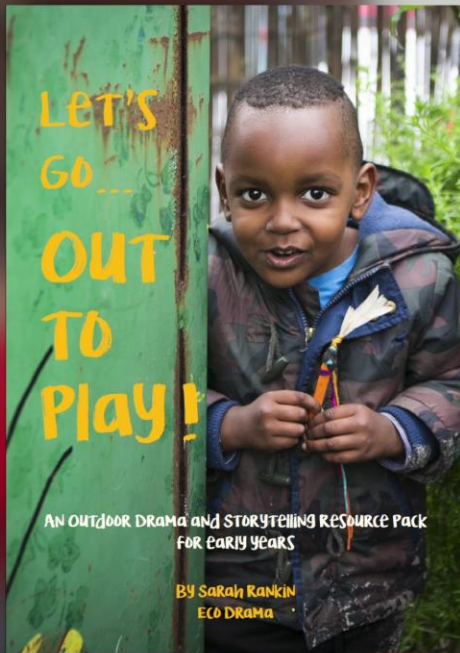
**Nature Connection**

- **Out to Play residencies** in **25** primary schools, nurseries and CSN schools in Glasgow 2015-20
- **4,000** children aged 3-11 and **688** teachers & EY practitioners
- **115** settings across Scotland - one off days & **CPD sessions**.
- **1,144** sessions delivered to date
- **3 Out to Play Resource Packs** Early Years & Primary (**800** sold to date – Canada, USA, Oz & NZ!)
- Drama Artist **Blogs** resource
- **Glasgow City Council Nurseries** City Wide Webinars & Packs 2021
- Continuation 2021-2023



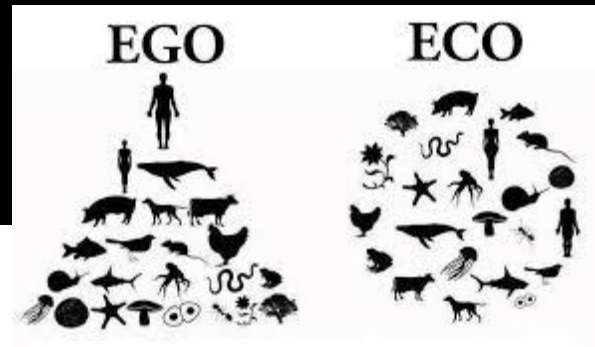


# Out to Play Resource Packs





## Why is creative, nature-based learning important?



***"Creativity is as important now in education as literacy, and we should treat it with the same status." Ken Robinson***



# OUT TO PLAY

## Improved **health & wellbeing**

- Visibly calmer and more positive during and after sessions.
- Able to discuss their emotions and what they enjoyed about the sessions

## Increased **connection with nature**

- Gained an understanding of the importance and the fragility of nature
- More willing to spend time outdoors

## Improved **soft skills**

- increased confidence, creativity & communication skills through active participation

## Improved **Literacy**

- Able to articulate their feelings about nature
- Improved listening skills during storytelling and performance

## Improved **knowledge and understanding** of Learning for Sustainability

- Pupils are keen to discuss nature and connect their learning throughout the school week and not just during Out to Play sessions

## Changes in **behaviour, attitudes and values**

- More aware of their responsibility to look after nature





"I learned how to respect nature."

"I think about things in a different way to before. Before I thought that there was no rubbish in the sea."

"I feel different about play in a good way."

"It has inspired me to care about nature"

"I loved how we made our playground into different things. We travelled the ocean in one part and climbed a mountain in the other."

You inspired me to go outside & play."

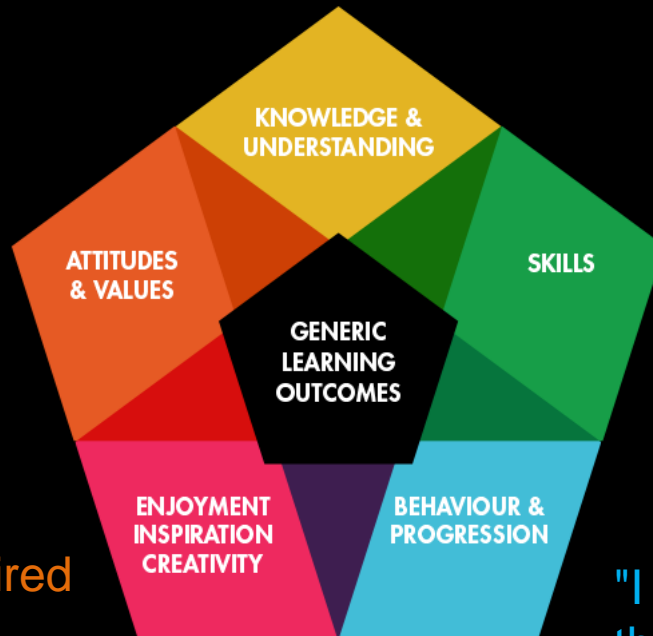
"We really loved having a visit from a "real explorer" and liked going outside"

"It helped me be more creative."

"I learned a lot about nature and animals."

"I learned that everything in nature connects."

"I learned more about working together."



"I learned freeze frame, drama skills and presentation skills."

"I now build things outside when I am playing."

"I learned to be brave"

"I want to plant trees to help the planet."

"I will stop littering, and save water – I will ask my family if we can use less electricity."

"Drama makes me feel confident and happy."

"I enjoyed the stories... esp when we imagined making a fire and Dan told us a story"



# “WORDS I USE TO DESCRIBE NATURE ARE:”



## Before – Round 1

**boring, not fun, brown, gloomy, sad, dirty, deadly, hyper, aggressive, scary and wild.**

There was also a larger tendency of pupils to list nouns to describe nature, for example **trees, birds** and **insects**.

## After – Round 2

Language developed to show both appreciation and a deeper understanding about the natural world:

**awesome, totally epic, deep, fun, exciting, marvellous, peaceful, free, imaginative, green, gentle, calm, beautiful and mystical, mysterious, creative, majestic, home to wildlife, gives us resources.**

Plus more activity based descriptions and adverbs to show personal connections and eagerness to protect nature:

**“respect it”**

**“we must take care of it”**

**“taking care of animals and plants”.**





***“A fantastic way to encourage children to become explorers of the world.” Teacher, Merrylee Primary School***

***“This program has made me aware of nature and made me more confident and happy” P6 pupil, St Vincent’s***

***“I learned how beautiful and interesting nature really is”***  
P6 pupil

***“I loved it because nature is what is inside me. Thank you for everything. It has been a delight.”***  
P4 Pupil  
Balornock



***“Out to Play has been a resounding success in our school. It has had a huge impact on our staff and pupils.”***  
DHT  
Dalmarnock

***“Thank you so much for taking us on these adventures!”***  
P5 Pupil

***“It inspired me to use my imagination”*** P5 Pupil

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