

What does your child need for Nature Kindy?

A bag with their snack and a drink bottle with water.

Enclosed climbing shoes.

Shorts or trousers.

Sun protective clothing.

Winter:

+gum boots (please do not send your child in gum boots in summer) , rain jacket



Please look our website for further information www.kensingtonpre.sa.edu.au

Nature restores our ability to focus.....
Nature develops our sense of belonging.....



Aspects of belonging which children will explore include the connections to place of the Kurna people.

Other considerations.....

Dates that you child will be going to Nature Kindy can always be found in our Weekly e-newsletters.

Staffing: 2 staff will attend with a small group children to maintain adequate supervision.

Weather: In extreme weather the session will be cancelled or limited to a shorter time frame if reasonable to do so.

Reducing rubbish: Please help your child **reduce reuse and recycle** by sending their snacks in appropriate containers.

Nature Kindy

Kensington Gardens Preschool

"Go outside and learn"

Robin Randall 2012



Christian- "Trees, grass, sun and sky.
You need all these things to
grow big!"

Research

Our knowledge that children need to spend more time in nature is supported by **research**.



Research suggests that just stepping outside turns on all our senses! (Roberts, 2011) (Louv) The reality is we evolved outside so our bodies biophysically react to *being* outside. We naturally, unconsciously, react, absorb, and relax. Just by stepping outside

- ✓ Our attention span increases
- ✓ Our memory strengthens
- ✓ Our stress reduces
- ✓ Our creativity expands
- ✓ Enhances our cognitive growth

So clearly the research supports the idea that the outdoors opens up possibilities for children and all of us.....to learn and grow.



The learning



Nature Kindy allows your child the time *and* an ideal environment in which to learn. We will go out on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. During uninterrupted play they will use what nature has provided as their learning materials. They will play at the creek, under beautiful trees, across the seasons, come rain or shine! They will have varied surfaces to traverse and climb like large rocks, gravel and creek banks. They will develop their numeracy and literacy skills using the patterns and objects found in nature - rocks, sticks, leaves, branches, water, rainbows..... Fallen logs and secret hiding places will spark their dramatic play. They will encounter insects, birds, lizards and possibly koalas. Their sense of wonder and their senses will be fed!



The environment



A big focus in Nature Kindy is caring for the environment. Children will collect the rubbish they find at Nature Kindy and place it in the rubbish bins back at Kindy strengthening their awareness of environmental issues and their citizenship. We will investigate the water quality, how water moves down the creek, the weather, plants, animals and insects we encounter. We will also find out about how Aboriginal Australians—the Kurna people used the area before white settlement.

Children will be given the opportunity to be photographers at Nature Kindy and record their learning.

In 2017 both Magill and Marryatville Primary Schools aim to join us for Nature Kindy.

