

Outdoor Learning Support Group Meeting – Wednesday, October 4, 2016 @ 4 o'clock

AGENDA:

Welcome
Discussion of Format
EE Library
Take Away Ideas
Support Groups
Next Meeting Information

MINUTES

Welcome:

Present: Sandra Beckett, Eva Pfisterer, Kathy Thorne, Jennifer Cox, Caren Nagao, Megan Arlt, Matt Fellows, Rebecka Riddell-Mckay

Regrets: Laurie Macdougall, Margot McMullun, Katie King, Angela Stott, Caroline Carl-Osborne, Marot Reinders, Leslie Hein, Stacey Kleon

-Introductions and sharing why we want to take students outside.

Discussion of format:

How often/when: - 4 times: November, January, early March, May
- Wednesdays at 4:00

It was difficult to find days that worked for everyone. We chose Wednesdays as the day with the fewest meetings. We recognize this might not work for all so if host schools wish to change the day they can let us know at the meeting prior.

Where: - rotating outdoor sites near each of the schools
- the opportunity to walk and talk was popular in the survey –not sure if this would work for the next meeting but something to consider
- November/Fall – APES (Caren and Sandra): Horseshoe Club/Campground (for campfire) – focus on local experts
- January/Winter – LGES (Megan and Rebecka) Confluence with a focus on mapping.
- Early March/Spring – Nicholson (Eva and Kathy)
- May/Summer – GSS (Matt)

Who: – rotating groups/schools but everyone is welcome to contribute

Potential Content: *suggestions collated from meeting and survey.*

Seasonal changes - watching growth of forest

Place-based learning -Mapping

-Land history of areas – back to aboriginal usage
-Local places – *Campground/beach, Rotary Trials, Confluence, Reflection Lake, Selkirk Hill/Ball Diamond Area/Trails/Reflection Lake lookout/ Alexander Community Park, Nicholson river and area*

Local experts – *Joyce Deboer and Joan Dolinsky, Jane Powell, Andrew Antal, Dave Demuy, Laura Shaw (Northstar Bushcraft), Dawna-Lea Ringer*

Aboriginal connections

Revised curriculum links

Safety/risk assessment

Rules free playgrounds

Inclusion of all learners

Book shares – professional books and/or children’s books

Take away ideas/activities

Snacks – The idea of snacks seems to be quite popular. I think we should leave it up to the host group and if they need help they can call for “pot-luck”!

Budget - We do have a small budget (\$333.33) as members of EEPSA that can be used for snacks, books, speakers, or ???

Golden Zone EE Library:

Sign out system/storage – contact Sandra Beckett to borrow/return books between meetings.

This Meetings Take Away Ideas:

Backpack, magnifying scopes

Colour/paint chips

Micro-walk – yarn

Field Journals – How to be an Explorer of the World

Andrew Antal’s Nature Kindergarten Guidebook

Support Groups:

EEPSA (Environmental Education Provincial Specialists Association)

CBeen (Columbia Basin Environmental Educators Network)

Global environmental outdoor education conference (Rebecka)

Next Meeting:

Time – Wednesday, November 30th @ 4 o’clock

Location – Horseshoe Club/Campground

Host - APES

Content – Local Experts – Jane Powell, Joan Dolinsky, and Joyce Deboer confirmed. I will be inviting the people listed under local experts above. If you know of any others, please forward their name to me.

FYI- We are part of a district Environmental Education Provincial Specialist Association. Each Zone will get an equal share of the \$1000.00 provided through the B.C.T.F. Natasha Burgess (Kimberley) is our president, Hannah Garvie-Ransen (Windermere) is our treasurer, and Sandra Beckett (Golden) is the secretary.