



COMPLETE COURSE GUIDE

THE ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN FOREST SCHOOL & OUTDOOR LEARNING

Online training · Course contents & session plans

Go deeper — understand the **how and why**. Sixteen video masterclasses and more than 120 instructional activity videos, filmed across the year and organised by season. Every module comes with session plan ideas, curriculum links, risk-benefit assessments and downloadable resources, plus lifetime access to the **Using Tools** and **Fire & Pedagogy** modules from our Forest School Activities Online Training.

120+

ACTIVITY
VIDEOS

16

VIDEO
MASTERCLASSES

48+

SESSION
PLANS

8

SEASONAL
MODULES

∞

LIFETIME
ACCESS

THE 16 MASTERCLASSES COVER

Best practice

Forest School & Outdoor Learning

Risk-benefit assessment

Writing RBAs that work

Sensory development

How nature supports integration

Mental health & wellbeing

Why outdoor learning helps

Behaviour

Understanding behaviour & mental health

Green Care

Nature-based practice fundamentals

Nature connection

Deepening nature awareness

Urban & wild

Learning in any environment

Session plans that flex with your group. Ready-to-use, adaptable plans organised by season and age group. Most work across key stages — one plan, many ages — so your planning time goes further.

Spring

Modules 1–2 · page 2

Summer

Modules 3–4 · page 3

Autumn

Modules 5–6 · page 4

Winter

Modules 7–8 · page 5

2 modules

4 masterclasses

35 activity videos

12 session plans

+ downloadable guides & resources

Module 1 **EARLY SPRING**

16 videos

MASTERCLASSES

- Best practice Forest School
- Best practice Outdoor Learning

ACTIVITY VIDEOS

- Introduction
- Welcome to the spring module
- Sense meditation
- 4 key dynamics
- Fairy cakes in a biscuit tin using a fire bowl
- Beeswax sandwich wraps on a fire
- The wonder of clay
- Making seed bombs
- Basic whittling and knives
- Cooking with marshmallows in an urban setting
- How to make a bow and arrow
- Silver birch tapping
- Nest robbers nature awareness game
- How to make a Tippy Tappy
- Making popcorn in a sieve
- Tool user level indicators

DOWNLOADS & SESSION PLANS

General & Seasonal Resources

- Spring mind map
- Curriculum session plan ideas: Weather & climate
- How to guide: Climate session ideas
- How to build a weather vane
- The Beaufort Scale
- OPAL air survey
- OPAL lichen ID chart

Spring Bulbs & Plants **CURRICULUM**

- Session plan ideas: Spring bulbs & plants
- How to guide: Making paper pots; Pyramid game and basic botany
- Plant cycle journey
- Green light plants
- Best woods for campfires
- Best woods for cooking
- Best woods for crafting
- UK knife law guidance notes

Birds, Eggs & Natural Cycles **SEASONAL**

- Session plan ideas: Birds, eggs & natural cycles
- How to guide: Eggs and natural dyeing
- Games for nature connection: Beetle Tag, Scavenger Hunt and Bat and Moth

Birds **SEASONAL**

- Session plan ideas: Birds
- Gathering resources and the law

Fire & Food **GENERIC**

- Games for nature connection: Finger Grab and Fire in the Forest
- Fire: Key considerations

Session Plan Ideas: Trees

- OPAL tree identification guide
- OPAL tree health survey booklet
- Tree stories through the year
- Plant propagation by stem cuttings
- Tree Nursery Schools Project Ireland: How to collect and grow local tree seeds
- Meet a tree game
- How to guide: Trees

Module 2 **LATE SPRING**

19 videos

MASTERCLASSES

- Writing Forest School & Outdoor Learning RBAs (part 1)
- Writing Forest School & Outdoor Learning RBAs (part 2)

ACTIVITY VIDEOS

- Nature-centric model: Spring equinox
- Spring journey stick
- Sit spot
- A bee song
- Bees with palm drills, discs and wool
- Bee homes using a plastic bottle
- Pruning using the 3-step method
- Bee homes using an old log
- Bee story
- Egg blowing
- Egg dyeing
- Whittling a rolling pin
- Craft a cardboard butterfly or bird
- Gathering wild garlic for a wild pesto
- An introduction to wild garlic and cleaver juice
- Birds and beetles nature awareness game
- The 3 voices of birds
- Talbot's nature awareness game
- How to make a spring tonic

DOWNLOADS & SESSION PLANS

Magic Toy, Year 1 **CURRICULUM**

- Session plan ideas: Magic toy
- The Lost Words explorer's guide
- Magic toy photos

Stanley's Stick **CURRICULUM**

- Session plan ideas: Stanley's Stick
- Inspirational ideas: Stanley's Stick and the curriculum

Bees, Living Things & Their Habitats **SEASONAL**

- Session plan ideas: Bees, living things & their habitats
- Polli:Nation survey booklet
- Maintenance booklet for pollinators
- Bee photo resource
- How to guide: Bee hotels and the Honeybee Waggle game

