Unlocking the creative potential of the school grounds

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Learning through Landscapes

Unlocking the creative potential of the school grounds

- Why school grounds?
  - An outdoor space every child has access to
  - They are accessible throughout the school day – and beyond
  - They constitute over 60% of the school estate
  - They are spaces designed for children and young people (if not always very well…)
  - They facilitate creativity…

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- Visual arts

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- Visual arts

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- Performing arts

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- Performing arts

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Unlocking the creative potential of the school grounds

- Developing creative language

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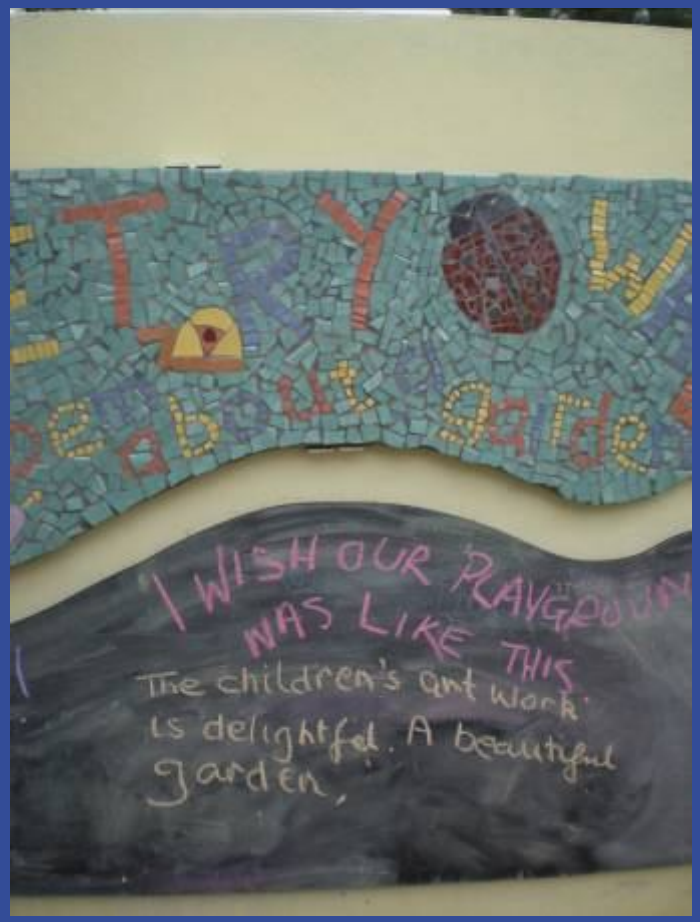
- Developing creative language



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- Developing creative language

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- Problem solving

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- Problem solving

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- Stimulating innovation

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- Stimulating innovation

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- Time and space to think

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- Playful

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- Playful

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- Playful

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- Unpredictability

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- Unpredictability

Learning through LANDSCAPES

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- Unpredictability

Learning through LANDSCAPES

Unlocking the creative potential of the school grounds

- Memorable

Learning through LANDSCAPES

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- Memorable

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- Memorable

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- **Does it work? – Pupils say…**
  - They felt they learnt more by doing, inside they are just copying off a blackboard and not learning.
  - The students felt that they learnt more outdoors because it was more fun. 'The classroom can be hot and stuffy and outdoors you have fresh air. It is good not be stuck in the same classroom all the time.'
  - 'Indoors you are stuck in one place, doing the same thing; there would be limited shapes to pick'

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- **Does it work? – Teachers say…**
  - Behaviour is better than expected – especially ‘difficult’ pupils
  - There are opportunities for using different teaching strategies and learning styles
  - Learning outside really benefits kinaesthetic learners
  - The girls don’t get as distracted by the noisy boys – they can get away from them!
  - It strengthens relationships between pupils and staff

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- **Does it work? – Research says of outdoor learning…**
  - Addresses a range of learning styles
  - Brings a new perspective
  - Re-learn the fundamental use of eyes, ears and hands
  - Unforgettable – longer-lasting impact
  - Increased understanding through real life experiences
  - Enhances pedagogical pursuits in science and other curriculum areas

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- **Does it work? – Research says of learning in school grounds…**
  - Improved knowledge and skills acquisition
  - Increased student interest and motivation
  - Improved critical skills and thinking
  - Better decision making and problem solving abilities
  - ‘In over 96% of all cases treatment students [undertaking education in their grounds] scored as well or significantly higher than control students’ (SEER research 2005)

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