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What is Nature Kinder?

Nature Kinder is a type of early year's education program that provides young children with large amounts of time in the natural environment.

Warrnambool City Council is now offering this program within its Kindergartens for 3 and 4 year old children.

Benefits?

Research shows that children benefit greatly when they learn through active engagement in the natural environment.

Children advance from using natural materials and exploring natural systems in many ways including:

- Increased Creativity and Problem Solving
- Increased Emotional and Social Resilience
- Improved Cognitive abilities
- Increased physical performance and coordination
- Improved self discipline
- Reduced stress and anxiety



What does the Program Involve?

The Department of Education and Training (DET) supports natural environments that are beneficial to improving children's health and wellbeing. Children will be educated through a variety of naturally safe materials including leaves, sticks, branches, dirt, mud, sand, trees and grass whilst understanding and respecting the natural environment.

Where will Nature Kinder be provided?

Nature Kinder will be provided on specific sites around the Warrnambool District that have been risk assessed and will include bush, beach, rock pools, gardens and parks.