Forest School Plant-Based Activities **SEASONAL**

- Session plan ideas: Forest School plant-based activities
- Wild garlic information
- Green light plants

Birds, Butterflies & Beetles **GENERIC**

- Session plan ideas: Birds, butterflies and beetles
- How to guide: Birds, butterflies & beetles
- OPAL hedgerow ID guide
- OPAL invertebrates guide
- OPAL bug count survey

Animals and Bows & Arrows **GENERIC**

- Session plan ideas: Animals and bows and arrows
- Aesop's Fables: The Hare and the Tortoise story
- Tool user level indicators

2 modules

4 masterclasses

34 activity videos

12 session plans

+ downloadable guides & resources

Module 3

EARLY SUMMER

16 videos

MASTERCLASSES

- How nature stimulates sensory development and integration (part 1)
- How nature stimulates sensory development and integration (part 2)

ACTIVITY VIDEOS

- Nature-centric model: Early summer
- Gratitude for plants
- Gathering resources and the law
- The art of questioning
- Gathering dandelions
- How to make dandelion fritters
- A daisy summer balm
- Making a pine wood necklace
- 3D map making
- Fun with an egg box
- Hawthorn story & May crowns
- Hawthorn syrup, oxeye daisy pancakes & hawthorn tea
- Hawthorn water into mini containers to last a week
- How to make willow cordage
- How to make sweet chestnut bark pouches
- Primrose tea – a thank you to the plants

DOWNLOADS & SESSION PLANS

Birds and Nests

- Session plan: Birds and nests

Butterflies and Life Cycles

- Session plan: Butterflies and life cycles

Dandelions

- Session plan: Dandelions

Journey of a Worm

- Session plan: Journey of a worm

Sensory Summer Treasures

- Session plan: Sensory summer treasures
- Summer mind map

Summer Leaves

- Session plan: Summer leaves

Module 4

LATE SUMMER

18 videos

MASTERCLASSES

- How Outdoor Learning benefits mental health and wellbeing (part 1)
- How Outdoor Learning benefits mental health and wellbeing (part 2)

ACTIVITY VIDEOS

- Nature-centric model: Late summer
- How to make a corn dolly
- How to make a rush dolly
- How to make meadowsweet and yarrow tea & link to plant games
- Soap-making with silver birch leaves
- Making leaf puppets
- Leaf ticket idea
- Surely we need clean hands?
- Let's play Quoits
- Let's make smell sacs
- Let's create a smell trail game
- Come to our nature gallery
- Perspectives bamboo lens or mirror
- New perspectives
- Our rainbow stones
- How to make bramble cordage and beads
- Creative bramble puppets
- How to make an Apache star

DOWNLOADS & SESSION PLANS

American Road Trip Topic 6-WEEK PLAN

- Forest School session plan week 1
- 3 Sisters soup recipe
- The Iroquois Confederation
- People of Corn, People of Light
- Wildlife Trust: 'Discover animal tracks and signs'
- RSPB: 'Animal track guide'
- Forest School session plan week 2
- Thanksgiving address
- Forest School session plan week 3
- Forest School session plan week 4
- Black bean chilli and tortilla recipe
- The Haudenosaunee creation story
- Forest School session plan week 5
- Forest School session plan week 6



2 modules

4 masterclasses

24 activity videos

12 session plans

+ downloadable guides & resources

Module 5

EARLY AUTUMN

11 videos

MASTERCLASSES

- Essential steps to understanding behaviour and mental health (part 1)
- Essential steps to understanding behaviour and mental health (part 2)

ACTIVITY VIDEOS

- Nature-centric model: Autumn
- Autumn foraging & sloe berry roasting
- Rosehip beeswax lip balm
- How to make a palm drill
- Buckwheat pancakes with nettle seeds
- Autumn plant games
- Apple cider vinegar health tonic with foraged berries
- Making a wand
- Making bannock bread on the embers
- Hazelnut oven and tinder bundle fire
- Planting elder

DOWNLOADS & SESSION PLANS

Explorers, Adventurers & Survival Topic 6-WEEK PLAN

- Forest School progression
- Forest School session plan week 1
- Best woods for crafting
- Forest School session plan week 2
- Forest School session plan week 3
- Clay fairy example
- Forest School session plan week 4
- Forest School session plan week 5
- How to make hawthorn syrup
- Forest School session plan week 6

Module 6

LATE AUTUMN

13 videos

MASTERCLASSES

- The fundamentals of Green Care and nature-based practice (part 1)
- The fundamentals of Green Care and nature-based practice (part 2)

ACTIVITY VIDEOS

- How to use a Kelly Kettle
- Carving a mushroom part 1: Getting started, wood and knife options
- Carving a mushroom part 2
- Felling a small tree using a gob cut
- Making mini-furniture part 1: Getting started and preparing the wood
- Making mini-furniture part 2: A mini table and chair
- Where can I buy or find wood for fire-making in an urban setting?
- How can I set up a fire in an urban space?
- Fire making in an urban space or garden
- Where can I buy or find wood for crafting?
- What woods could I choose for crafting?
- How to make a butter knife
- Thank you autumn

