

Journeys into Nature

Claire Warden Licenced Short Courses

tafeSA



Government of
South Australia

Children's Education
and Care Professional
Learning



Claire Warden®
Educational Consultant



TAFE SA

Children's Education and Care

TAFE SA Children's Education and Care is a vibrant and innovative mix of professionals who work together with the community to support children and families in early childhood and middle childhood years.

We are well known for our high-quality learning approaches and innovative, flexible services that span the entire state of South Australia. Our commitment to excellence ensures that all of our training is underpinned by current research and practice.

All TAFE SA Children's Education and Care workshops are practical and highly interactive. They can be designed to meet the specific needs of particular groups and can be offered as stand-alone individual sessions or as part of a series.

We are excited to offer Claire Warden's Journeys into Nature workshops facilitated by Maria Bootle and Helen Jones (Claire Warden licensed training consultants).



Journeys into Nature

Would you like to weave the elements of nature into your program to capture the imaginations of children? Are you interested in outdoor learning and want to see how to integrate this way of teaching into the wider curriculum?

Journeys into Nature introduces a hands-on approach to teaching. The experiential learning promoted in each workshop inspires practitioners to capture children's interest in science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics through active engagement with the natural world.

The program has been designed to provide training and support to educators working with children in the early and primary years. It enables practitioners to see that science, technology, engineering and mathematics is everywhere, is interlinked and can be delivered outdoors with few resources other than enquiring minds. It is a fun way to excite and engage both educators and children by responding to their natural curiosity and introducing them to the thrilling world of scientific discovery.

Which workshop should I choose?

The modular design of the course allows you to select the topics which interest you and are relevant to your setting. Each workshop lasts 3 hours.

Nature Pedagogy

The nature pedagogy sessions have a focus on theory. They give you an understanding of the questions behind nature pedagogy and examine ways of being with nature. Taking part in the theory-based courses will assist you to gain more from the practical workshops.

Nature and the Brain

Understand the theory behind why the brain needs to be stimulated by natural environments. Learn how to use nature and outdoor learning to encourage and support the STEM curriculum. This course looks at the structure of the brain, learning styles and impact on learning.

Floorbooks® and the Planning Cycle

The Talking and Thinking Floorbook Approach® is a child-led planning cycle developed by Claire Warden. Floorbooks® are used in a diverse range of settings across the world. This course introduces the planning cycle and explores how to use the Floorbook® approach to observation, assessment and planning. You'll have the opportunity to learn how to use Floorbooks to consult children in the planning process. The session also includes an introduction to Talking Tubs—strategies to engage children in thinking.

Benefit–Risk Management

Learn how educators can support children to be self-risk assessors who are resilient and thoughtful about their own personal safety so they can be empowered to make choices in their play and learning.

Territory and Settlement

This session explores the concept of 'territory' and asks the questions: Are we hardwired to build territory? How can educators extend the learning inside, outside and beyond? Participants will learn the skills to build a miniature cubby house.



Natural Elements in Play

The following practical workshops explore the natural elements of earth, air, fire and water. Each session links to the learning framework and is designed to help you build key skills in incorporating an element effectively in your own practice.

Natural Element: Earth

Sand, Mud and Clay

Get creative with sand, mud and clay using mathematical thinking skills to investigate particle size, pouring, forming, shaping, filtration and retention. Dress for mess!

Whittling Wood

Explore some of the traditional uses of wood. Learn to handle simple tools and materials to safely whittle your own artefacts, including musical instruments.

Natural Element: Air

Wind and Forces

Discover the wonders of wind through this experiential session. Investigate concepts such as permeability and insulation, velocity and movement, turbines and compressors, and force and direction while playing with sculptures, kites and other materials.

Feathers and Flight

Explore the wonderful world of flight. Investigate aerodynamics and bird behaviour through the creation of items such as feeders, nests, wings and beaks.

Natural Element: Fire

Charcoal and Combustion

Fuel your fascination with fire. Delve into aspects of carbonation, filtration, absorbency and alchemy through creative investigations such as painting, and making charcoal and water filters. Covers benefit-risk assessment.

Cooking

Take time to enjoy the pleasures of cooking over an open fire. This session will cover the benefits and risks of working with fire and will also explore ways of cooking using heat without flames. Reflect on the place fire holds in your local area, past and present, by collecting and cooking items from your surroundings.

Natural Element: Water

Puddles

Discover the potential of a puddle through this practical course. Explore the water cycle and properties such as surface tension, reflection, suspension and permeability.



Check out our Pinterest boards for provocations about sustainability, pedagogy, creativity and the atelier and more.



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For more information visit
tafesa.edu.au/children

Or speak to one of our Course Advisors

Email: childrensservices@tafesa.edu.au
Phone: (08) 8207 9690