DOWNLOADS & SESSION PLANS

Autumn Foraging and Plant Treasures

- Session plan: Autumn foraging and plant treasures

Autumn Magic

- Session plan: Autumn magic

Autumn Leaves

- Session plan: Autumn leaves

Let's Celebrate Autumn

- Session plan: Let's celebrate autumn

Mighty Trees

- Session plan: Mighty trees

Autumn Animals

- Session plan: Autumn animals



2 modules

4 masterclasses

24 activity videos

12 session plans

+ downloadable guides & resources

Module 7

EARLY WINTER

11 videos

MASTERCLASSES

- Best practice methods for deepening nature connection and nature awareness (part 1)
- Best practice methods for deepening nature connection and nature awareness (part 2)

ACTIVITY VIDEOS

- Nature-centric model: Winter
- Pine, honey, apple and cinnamon tea
- Gratitude and sense meditation
- Winter meditation
- The Forest School principles
- Story stones
- How to make a leather bag
- A tale: Fox steals fire
- Birdfeeders and conservation
- How to make a tripod
- Bread in a Dutch oven

DOWNLOADS & SESSION PLANS

Celebrating Winter

- Session plan: Celebrating winter
- Winter mind map

Light and Dark

- Session plan: Light and dark

Wise Winter Owls

- Session plan: Wise winter owls

Winter Plants

- Session plan: Winter plants

Winter Weather

- Session plan: Winter weather

Wonderful Winter

- Session plan: Wonderful winter

Module 8

LATE WINTER

13 videos

MASTERCLASSES

- Outdoor learning in urban and wilder environments (part 1)
- Outdoor learning in urban and wilder environments (part 2)

ACTIVITY VIDEOS

- The nature play continuum
- Winter tree ID nature games
- How to make walnut candles
- Festive candles part 1
- Festive candles part 2
- How to make a snowman
- How to make a wreath
- How to make a reindeer
- Make a willow Christmas tree
- Craft a Christmas star
- Mince pies in a Dutch oven
- Playing with ice sculptures
- How to make a Bridget's cross

DOWNLOADS & SESSION PLANS

The Middle Ages Topic 6-WEEK PLAN

- Forest School session plan week 1
- The Middle Ages
- Nature-based wide games
- Discover animal tracks and signs
- Vegetable pottage recipe
- Forest School session plan week 2
- Honey cakes recipe
- Homemade butter recipe
- Oatmeal bannock bread recipe
- Spicy apple pudding recipe
- Forest School session plan week 3
- The Irish Ogham
- Irish Celtic symbols
- Native American symbols
- Forest School session plan week 4
- Natural tinder
- Pease pudding recipe
- Forest School session plan week 5
- Forest School session plan week 6
- Acrostic poem for Christmas



- **Modules 1 & 2, Spring:** 35 activity videos, 4 masterclasses & 12 spring session plans
- **Modules 5 & 6, Autumn:** 24 activity videos, 4 masterclasses & 12 autumn session plans
- **Bonus:** Fire & Pedagogy (Module 1, Forest School Activities course)
- **Bonus:** Forest School Routines & Boundaries course
- **Bonus:** 6 spring session plans for Early Years
- **Modules 3 & 4, Summer:** 34 activity videos, 4 masterclasses & 12 summer session plans
- **Modules 7 & 8, Winter:** 24 activity videos, 4 masterclasses & 12 winter session plans
- **Bonus:** Using Tools (Module 6, Forest School Activities course)
- **Bonus:** Primary & Early Years curriculum resource packs
- **Bonus:** 'Facts About Outdoor Learning' e-book

Spring

12 session plans

Summer

12 session plans

Autumn

12 session plans

Winter

12 session plans

"Meaningful outdoor learning takes more than a collection of activities — it requires an understanding of how and why children learn outdoors, and the confidence to plan and lead experiences that are safe, engaging and purposeful. That deeper understanding is at the heart of the Advanced Certificate."

Marina Robb — Founder, The Outdoor Teacher & Course Leader



"The Outdoor Teacher's course has enabled us as a school to train several members of staff to a high standard so they can confidently lead woodland sessions with our young children."

Sarah Cox, Headteacher, Brook Infant School, Crawley

READY TO BRING THIS INTO YOUR SETTING?

Get in touch to find the right plan for you or your team. Full enrolment details, staff licences and invoicing are available on request.

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MARINA ROBB

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Marina has more than 30 years' experience in outdoor learning and is a leading Forest School Association endorsed trainer and practitioner. She is co-author of *Learning with Nature* (Bloomsbury) and *The Essential Guide to Forest School and Nature Pedagogy* (Routledge), and a pioneer in creating nature-based programmes for the NHS.

